

Kaleb Cooper

20 May 2025

Dear Mr Cooper:

Greetings from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). In anticipation of your appearance at the Royal Bath and West Show and the release of your children's book, we wanted to send you this copy of *The Secret Lives of Animals*, a "children's book for adults", to give you a crash course in empathy and encourage you to tell your young audiences the truth about how animals live – and die – in the farming system.

When it comes to kids, honesty is the best policy, so it's up to us to show them what really happens to animals who are exploited for their flesh, milk and eggs. Far from frolicking on rolling hills, 85 per cent of animals in the UK are confined on factory farms. That's one billion animals like children's beloved Peppa Pig, Shaun the Sheep and Chicken Run's Ginger, languishing in windowless sheds, standing in piles of their own faeces and dead friends until they're slit open at the slaughterhouse.

You've said you "believe every child should understand where their breakfast, lunch and dinner actually come from" – and we agree. But we doubt that sugarcoated "Kaleb's Farmyard Tales" will tell kids that baby cows are torn away from their mothers so that their milk can be sold in supermarkets, or how piglets are crudely castrated and tail-docked without pain relief before they're cut up for pork.

Children have natural empathy towards animals. Running a truthful Q&A on farming animals means pointing out that no one wants to be paraded about, forcibly bred, or slaughtered at a fraction of their natural life. Inspiring the next generation of farmers to leave animals in peace and farm plants will help create a kinder and greener future for us all.

While factual, *The Secret Lives of Animals* is written in simple rhyme so everyone can understand that animals are not 'stock'; they're individuals who value their lives just like we do. The sound panel allows you to hear the screams of anguish animals emit when their throats are slit and they're dismembered.

Your book blurb says a tractor can solve nearly any problem, and that may be true. After all, to help animals and preserve the only planet our children can inherit, the future of farming must be focused solely on growing and harvesting plant crops. We hope this gift inspires you to start a kinder chapter and give animals the "happily ever after" they deserve.

Sincerely,

Dawn Carr

Vice President of Vegan Corporate Projects

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