

←

Thread



Kendra "Gloom is My Beat" Pierre-Louis

@KendraWrites

...

The thing about Twitter's demise is that like yes I'm going to miss a ton of people but also we are going to lose a key tool for communicating about disasters in real time. /1

6:47 PM · Nov 17, 2022 · Twitter Web App

1,212 Retweets

97 Quote Tweets

4,473 Likes











Tweet your reply

Reply



Kendra "Gloom is My Beat" Pierre-Louis

@KendraWrites · 1h

...

Replying to @KendraWrites

Twitter is how I knew that the Paradise Fire was bad well before any news outlets were on it. Twitter allowed people in real time to beg for rescue, during storms like Hurricane Harvey and people were. An underappreciated aspect of Twitter is that the default is public /2

5

144

790



Kendra "Gloom is My Beat" Pierre-Louis

@KendraWrites · 1h

...

This also means that Twitter is a tool for research. The study underpinning this story I wrote a few years back mined Twitter for its analysis. No Twitter, no study, no analysis. And it's only possible because of what I said above - default is public /3



The New York Times

Extreme Weather Can Feel 'Normal' After Just a Few Years, Study Finds (Published 2019)

 nytimes.com

blob:https://twitter.com/012fb10e-89d3-46f7-9065-bc95c0ad0902

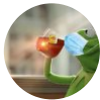
1/10



3

63

400

**Kendra "Gloom is My Beat" Pierre-Louis** @KendraWrites · 1h ...

It's really truly not hyperbole to say: Twitter saved lives. And if it goes away... it's going away as more of these disasters are on the rise, and government infrastructure to support people is waning. The timing couldn't be worse.

3

143

606

**Kendra "Gloom is My Beat" Pierre-Louis** @KendraWrites · 1h ...

I just want to add, I know Twitter was a place for covid disinformation. But it was also an incredible source of accurate information about covid when the CDC was frankly asleep at the wheel. Twitter is how I knew to buy KF94s months before the CDC was like upgrade your mask ...

5

104

622

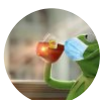
**Kendra "Gloom is My Beat" Pierre-Louis** @KendraWrites · 1h ...

Shit... Twitter is how I knew to wear a mask while the CDC was telling us to save them for healthcare professionals.

3

60

530

**Kendra "Gloom is My Beat" Pierre-Louis** @KendraWrites · 1h ...

I was IMPORTING MASKS FROM KOREA when the CDC was still like telling us to buy cloth masks from Etsy. Twitter taught me about the existence of

[@masknerd](#) who opened my eyes to masks beyond the air queen. And

about [@projectn95](#)



3



40



406



**Kendra "Gloom is My Beat" Pierre-Louis** @KendraWrites · 1h



Twitter is why during the height of covid in 2020 in NYC I knew where to send the weird stash of surgical masks I had amassed in November 2019 when I had caught (what I later realized was) the flu on a reporting trip and still needed to report.



1



23



283



**Kendra "Gloom is My Beat" Pierre-Louis** @KendraWrites · 59m



I sent my masks to healthcare workers desperately in need of PPE, including my weird ass CVS masks which were better than nothing. I sent my metrocard to a nurse who still needed to ride transit to get to work. None of this would have been possible without Twitter.



6



24



289



**Hayley** @Gr8bigstorm · 1h



Replying to @KendraWrites

I read once that news of an earthquake travels faster on twitter than the quake itself.



1



2



43



**Kendra "Gloom is My Beat" Pierre-Louis** @KendraWrites · 29m



Replying to @Gr8bigstorm



**Umair Irfan** @umairfan · 1h

Replying to @KendraWrites

My favorite tidbit is that USGS was able to use tweets to detect earthquakes even before seismometers could pick them up

[blog.twitter.com/en\\_us/a/2015/u...](https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/a/2015/u...)



1



19



**K** @KTSB918 · 45m





Replying to @KendraWrites and @RobertDownen\_

My family thought I was being dramatic when I tried to tell them what I was seeing about covid on Twitter in Feb 2020, but I was stocked up on groceries & had an extra pack of toilet paper when everything shut down and they didn't 🧑



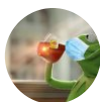
6



3



57



**Kendra "Gloom is My Beat" Pierre-Louis** 📍 @KendraWrites · 28m ...

Replying to @KTSB918 and @RobertDownen\_

OMG I forgot about the TP. Seeing what happened in Australia and them printing blank pages of the newspaper for TP meant that when I ran out of TP I got like the 12 pack instead of the 4 pack - threading the needle between preparedness and hoarding.



21



**David Pomeroy** 🏙️🌊🚀🇺🇸 @DAPomeroy · 45m ...

Replying to @KendraWrites

Very true. What did I do when the sky suddenly turned yellow? Looked on Twitter and learned about the Marshall Fire heading towards my house. Gave me time to prep for evac.



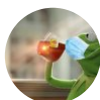
2



17



122



**Kendra "Gloom is My Beat" Pierre-Louis** 📍 @KendraWrites · 27m ...

Replying to @DAPomeroy

OMG



2



2



Show replies



**Maria** @mariavhawkins · 1h ...

Replying to @KendraWrites

It's actually scary! Also for organizing and sharing public health info.



21



**Zachary Pleat** @zpleat · 1h ...

Replying to @KendraWrites

nothing like it for real-time breaking news



 1

 19







**Michelle C** @GenXBegetsGenZ · 1h

...

Replying to @KendraWrites  
I've said on other threads that the reason I found value in this place was Hurricane Sandy and how Cory Booker used his feed thru that storm. One of a TON of examples.



 7

 55







**oh dear** 🗨️ @\_ohdear\_ · 1h

...

Replying to @KendraWrites  
January 6.





 24







**Umair Irfan** @umairfan · 1h

...

Replying to @KendraWrites  
My favorite tidbit is that USGS was able to use tweets to detect earthquakes even before seismometers could pick them up



[blog.twitter.com](https://blog.twitter.com)  
How the USGS uses Twitter data to track earthquakes  
How the USGS uses Twitter data to track earthquakes



 35

 122





**Kathryn Brightbill** @KEBrightbill · 1h

...

Replying to @KendraWrites

Yeah, especially if you're looking for information about a disaster in an area that doesn't get much news attention, it can be really hard to find anything without Twitter. Local news has gotten better in recent years, but rural Florida traditionally gets ignored in hurricanes.

**jbroome** @jbroome · 1h

...

Replying to @KendraWrites and @botticellibimbo

I'm old enough to remember an IT guy live-posting about keeping some critical systems going in New Orleans while Katrina came ashore on livejournal. That was wild.

**Edmund Akintunde** @EdmundAkins · 1h

...

Replying to @KendraWrites

I think we're officially in post-Twitter age!

**The Badger's Knackers** @beats\_liz · 53m

...

Replying to @KendraWrites and @wintersweet

Protests too... Ferguson was the watershed for me where it became an indispensable source of on the ground info from local activists

**Dr. Kawherp** 🌻🌻🌻🌻 @kawherp · 8m

...

Replying to @beats\_liz @KendraWrites and @wintersweet

Yup. I learned so much more about the protests for minority lives here than I did in MSM. Invaluable reporting done here, for free.

**GleaningSage** @GleaningSage · 50m

...



Replying to @KendraWrites

Yup, I originally got on Twitter to get wildfire updates.

**Mina** 🇺🇸 **Colorado Native** 🌻 @IzzyDew · 26m ...

Replying to @KendraWrites

Global news access, especially Ukraine, plus connections to ppl I would never be able to converse with in RL. I've never used Facebook or its related sites, so #Twitter is my go-to for those kinds of connections. Loosing those kinds of connections for ppl is a big deal.

**PCross** 🌊 🕊️ 🤞 @crossgirl55 · 22m ...

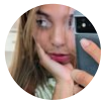
Replying to @KendraWrites and @pixposies

The immediacy of news is why I'm here.

**Danielle** 🤝 ❤️ 💪 😄 #Bensler #Zaddy #Ma... @Liv\_Noah\_B... · 21m ...

Replying to @KendraWrites and @averykcampbell

Where is the info at that twitter is going away, I'm so confused

**Kaye @ The End Times** @skiptomarrue · 17m ...

Replying to @Liv\_Noah\_Benson @KendraWrites and @averykcampbell

Like 80% of the staff quit today



Show replies

**Erin Blakemore** 🌟 @heroinebook · 19m ...

Replying to @KendraWrites

Wow now I'm remembering the Boulder flood of 2013 and how Twitter was the only place available to get any up-to-date information because everyone was sheltering in place and cut off from the wider metro area. And last year's fire where I watched my community burn from afar.







**Julie Weatherbee** @juliewbee · 2m



Replying to @heroinebook and @KendraWrites

When my in-laws were evacuated from the Fourmile Fire in Boulder, we were able to give them better updates than anything they were hearing because we were looking at Twitter even though we were in Michigan and they were in Boulder.



**cowabummer** @fckingmillenial · 17m



Replying to @KendraWrites

I use this as my main news source. This is how I was able to stay up to date on all the BLM protests, how I've been keeping up with the protesters in Iran. This is giving me a lot of anxiety.



1



12



**Cory Burns Barger** @corybee · 12m



Replying to @fckingmillenial and @KendraWrites

Me too. I really started relying on it for news during the Arab Spring, so idk what I'll do now



1



6



Show replies



**Megan and Wendy** @meganandwendy · 15m



Replying to @KendraWrites

This is a big deal. Twitter is the only place we've been able to get real time updates during multiple wildfires.



**Anne Hebert** @annehebert · 12m



Replying to @KendraWrites

Texas freeze/grid failure 2021



3





**Alida Mau** @Themaumaumau · 12m

Replying to @KendraWrites

It was where I got advanced alerts about our last derecho.

**Elise Davis (she/her)** 🇨🇦 @Elise\_ekd · 12m

Replying to @KendraWrites

And finding the current science and epidemiology data along with insightful commentary. Where else are we going to find it?



4

**Cthulhu's Third Eye** 🌻 @JulietteGillies · 11m

Replying to @KendraWrites and @JacquelynGill

And perhaps this is all the point. Cutting off direct access to info in real time- journalists, politicians, doctors, scientists, humanitarians, ethical hackers. No blue tick, now crash the whole thing. It's a win for those who want to operate covertly within mainstream media.



2

**she's me!** @nai4realz · 10m

Replying to @KendraWrites

I'm going to have to check the news 🙄

**jeannine harvey** @JeannineAHarvey · 10m

Replying to @KendraWrites

This exactly.

**Connie - (mastodon)** @bethechange@mas... @bethechange16... · 9m


Replying to @KendraWrites


Twitter is where I got the most updated info about COVID and long COVID



2






**multip0921** 


@multip0921 · 8m


...


Replying to @KendraWrites


That is the part that I am actually going to miss the most, and that I am the most concerned about






 1








**Jarrett Dapier**


@jarrettdapier · 6m


...


Replying to @KendraWrites and @ayanaeliza


This is what I've been thinking about all night. Disasters, protests, unrest, police actions, and more.






 1








**u (she/her)**


@uzmizzle · 6m


...


Replying to @KendraWrites


Amen. Twitter was also one of the social media apps at the forefront during The Arab Spring.
















**Freedom Lancer** 


@freedom\_lancer\_ · 3m


...


Replying to @KendraWrites


We need another global-everyone-in-the-same room social media site















**BirdersGottaTweet**


@Got2Bird · 7m


...


Replying to @KendraWrites


Huge national security threat. Why did [@potus](#) allow Putin and the Saudis to deliberately dismantle it? This is very bad for Ukraine.











Show additional replies, including those that may contain offensive content

Show