

One Book for Nebraska Teens 2012

Discussion Questions for *Blank Confession* by Pete Hautman

Did the title of the book give you any indication of what was ahead?

Mikey played checkers with his grandfather P  p  ? (page 70)

How does playing together help people relax, let their guard down, give them a chance to know their opponent?

The term Djab used in the book is expressed as a Spirit person, powerful & dangerous, neither good nor bad. Name some people in real life that are like that. (Principals? Police Officers? page 73) In the book, who do you think the two spirit people were...? (Shane & Jon Brande, page 73)

Shayne's mistrust of people made him create back stories always changing to suit his audience, why did he do that? Have you ever wanted to change your story?

Chapters in the book are told by two different characters. How does this affect the story? (help with the understanding, guide it along?)

Why did Jon think Mikey owed him money? (Cost of replacing the drugs (inventory) Jon stuffed into Mikey's backpack & Mickey upon hearing there was to be a locker search, he put them in a trash can.) (How much? \$500 page 21) What would you have done in this situation if you were Mikey?

Why was the Library a good place for Shayne and Mikey to meet? (Jon couldn't see them. page 33)

Why did Mikey say Shayne has an Ego the size of Jupiter? (page 133)

How could you have helped Mikey if you were in school with him?

Why was Rawls the best detective for this case?

Why did Detective Rawls say he taught "Parking Lot" when he taught school? (Page 98)

If your teen group comes up with any other discussion questions please pass your ideas along to Sally Snyder at sally.snyder@nebraska.gov or call her at 402-471-4003.

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