

The ABSOLUTENESS of NOTHING ~ Discussion Questions

1. Pretty early on, we get the idea that Tosh is an unreliable narrator. What are some of the telltale signs?
2. How do you think the raids in the Boneyard mirror what's happening in Tosh's real life?
3. Why is the Boneyard so important to Tosh – what does he get out of going there?
4. Why do you think there are so many abandoned buildings and other abandoned places throughout the Boneyard?
5. Talk about some of the symbolic images you found in the book and what they might represent.
6. In reality, there's no such thing as NIM. What do you think NIM represents for Tosh?
7. Tosh comes back to this idea several times: "I don't understand why it had to go and die. I mean, it must have known that someone was coming to save it; otherwise, why would it have fought so hard? What good does it do to stay alive through all the crap stuff only to give up right at the end, just when things are about to turn around?" In what way does this line foreshadow what comes later?
8. Tosh gets a number of messages that say: "Save it." What is he supposed to save? Use details from the book.
9. What role do you think Haze plays in Tosh's journey through the Boneyard?
10. Tosh has a pretty obvious video game addiction. What other kinds of things might people do as a form of escapism for their problems?



