**Chapter 3 – Indian Boy Love Song**

1. What do we learn about Chess and Checkers Warm Water in this chapter?
2. What is fancydancing?
3. Does this chapter give you any insight into the motivations/tendency for heavy alcohol consumption by some Indians?
4. The first mention of Catholic boarding schools appears in this chapter when we learn that Chess and Checker’s dad went to one as a child. Was it a good experience for him? Cite evidence to back up your response. Notice how these schools are depicted here as well as later in the book.
5. Who is Backgammon and how did he die? What does this story tell you about the Indian health care system (at least at this point in history)? How does this story add to our understanding of alcoholism on the reservation?
6. Chess explains the power of music when she tells the story of her Mother’s recovery from Backgammon’s death. The power of music is an important theme in the book. Which other characters seem to be heavily affected by music (CITE EXAMPLES)? Is music powerful in your own life?
7. What attracted Thomas to Chess (and vice versa)? How does this add to our understanding of Thomas (and Chess)?
8. What does Thomas’s dream reveal about his past and his fears about the future?
9. Notice Chess’s list of qualifications for a mate. Does this list seem reasonable? Attainable?
10. Why does Chess disapprove of Victor and Junior’s relationship with white women? Why is the issue of interracial dating such a significant question in this novel?