**Chapter 4**

1. What was the significance of the basketball game between Samuel Builds-the-Fire and the tribal cops? Was this just a basketball game or did it have deeper, symbolic, and cultural resonations?
2. Why does Alexie include this chapter on fathers and their relationships to the characters in this novel?

**Chapter 5**

1. What type of fulfillment does Checkers find in her religion/faith?
2. What is each member of the band’s relationship with religion, specifically Catholicism? Why is this significant? What did you learn about each of the characters from this chapter?
3. Why are the band members so apprehensive about Seattle?

**Chapter 6**

1. Explain the tribe’s reaction to Coyote Springs after they returned from Seattle. Why do they react this way?

**Chapter 7**

1. Who is Big Mom? What does she represent?
2. What does Big Mom give each member of the band? Think tangibly as well as intangibly?

**Chapter 8**

1. What is significant about the names Sheridan and Wright? (HINT: think historically)
2. Predict: Why is Junior reliving these painful memories now? What triggered this event?
3. What is the symbolic significance of Checkers’ dream?

**Chapter 9**

1. Chapter 9 features a unique non-chronological organizational pattern; why does Alexie choose to employ this strategy? What unique types of information and character reactions does this style provide?
2. Predict: Why does Junior decide to end his life?

**Chapter 10**

1. How do each of the members of the band respond to Junior’s death? Do they seem to be finding healing/closure?
2. What is the overall message at the end of this novel? What should we take away from this reading experience?
3. Why did we read this book?