

### Chapter 15 (105-113)

1. Describe some of Holden's behaviors that seem a bit odd or self-destructive. Consider his eating habits, sleeping habits, etc.
  - He can't eat (orders food, but doesn't eat it)
  - Smoking cigarettes (A LOT of them!)
  - Can't sleep
  - Rude toward others → destroys relationships → ends up even lonelier/more hurt/more depressed
  - Doesn't care about money
  - Instigates/provokes fights (thinks physical pain with relieve emotional pain)
  - Judging everyone/not giving anyone a chance to help him
    - Ex. judges Sally for saying "grand"
  - Drinking alcohol
  - Hired a prostitute!
  - Thinks about hurting/killing himself → Permanent damage!!! THERE ARE OTHER OPTIONS! HE'S NOT LOOKING FOR THEM!
  - Failing out of schools over and over even though he's really smart!
2. How come Holden "hated like hell" for his mom "to know I got the ax again"?
  - "She hasn't felt too healthy since my brother Allie died. She's very nervous. That's another reason why I hated like hell for her to know I go the ax again" (107).
    - He doesn't want to upset her; she's been through a lot.
  - Holden avoids going home → doesn't want his parents to help him? Would they help him? Why haven't they already helped him?
3. Describe the scene between Holden and the nuns. What do they talk about? What does he give them? **WHY** does he give this to them? (← Not specifically stated!) How does he feel about their conversation?
  - They talk about *Romeo and Juliet* → H. likes Mercutio bc "it drives me crazy if somebody gets killed – especially somebody very smart and entertaining and all – and it's somebody else's fault. *Romeo and Juliet*, at least it was their own fault" (111).
    - Really thinking about ALLIE
  - H. give nuns \$10
    - Make him feel better for spending \$10 on Sunny!
    - Using money to solve his problems???? → doesn't like money!
    - Is he being a hypocrite? A PHONY?!

## Chapter 16 (113-122)

4. What makes Holden briefly “feel not so depressed anymore” on page 115?
  - **Sees a little boy singing about catch a body comin through the rye**
    - **Made him feel like a kid again for a moment**
  - **Children think everything will be alright → no struggles, lots of imagination, not worried about being judged → INNOCENCE!!!**
  
5. How does Holden describe the experience of going to the museum with his class as a child? What are some specific memories he shares of these childhood visits to the museum?
  - **He loved the museum**
    - **Indian exhibit, BIRDS flying south**
    - **THEY WOULD ALWAYS HAVE A PARTNER → he was never alone**
  - **Allie was still alive**
  - **Life was happy then**
  - **Nothing ever changed → safety and security**
  
6. Between pages 120-122, Holden goes into great detail about the Museum of Natural History. Explain what Holden means when he says, “The best thing, though, in that museum was that everything stayed right where it was...The only thing that would be different would be *you*.”
  - **Museum stays the same, but the people who visit are different each time**
    - **New friends, death experiences, peer pressure, drugs, personality, hormones, physical and emotional changes**
    - **Change is scary, can be difficult**
      - **Change gives you an opportunity to make the right choices, but it's up to you to follow through**
    - **Holden hates change**
  
7. Read the last paragraph on page 122 and describe what changes for Holden when he finally arrives at the museum. What does he change his mind about, and why might this have happened?
  - **The museum will be the same as it always was, but he will have changed SO much**
  - **He'll be reminded of his childhood**
  - **He'll have to face who he is now, how much he's changed**
  - **Is he a coward? → Scared of admitting his failures, admitting how he's changed, afraid of getting hurt, experiencing loss *again***
  - **Runs away from his probs again (just like when Jane was downstairs)**