

# **Pretties Study Guide**

**Pretties by Scott Westerfeld**

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## Plot Summary

Pretties by Scott Westerfeld is the second book in the Uglies series. In this novel, Tally is now a pretty living in New Pretty Town. While attending a party, she is approached by an ugly whom she vaguely recalls from her time in the Smoke. This ugly tells Tally that he has a package for her, but he leaves it hidden, forcing her to work to find it. With the help of Zane, a friend and leader of the clique, the Crims, Tally is able to clear her mind enough to find the package. There is a letter inside the package from Tally, written when she was an ugly, telling her that the pills included inside the package are a cure for lesions put on her brain during the "pretty" surgery. Zane convinces Tally to take the cure, agreeing to share it with her. When Tally's head begins to clear, she begins to recall why she had decided to remain in the Smoke months before and begins to plot an escape from the city with Zane and the other Crims. Pretties is the exciting sequel to Uglies, a story that not only questions vanity and shallow behaviors, but questions the basic conformities of society.

Tally is dressing for a party in the middle of the afternoon and feels still hung over from a party the night before. Shay comes to her room with breakfast and shows off new surg she has recently had performed. Peris and Fausto arrive, showing off their costumes for the party and talking about the vote that is to take place that night, inducting Tally into the clique, the Crims. At the party, Tally sees someone dressed up as though an agent for Special Circumstances, an idea that frightens her as much as it confuses her, because few pretties even know about Special Circumstances. Eventually Tally confronts this party goer and discovers that it is an ugly she vaguely remembers from her past life as an ugly, Croy. Croy tells Tally he has a package for her, but before he can hand it over, they can hear footsteps on the stairs.

Tally rushes back outside and sees that Croy has jumped off the side of the party tower. Tally grabs Peris, who is wearing a bungee jacket, and jumps after Croy. When she lands, Peris hits her in the head with his knee as the bungee jacket takes him back into the air. The shock of the injury clears Tally's head enough that she begins to remember more about Croy and her life in the Smoke. Tally chases down Croy and he tells her he has a package for her that he will leave in one of the mansions of New Pretty Town.

The following day, Tally's head is once again pretty. Tally only recalls her adventures with Croy and what he told her when Zane kisses her. With Zane's help, Tally remembers more about Croy and together she and Zane go to the building where Croy said he left the package. However, it proves to be difficult to find the package, forcing Tally to become more and more bubbly to figure out the clues. Finally, Tally and Zane realize they must climb a tower to find a key that will unlock the package. When they finally get the package, they discover a letter written by Tally with Shay's help when she was still an ugly. The letter tells Tally that the pretty surgery has placed lesions on her brain and that there is a cure, one that Tally herself promised to be the first test subject for. However, the idea that the cure might cause permanent brain damage causes Tally to hesitate. When Zane and Tally hear Special Circumstances coming after them, they decide they must take the pills, so each takes one.



The cure appears to work for both Zane and Tally, but Zane begins to have debilitating headaches. Tally decides his only hope is if they can get him to the New Smoke where Maddy, the cure's inventor and a doctor, can help him. Tally and Zane stage an escape from the city, but are separated. It takes Tally several weeks to make her way to the Rusty Ruins where she meets up with David. When they reach the New Smoke camp, Tally learns that the cure was meant to be taken in two pills and that Zane got the pill with the nanobots that were designed to destroy the lesions, but that Tally took the pill that stops the nanobots. For this reason, the nanobots continued to work in Zane's brain, causing brain damage.

Before Tally is in the camp for more than a few hours, a signal begins to go off, alerting Special Circumstances to their location. They discover that the signal is coming from a tracker in Zane's mouth that is wired to both a tooth and his jaw. Zane cannot escape with the others. For this reason, Tally decides to remain behind. When Special Circumstances arrives, Tally discovers that Shay has become a Special. Tally is then knocked unconscious and turned Special, too.



# Part 1, Sleeping Beauty: Chapters 1-4

## Part 1, Sleeping Beauty: Chapters 1-4 Summary

This novel is the second in a series of novels. The first novel describes a post-apocalyptic world where everyone is given a surgery at the age of sixteen to make their appearance uniform. Tally, the heroine, also learned that the surgery includes changes to the brain to make everyone behave uniformly as well. At the end of the first novel, a cure was created by a renegade doctor to reverse the brain lesions created during the pretty surgery and Tally agreed to have the surgery in order to test the cure.

In *Criminal*, Tally is preparing for a party when Shay pings. Shay tells Tally that the dress for the party has been changed from semi-formal to costumes. Shay comes over, showing off her new surg, and helps Tally look for a costume. They want to dress criminal since Shay is part of the Crims, a clique that specializes in criminal behavior, and Tally is to be voted into the clique that night. However, they cannot find anything they like. When Peris and Fausto arrive, they are dressed in bungee jackets and sparklers, as though they are jumping out of a burning building. When they spot a sweater that Tally kept from the Smoke, it is decided that Shay and Tally should dress as members of the Smoke.

In *Bash*, Tally and her friends arrive at Valentino Mansion for the party, but they cannot find the other Crims. Due to the fact that the mansion is from the Rusties' era, the walls cannot tell them where to find their friends. For this reason, Tally and her friends decide to go to one of the party towers to see if they are there. As they make their way through the mansion, Tally sees someone who appears to be dressed as a Special Circumstances agent. This confuses Tally because she knows that few pretties have ever seen a Special Circumstances agent, she being one. Tally begins to wonder if it is one of the Crims playing a trick.

In *Lurker*, Tally and her friends find the other Crims in the party tower. From the top of the tower, Tally looks down at Uglyville and a few memories of her life there begin to surface. Zane, the leader of the Crims, comes over and begins talking to Tally about her time in the Smoke. Tally's memories of that time are clouded, but the more they talk, the more she seems to recall. During their conversation, Tally sees the special Circumstance costume again. This time she follows him into a stairwell. They argue for a minute. Then the costumed figure turns and reveals his face to Tally once they are alone. Tally is shocked to realize it is an ugly. It is an ugly Tally knows.

In *Fall*, the ugly, Croy, suddenly leaves as they begin to hear approaching footsteps in the stairwell. Tally quickly follows. Croy leaps off the side of the party tower. Tally follows, taking Peris with her because he is wearing a bungee jacket that will arrest their fall. When they reach the ground, Tally lets go of Peris. As the bungee jacket takes Peris back into the air, he hits her in the face with his knee. The pain causes Tally's head to suddenly become very clear. Tally chases after Croy and demands to know why he



came here. Croy shows her a package and tells her he will leave it for her in the Valentino Mansion. Then Croy and his two companions are gone. Peris comes and finds Tally. Several wardens also arrive and care for the cut on Tally's forehead. Afterward, Tally goes back to her room. Later, she learns that the Crims voted her into the clique based on her jump from the party tower.

## Part 1, Sleeping Beauty: Chapters 1-4 Analysis

In these early chapters of the novel, the reader meets the main characters and begins to understand the setting. The setting of this novel is a futuristic place in which all people are given a surgery to help them look the same, or pretty. With this new prettiness comes a simple-mindedness that leaves the pretties without a care in the world. For Tally, this pretty surgery comes a few weeks late because she ran away to the Smoke, a rebellion camp where uglies go to avoid the surgery, in order to help Special Circumstances, a police-like agency, find the Smoke. When she arrived, Tally changed her mind about turning them in, but in attempting to destroy the tracker she accidentally set it off. As a result, the Smoke was destroyed and its occupants taken back to their respective cities. To make amends, Tally agreed to become pretty in order to test a cure for the brain lesions that cause the pretty minds. However, with the surgery, Tally has forgotten this promise.

Tally is drawn to a group of pretties who embrace the tricks they all played as uglies, the Crims. Their leader, Zane, is particularly interested in Tally's actions, especially her time in the Smoke. Zane's interest in this time is curious and should make the reader curious about his own time as an ugly.

As Tally is about to be voted into the Crims, she sees someone dressed at a costume party as a Special Circumstances agent, someone that most pretties have never seen and would not realize how they looked. For this reason, Tally searches this person out, only to discover it is an ugly who is a member of the Smoke. This person tells Tally he has a package for her. The reader must know that this is the cure that Tally once promised to take. However, Tally is not aware of this and she is frightened by the sudden appearance of this ugly. This causes the reader to wonder if Tally's pretty surgery was so successful that she will fail to test the cure.



# Part 1, Sleeping Beauty: Chapters 5-9

## Part 1, Sleeping Beauty: Chapters 5-9 Summary

In Zane, Tally wakes after an odd dream to a ping from Zane. Zane invites Tally to meet him for breakfast in the park. Zane is impressed with the scar that has formed over Tally's eyebrow where Peris kicked her the night before. Zane questions Tally about the ugly who crashed the party the night before and recognizes Croy's name when Tally tells him. It turns out that Zane was part of the group that was supposed to escape to the Smoke before their birthdays that included Croy and was supposed to include Shay. Zane chickened out along with Shay. As they talk, Zane suddenly moves closer to Tally and kisses her. This causes Tally to become more bubbly, more clear headed.

In Bubbly Making, when Tally says David's name, Zane asks her questions about him. Zane then feeds Tally some calorie-purgers, telling her that not eating, taking the calorie-purgers, and drinking large amounts of caffeine help keep their heads clear. Tally does this and begins to answer more of Zane's questions. Eventually Tally remembers her conversation with Croy the night before and she tells Zane about the package that Croy left for her in the Valentino Mansion.

In Valentino 317, Tally and Zane go to the Valentino Mansion and begin to search for Room 317. However, when they finally reach the third floor, they discover there is no Room 317. An elevator was added to the building after its construction and it was put where Room 317 should have been. Tally realizes there would be access to the elevator on the roof, but the only way to get there is through a window. When they reach the roof, they find a building that houses the old mechanical operation for the original elevator. However, it is locked with a primitive lock that requires a key. Tally then realizes that this must be a test and that the Smokies more than likely put the key at the top of the transmission tower.

In The High Tower, Tally and Zane begin to climb the transmission tower. As Tally climbs higher and higher, she loses her grip and begins to fall. Tally manages to save herself, but the fall and the accompanying fear cause her head to clear like never before. Tally quickly reaches the top of the tower and finds the key. Tally rushes back down and unlocks the door before Zane can climb down. In the package left to her by Croy, Tally finds two white pills and a letter from herself.

In Note to Self, the letter tells Tally that she has agreed to become pretty in order to test a cure for lesions that the surgery has placed on her brain. The letter warns Tally that the pills might be dangerous, but encourages her to take them. The letter also says that David was supposed to take her away from the city before she was given the cure, but this did not happen, causing Tally to wonder about David's safety. Zane becomes excited, encouraging Tally to take the pills. However, Tally is frightened. When they hear Special Circumstances coming toward them, Zane becomes more and more insistent.



Finally they decide to share the cure. Tally randomly picks up a pill and hands it to Zane. They are kissing when Special Circumstances bursts in.

## **Part 1, Sleeping Beauty: Chapters 5-9 Analysis**

It turns out that Zane has figured out that his brain was altered during the pretty surgery and he has found ways to get around these changes, to make himself more bubbly. This includes the ingestion of caffeine and the use of calorie-purgers. It also includes starvation. Zane also uses the stories from the tricks other pretties pulled as uglies to help not only himself to remain bubbly, but to help those uglies become more bubbly. Zane's behavior shows the reader that some of the pretties do realize what is happening to them and they do want a different life, the ability to think for themselves. However, this is not an option in the cities. It is for this reason that the Smoke began and has flourished over the years.

Tally begins to remember things about the past few months when Zane kisses her and uses other tricks to help her become more bubbly. As Tally searches for the package that Croy left her, the work she has to put in to find it causes her to become more and more bubbly. When Tally finally finds the package and sees the letter she wrote to herself when she was still an ugly, she is shocked and does not want to believe it. Not only this, but Tally is frightened about what the cure might do to her. For this reason, she shares it with Zane. However, the reader must wonder if this is wise since the package was meant for her alone.





## Part 2, The Cure: Chapters 10-14

### Part 2, The Cure: Chapters 10-14 Summary

In Breakthrough, Tally and Zane have spent the last month constantly in one another's presence, even sharing a bed at night. They were released by Special Circumstances without much fuss, but both have been given interface cuffs to replace their interface rings so that they cannot take them off. Not only this, but the cuffs themselves can listen to everything they say so they have to be constantly on guard with what they say. However, it appears that the cure is working. Zane is definitely clearer and Tally still has some mornings when she wakes pretty-headed, but Zane helps her become bubbly. On this day, they are going ice skating with the Crims. They dress in heavy winter clothing, covering their cuffs with jackets, gloves, and a scarf wrapped over their arms. This seems to help keep the cuffs from hearing their conversations if they speak quietly.

At the skating rink, Zane and Tally meet up with the other Crims. They get on the ice and a few minutes later the ice rises into the air on thrusters. A few minutes later, as the stadium below them begins to fill with people for the soccer match and fireworks begin to explode, the Crims pore vodka on the ice. A few minutes later, Zane jumps on the weakened area of ice and it begins to break. The Crims fall through along with a few other ice skaters.

In Bounce, Tally enjoys the fall to the ground, confident the bungee jackets will protect all the skaters. On the ground, Tally rushes to find Zane. This had all been Zane's idea, a way to let the Smokies know they used the cure and that it had worked.

In Party Crash, the Crims have a celebratory bonfire in the park. Everyone is excited, telling the story over and over to one another. However, Zane becomes overwhelmed with one of the many headaches he has been having since taking the cure. Tally wants to take him to a doctor, but Zane refuses. Instead, Zane wants to go to the New Smoke where Maddy, the doctor who invented the cure, should be able to help him. For now, Tally walks him to his mansion and then Zane insists she return to the party. As Tally worries over Zane and makes her way back to the party, she is approached by someone. It turns out to be Dr. Cable.

In The Dragon, as Tally speaks to Dr. Cable, she begins to remember the days after Shay disappeared and Tally was taken to Special Circumstances and questioned by Cable. Now Dr. Cable tells Tally that she knows she and her friends are responsible for the broken ice, that tricks like this are allowed to happen so that Special Circumstances might find special uglies and pretties who would make good Special Circumstances agents. Dr. Cable then suggests that Tally might be happy as an agent, but Tally turns her down.

In Breakup, Tally returns to the party and is approached by Shay. Shay has become very bubbly since the break of the ice. This has caused Shay to remember things,



including the fact that Tally stole David from her and then brought Special Circumstances to the Smoke. Shay begins accusing Tally of always betraying her. When Tally tells Shay about the cure in an attempt to smooth things over between them, Shay jumps on the fact that Tally shared the cure with Zane, not with Shay. Shay begins to yell and Tally worries that the cuff will pick up her words despite its layers of clothing.

## **Part 2, The Cure: Chapters 10-14 Analysis**

Tally and Zane have taken the cure and it appears to have worked. However, they are now wearing interface cuffs that listens to everything they say, even outside. This is a complication that neither of them expected and it makes it difficult for them to talk about the cure or their future plans. Zane is having headaches and they need to go to the New Smoke to get help, but they cannot leave with the cuffs on their arms. For this reason they have been starving themselves, a situation that does not support good health and leaves the reader wondering if they will both survive their current situation.

Zane pulls off a trick of epic proportions for a pretty, breaking the ice on a floating ice rink. This is a message to the Smokies and it causes many of the other Crims to become bubbly. Unfortunately for Tally, it causes Shay to remember a falling out she had with Tally before the Smoke was raided and causes trouble in their relationship. This is difficult for Tally because Shay is one of her closest friends.

At the same time, Tally has a confrontation with Dr. Cable. The reader suspects that Special Circumstances has never stopped watching Tally after her role in raiding the Smoke, but now there is proof. Dr. Cable wants Tally to become a Special, but Tally refuses because the appearance of the Specials frighten her and she does not want to spend her life stopping people like her and the Smokies. However, Tally forgets how powerful the Specials are. The reader should remember this and fear for Tally's future.



## Part 2, The Cure: Chapters 15-19

### Part 2, The Cure: Chapters 15-19 Summary

In Rain, it has been raining for days. Tally is becoming more and more anxious to escape the city, but they still cannot get their cuffs off. Fausto arrives with two hoverboards that he has rigged so they are no longer connected to the city grid. Tally and Zane go outside to practice on the hoverboards, leaving the city to ride along the river. When they stop to rest, they see a couple of uglies watching them from across the river.

In Cutters, Tally and Zane go to speak to the uglies and discover they are two uglies who helped David and Tally create a diversion the night they stormed the Specials building to rescue the Smokies. These uglies tell Tally and Zane that the Smokies have abandoned the Rusty Ruins, but that they think they are back because someone left some magazines from the Rusty era there. The uglies then tell them about a group of pretties who have been hoverboarding in Uglyville. Tally and Zane have the uglies take them to where the pretties have been hanging out. Zane and Tally discuss who it might be coming there and what they might be up to. In this discussion, Tally tells Zane about her fight with Shay and how clear her head seems to have become.

In Ritual, as Tally and Zane stand in the park, a group of pretties suddenly appear. They are led by Shay. As Tally and Zane watch, Shay begins some kind of ceremony in which the pretties remove their winter coats and Shay makes some kind of speech to the sky. Then Shay cuts her arm. One by one, the other pretties begin to cut themselves as well. This is clearly some ritual in which these pretties are trying to become bubbly. As they watch, Zane is suddenly hit by a seizure and he stops breathing. Tally quickly loads him onto her hoverboard and rushes toward the hospital. Zane comes back and protests the hospital visit. However, they both realize that Tally uncovered her interface cuff in her fear and that whoever is listening knows where they are. To hide their true reason for going to the hospital, Zane punches a wall and injures his hand.

In Hospital, Tally waits in a waiting room while the doctors repair Zane's hand. A couple of new pretties talk to Tally, clearly aware of who she is and admiring her reputation with tricks. An orderly comes into the room and takes Tally to another room. Tally is surprised to discover that the orderly is really a trauma counselor who wants to talk to her about her argument with Shay. Tally convinces him that the argument was innocent and that she and Shay are still friends. The doctor lets her leave when Zane is ready. They talk about the doctor as they make their way back to the mansion. Zane then tells Tally that he wants to leave the city that night.



## Part 2, The Cure: Chapters 15-19 Analysis

It has been raining for days, causing Tally and Zane to feel a little discouraged and keeping them inside where Tally and Zane cannot speak freely because they have no reason to cover the cuffs to keep anyone from overhearing them. This has kept Tally from telling Zane about her argument with Shay or her conversation with Dr. Cable.

Tally and Zane are given two hoverboards that have been fixed so they are not connected to the city grid. This will allow Tally and Zane to use the hoverboards when they escape the city. They go out to practice riding them and run into a couple of uglies who know about the Smokies and who actually helped Tally before she became a pretty. These two tell them about pretties who have been going to Uglyville on hoverboards, causing Zane and Tally to wonder who they might be and why they are going to Uglyville.

Shay has become bubbly since they broke through the ice rink and has apparently found new ways to remain bubbly. Shay has begun a group who cuts themselves to help clear their minds. This goes further to support Tally's idea that pretties can overcome the lesions in their brains in their own ways. However, it also shows Shay's determination to become bubbly and her continued unhappiness with Tally. This foreshadows trouble for Tally and Shay in the future.

Zane's headaches are getting worse and he needs medical help. Tally wants him to go to the hospital in New Pretty Town, but Zane is afraid they will figure out about the cure. However, when Tally panics, they must go to the hospital anyway. This visit seems to go well, but the reader must wonder if the doctors are really as oblivious as they appear.



## Part 2, The Cure: Chapters 20-23

### Part 2, The Cure: Chapters 20-23 Summary

In Crusher, Zane, Fausto, and Tally go to a mechanical shed where Zane says he has a plan to remove the cuffs. Zane wants to use a machine called a crusher to smash the cuffs off of their hands. However, both Fausto and Tally worry that even if they can get around the safety measures built into the machine that the machine will miss the cuff and liquefy the bones in their arms. Tally knows that this is their only choice, however. As Tally is about to push the buttons on the machine to crush Zane's cuff, she gets an idea. There is a glass blower at the other end of the room using a fire to heat up the glass. Tally asks the woman about the gloves she is wearing. The woman tells her the gloves will withstand temperatures up to a couple thousand degrees. Tally takes two sets of the gloves and tells Zane she has a better idea for removing the cuffs.

In Hijacking, Tally takes Zane and Fausto to New Pretty Town where Tally and Zane climb up to a couple of hot air balloons tied off on the party towers. Tally hijacks her balloon on her hoverboard and instructs the balloon pretties to land it. When asked, Tally tells the pretties they are going to the New Smoke, but asks them not to say anything for an hour. When Peris, Fausto, and Zane join her, Tally explains her plan to heat up the cuffs so that they might stretch when they try to remove them.

In Burner, as Tally and the others fly over the city, they turn on the burner and Tally sticks her hand, covered in the special glove, over the flame. When Zane sees that she is not injured, he does the same. When the metal has been heated for more than a minute, Tally pulls her hand away and begins to force the cuff over her hand. After a brief struggle, hers comes off. However, Zane has trouble removing his and has to heat it a second time. Tally urges Zane to hurry as she notices they are leaving the city and the ruins, moving over wilderness with little metal to support their hoverboards.

In The City's Edge, Tally puts out the fire started by her hot cuff and urges Zane to hurry. Finally Zane's cuff is off too. Tally urges Zane and Fausto to jump out of the balloon, using their hoverboards to catch them in the fall. When Zane jumps, he tells Tally he loves her. Tally is surprised and this delays her own jump. Finally Tally realizes Peris is still in the balloon. Tally urges Peris to jump, but he tells her he wants to stay in New Pretty Town. However, he agrees to mislead Special Circumstances to give them time. Tally reluctantly agrees and turns to jump, but finds they are too far out in the wilderness. Peris tries to reassure Tally and asks her to stay in New Pretty Town with him. However, when Tally spots a river beneath them, she chooses to jump.

### Part 2, The Cure: Chapters 20-23 Analysis

Tally and Zane decide it is time to leave the city, but they need to get their cuffs off first. Zane wants to cut them off with a machine designed to crush shapes into metal, but



Tally finds a better solution. Tally and the Crims steal a couple of hot air balloons and take off the cuffs by heating them and causing them to stretch. Now Tally and Zane are free.

Zane tells Tally he loves her. Tally has not considered the future of her relationship with Zane and this confession surprises her. The reader recalls that Tally was once in love with David and wonders how returning to the Smoke will impact her relationships with both Zane and David. At the same time, Peris chooses not to leave the city and Shay is left behind. The reader knows that both these relationships are important to Tally and wonders what this will mean for her future.



## Part 3, Outside: Chapters 24-31

### Part 3, Outside: Chapters 24-31 Summary

In *Descent*, Tally drops from the balloon and figures out how to guide herself to the river. However, the magnets on the hoverboard connect with the mineral deposits in the river too late and she lands so hard in the river that her board is destroyed. Tally manages to pull herself out of the river and find a somewhat dry place to sleep for the night. However, she is concerned about reaching the others and worried that Zane might be alone and in trouble.

In *Alone*, Tally figures out that she is about a weeks walk from the Rusty Ruins where she was to meet up with the Crims. This concerns Tally because she is afraid they will think she was killed on the fall or chickened out. Tally begins to make her way through the woods, becoming aware of what appears to be trails cut in the underbrush even though no humans should live in this area. Toward evening, Tally stops and builds herself a small fire in a little clearing and has a meal. Then Tally falls asleep only to wake to screaming.

In *Hunt*, Tally wakes to find a group of strange people attacking. Tally quickly runs away. Due to the surgery, Tally is much faster than these odd men, but she does not realize that the stream in which she is running ends in a waterfall until she has fallen over the edge. However, the fall has cleaned her face and revealed her beauty, alerting these people to the fact that she is not one of them or their enemy. These people call her a god.

In *Young Blood*, Tally is taken back to the village where these men live and is introduced to Andrew Simpson Smith, the village's holy man. This man can speak Tally's language, but he seems to be confused about how she came to be in their village. After questioning Tally for a few minutes, Andrew leads her to a feast that is being prepared and has her tell her story to the people.

In *Revenge*, Tally wakes and goes into the woods for some privacy. Tally tells Andrew that she is in a hurry to get to her destination. Andrew insists on leading Tally out of the area, but insists that there is a place that is the end of the world and she will not be able to pass.

In *Food of the Gods*, Tally and Andrew walk all day and make camp. Tally shares some of her food with Andrew, but he is not impressed.

In *The Edge of the World*, Tally wakes in the middle of the night with a hand on her mouth. Andrew has heard voices and smelled smoke, indicating that someone from another village is nearby. Andrew wants to go and try to kill one of them to get revenge for his father's death, but Tally does not want him to go. However, they make so much noise arguing that Tally is afraid the others will hear them and come to kill them. Hence



Tally lets Andrew go. The following morning, Andrew is disappointed that he did not have the opportunity to kill. They walk until late in the afternoon and then they reach the place Andrew describes as the end of the world. There are doll like objects in the trees. When Tally tries to walk past them, all her energy is zapped from her body and she cannot move. Tally realizes that this is some kind of border set up with city technology and she is trapped inside of it.

### **Part 3, Outside: Chapters 24-31 Analysis**

Tally jumps out of the balloon and lands hard, losing her hoverboard and forced to walk. This is a difficult situation that leaves Tally far behind the others and possibly stranded even when she does reach her destination. To make things worse, Tally runs into a group of primitive people who think she is some kind of god. This odd situation grows even stranger as Tally finds herself faced with a group of people who believe in revenge and who seek to kill strangers simply because they killed one of their own. This makes Tally think hard on the choices of Special Circumstances and the society that came before the one in which she lives.

As Tally tries to make her way to the Smokies, she discovers that the primitive people are not just some fluke, but are people who have been purposely allowed to remain ugly so that they can be studied by gods, or middle pretties. Tally also comes to discover that they are trapped within their area and that she is now trapped there too.





## Part 3, Outside: Chapters 32-39

### Part 3, Outside: Chapters 32-39 Summary

In Holy Day, Tally searches for a way past the barrier, but cannot find one. Finally Andrew suggests that she go back to the village and steal one of the gods' hovercars when they come on holy day. Tally and Andrew make their way back to the village slowly, discussing many things. Tally tries to teach Andrew about her world, but he has trouble grasping some of the concepts. When they reach the village, Tally hides in a cave near where the gods park their hovercars. Tally waits until the doctors leave and then she sneaks down to one of the cars. Tally is confronted by a doctor who at first believes her to be a pretty who has somehow gotten lost. However, when Tally asks him a few pointed questions about his work with the villagers, he figures out she is trouble. Tally ties him up and puts him in the other hovercar. Tally then says goodbye to Andrew and flies away.

In The Ruins, Tally arrives in the Ruins in less than an hour. Tally makes her way on foot to the meeting place, but she cannot reach the top of the building without a hoverboard. Tally begins to call out and sees someone descending toward her. It is David.

In Faces, Tally is shocked by David's appearance and he by hers. They say little to one another and begin making the long trip to the New Smoke's camp in an abandoned observatory. However, David does assure Tally that he would have gone back for her, but that the Specials were getting too close and Maddy made the decision to move on.

In Damage Control, when they arrive at the camp, Tally immediately insists on seeing Zane. Maddy tells Tally that when she shared the cure with Zane, Zane got the pill filled with nanobots that destroyed the lesions. However, the pill that Tally took was supposed to shut the nanobots off. For this reason, the nanobots continued to eat at Zane's brain, destroying it. Maddy has given him new brain matter, but it is taking time for his brain to rewire itself. It also appears that Tally has cured herself.

In Cold Water, Tally stays with Zane until he falls asleep. Tally then goes to a river to take a bath. The water makes her mind clearer than ever and she thinks over all she has learned. Suddenly David appears and checks her bag for bugs. He tells her that a signal has been set off alerting Special Circumstances to their location. Tally realizes it must be Zane.

In Tracker, they rush back and find a tracker in Zane's teeth. Tally insists that Maddy remove it, but Maddy discovers that it is wired to his jaw. Maddy insists they must leave Zane behind. Tally argues and then decides to stay with Zane. David does not want Tally to stay, but she insists. Finally Tally is cruel to David so that he will let her stay.

In Specials, Dr. Cable arrives and tells Tally how she knew all along what she and Zane were up to and how she had the tracker put in his mouth. Dr. Cable turned the tracker



on when she learned of Tally's actions in the reservation. Then a new Special arrives and Tally is shocked to see it is Shay. Shay injects Tally with something, knocking her unconscious.

In *Bogus Dreams*, Tally remains unconscious for several weeks, having odd dreams. She is being turned into a Special.

## **Part 3, Outside: Chapters 32-39 Analysis**

Tally finds a way to escape the reservation, but it means leaving behind her new friend, Andrew. Tally is outraged by what is being done to Andrew and his village, but there is little she can do about it at this point in time. However, Tally hopes to be able to do something someday, foreshadowing possible events in the third book of the series.

Tally arrives in the ruins and finds herself face to face with David. Seeing David causes Tally to regain a great many of her memories of him and their time together. This puts Tally in a difficult place, especially when she learns that Zane has been deathly ill because of a choice she made. Tally feels that Zane's brain injuries were caused by her own fear and she is overwhelmed with guilt. This causes Tally to choose Zane when the Specials come even though the reader knows that Tally is still in love with David.

Dr. Cable has been Tally's enemy since the first book. In this book, Dr. Cable once again plays games with Tally, using Shay against her. Shay has become a Special and now Tally is backed into a corner and forced to become one as well. It is a sad outcome, suggesting that Tally will forever be lost to the cause. However, the reader knows there is a third book and that hope is still alive.



# Characters

## Tally Youngblood

Tally Youngblood is a young girl who lives in a futuristic world where everyone is given a surgery at the age of sixteen in order to make them pretty. In a previous novel in the series, Tally loses her right to become pretty when she refuses to turn on a friend who has run away to a place called the Smoke, a place where uglies go to remain ugly. Tally went to the Smoke and fell in love with a boy who grew up there, deciding not to turn in the people in the Smoke. However, when Tally tries to destroy the tracker she was given to signal Special Circumstances, it causes the tracker to go off anyway. Everyone is imprisoned except for Tally and her boyfriend, David. However, Tally and David are able to successfully rescue a few of the Smoke members before they are turned pretty. David's mother, Maddy, has found a cure for brain lesions she believes are given to everyone during the pretty surgery and, as a way to repair the damage she has done, Tally agrees to be turned pretty so they can test the cure on her.

Tally is now a pretty and remembers very little of her life in the Smoke. However, bits and pieces begin to come back to Tally when she sees an ugly in New Pretty Town, an ugly she knew in the Smoke. Tally works at becoming bubbly, at focusing her intelligence, to find the cure this ugly has left for her. When she finds it, Tally shares the cure with Zane, the leader of the Crims, unaware that both pills must be taken together. A short time later, Tally, Zane, and a group of their friends escape the city together.

When Tally finally makes her way back to the New Smoke, she discovers that the pill Zane took was the cure, but the pill Tally took was a pill that was intended to turn off the cure when it had fixed the brain lesions. Due to the fact that Zane did not take the second pill, his brain has been destroying itself. Maddy is able to help him, but before much time passes, a signal that was imbedded in Zane's tooth and jaw goes off, calling the Special Circumstances to their location. The members of the New Smoke leave, but Tally chooses to remain with Zane, playing directly into Special Circumstances' hands.

## Zane

Zane is the leader of the Crims, a clique in New Pretty Town. Although Zane is a pretty and has the same brain lesions as everyone else, he has learned that by starving himself and drinking large amounts of caffeine that he can make himself bubbly, or clearer. Zane once thought he would run away with a group of friends to the Smoke, but chickened out at the last minute and then confessed all when confronted by Special Circumstances. For this reason, Zane is filled with guilt and he tries hard to find a way to remain bubbly permanently.

When Zane meets Tally, he sees in her someone who might be able to help him remain bubbly. For this reason, Zane kisses Tally to make her bubbly and begins asking her



questions about her time in the Smoke. This is when Tally recalls that an ugly told her he had left a gift for her. Tally and Zane go in search of the gift and discover that it is a cure for the brain lesions that make their brains pretty. Zane takes one pill and Tally the other as they are discovered by Special Circumstances. A month later, both are definitely more bubbly, but Zane suffers terrible headaches. Tally and Zane decide to leave the city and find the New Smoke to see if Maddy might be able to help Zane.

## Croy

Croy is a young man who left the city shortly before his sixteenth birthday in order to avoid the pretty surgery. Croy was a member of the group led by Zane and was a good friend of Zane and Shay. When Tally first went to the Smoke, Croy was the only one to question her loyalty to the ideals of the Smoke. However, Croy soon became convinced that Tally was not only on their side, but a hero after she escapes the Special Circumstances and helps David stage a rescue mission. However, Tally must admit eventually that she did go to the Smoke to lead Special Circumstances there. In this novel, Croy is the one who brings Tally her cure.

## Shay

Shay and Tally became good friends in the previous novel after both of their good friends had their surgery. Shay told Tally about the Smoke and tried to convince her to go there, but Tally refused. However, on the day she was to have the surgery, Tally was taken to Special Circumstances and told that if she did not go to the Smoke and set off a tracker for Special Circumstances to find them, she would never get her surgery. Tally did as she was told and Shay was turned pretty upon her return to the city.

Shay and Tally resume their friendship in New Pretty Town after Tally is turned pretty. However, as Tally and Zane fight to become bubbly, they try to help their friends find ways to become bubbly. In doing this, Shay begins to remember how Tally betrayed her in the Smoke. Shay then begins a new clique, called Cutters, who cut their arms to become bubbly. In the end, Shay becomes a Special Circumstances agent and she is involved in the plot to force Tally to do the same.

## Peris

Peris was Tally's best friend since they were littlies. In the beginning of the previous novel, Tally snuck into New Pretty Town in order to see Peris and this is how she met Shay. In this novel, Tally and Peris are once again together, best friends in New Pretty Town. Peris is also a member of the Crims with Tally and Shay and he goes along with the plan for Zane and Tally to escape to New Smoke with some of the other Crims. However, when it comes time for Peris to escape with Tally, he changes his mind.



## Fausto

Fausto is a Crim who is good friends with Zane. When it comes time for Tally and Zane to escape from the city to go to the New Smoke, Fausto is a part of the planning. Fausto helps Tally and Zane find a way to remove their interactive cuffs and he jumps from a hot air balloon with Zane. When Tally finally reaches New Smoke, it is Fausto who takes her to Zane and explains his medical condition.

## David

David is a member of the Smoke. In the previous novel the reader learns that David was born in the Smoke and raised there. David has never known the restrictions of the city or the realities of the pretty surgery. However, David is the one the uglies contact when they want to leave the city. When Tally went to the Smoke, she quickly fell in love with David and through him learned that there is more to life than being pretty. Unfortunately, when David learns that Tally was responsible for bringing Special Circumstances to the Smoke, and his father's subsequent death, he turns from her. In this novel, it is David waiting for Tally when she arrives at New Smoke. David wants to renew their relationship, but when Tally is forced to choose between David and Zane, she chooses Zane.

## Maddy

Maddy is a doctor who once lived in the city. However, when Maddy and her husband, Az, discovered the lesions that are purposely given to pretties during their initial surgeries, they escaped the city and began the Smoke. Maddy and her husband worked for many years trying to find a cure for the lesions. After Special Circumstances came to the Smoke, Maddy found the cure, but had no one to test it on. For this reason, Tally agreed to become a pretty and test the cure. Unfortunately, no one ever told Tally how the cure worked and she shared it with Zane, causing the cure to eat up Zane's brain while nothing happened to Tally's brain.

## Dr. Cable

Dr. Cable is some kind of leader in Special Circumstances. Dr. Cable is the one who initially contacted Tally and convinced her to go to the Smoke in order to allow Special Circumstances to find it and end it. In this novel, Dr. Cable comes to Tally and asks her if she would consider becoming a Special Circumstances. Tally turns her down. However, after Tally is caught in the New Smoke camp, Dr. Cable has her forcibly turned into a Special Circumstances agent.



## Alexander Simpson Smith

Alexander Simpson Smith is the holy man in a primitive village that Tally accidentally comes across in the woods. Alexander can speak Tally's language, therefore he becomes her guide. Alexander tells Tally a great deal about his people and their way of life. This leads Tally to realize that Alexander and his people are an experiment by doctors in the city who use them as guinea pigs for the pretty surgery.



# Objects/Places

## Bubbly

Bubbly is a word used in this book to describe a state of lucidity, of intelligence, and clarity.

## Pretty-Headed

Pretty-headed is a term to describe the carefree, simple-minded mindset that all pretties experience after the surgery.

## Pretties

Pretties are people who have had the surgery to make them look uniform with everyone else.

## Uglies

Uglies is what people before the age of sixteen, before the surgery, are referred to as. These people have a natural appearance that has not been altered surgically and this appearance is considered ugly in this society.

## Interface Rings

Interface rings are rings that everyone in the city must wear that tell the wardens where they are at all times. When she was an ugly, Tally often took her ring off in order to sneak out at night. In this book, Tally is caught with the ring off while procuring the cure from a building in New Pretty Town.

## Interface Cuffs

After being caught without their interface rings, Zane and Tally are fit with interface cuffs that they cannot remove. For this reason, Zane and Tally begin to starve themselves in the hope that they can remove the cuffs and run away to the New Smoke.

## The Cure

The cure is a set of two pills, one filled with nanobots and one with a turn off switch for the nanobots, that is meant to cure the lesions that are put on people's brains during the initial pretty surgery.



## **Surg**

Surg is a term to describe the surgeries that pretties often have to enhance their beauty. These can include anything from tattoos that spin when the person's heart is beating rapidly to changes to the eyes that might include clocks that tick backward.

## **Hoverboards**

Hoverboards are skateboard-like contraptions that use magnets to fly through the city on metal grids. Tally and her friends use these when they escape from the city, using mineral deposits in rivers to travel outside the city.

## **Hovercars**

The people in the cities do not use what they call ground cars, but instead use cars that work on the same principle as hoverboards. For travel outside the city, there are special hovercars that use fans to achieve lift. It is one of the latter that Tally steals in order to get to the Rusty Ruins to rendezvous with her friends after becoming separated.

## **Hot Air Balloons**

Tally and the Crims use hot air balloons to escape the city. Tally chooses hot air balloons because she wants to use the burners to heat up the interface cuffs in order to pull them from her and Zane's wrists.

## **The Smoke**

The Smoke is a village of uglies who have chosen to leave the cities to avoid the pretty surgery. This village was discovered by Special Circumstances in a previous novel and all the people taken to their appropriate cities to receive the pretty surgery.

## **The New Smoke**

The New Smoke is a new group of uglies who continue to live in the way of the Smoke. They include one of the Smoke's original founders, Maddy, and her son, David.

## **Crims**

Crims is a clique created by Zane that he uses to help him remain bubbly. Zane believes that by retelling stories of their tricky days as uglies helps him and the others in the group retain their memories and their intelligence.



## Special Circumstances

Special Circumstances is a group of cruel pretties whose job it is to keep order in the city. Special Circumstances is responsible for finding uglies who refuse to conform to the rules of the city and return them to the city for their pretty surgery. It is in this role that Tally and some of her friends come into contact with Special Circumstances.



# Themes

## Conformity

In this novel, the civilization that currently exists is what remains of a civilization that was destroyed after an over reliance on oil left them devastated when the world's supply of oil was destroyed by a manmade virus. This civilization thinks it has learned from the mistakes of the Rusties, their ancestors, and they have outlawed the destruction of nature and the use of oil. This civilization has also decided that human behavior is largely to blame for what happened to the Rusties, therefore they have created an operation that not only makes everyone look the same so there is no envy or jealousy, but they also alter the human brain to prevent emotional outbursts that might lead to crime or even murder.

The people of this new civilization believe that people must be very similar in order to prevent the same mistakes of the past. While this civilization has ended most crimes, it has also taken away the individuality of the people. No one has a choice in regards to the surgery. It is simply fact that everyone must have the surgery. When people begin to run away and try to avoid the surgery, to make their own choices, the new civilization's leaders become nervous and begin hunting them down. Tally, the heroine of this novel, becomes caught up in this hunt.

The conformity of this new world is fascinating at first glance. Everyone is happy and kind to one another. There is no crime and little rebellion. However, when the reader begins to get a closer look at this society, they notice that there also is no individual choice. That each person cannot choose for themselves how they will live their life, but are simply expected to be happy with what the wardens tell them they must do. Not only this, but some people in this society are used, tested on, to improve the surgery. It is a sad situation in which people truly have no control over their own lives.

## Rebellion

While most of the people in the new world that Tally lives in are happy with their lives and what their futures hold, some are not. Tally was one who was excited to become pretty, but changed her mind when she learned what it was like to live with freedom and the right to make her own choices. However, Tally became pretty anyway in order to repay a debt she felt she owed for turning the Smoke into Special Circumstances. As Tally regains her memories, she again begins to realize just how controlling and unfair the Special Circumstances leaders can be to the people and she begins to rebel once again.

In this novel, conformity is something that is expected of all. However, there are few who rebel against conformity and form their own community in order to give support to others like them. As the novel continues, it seems that the New Smoke has failed and



that rebellion is useless. However, as Tally and her friends become more bubbly, they come to the realization that if they can reach such a moment of clarity, that others can too. They also realize that everyone should have the right to make their own choices. Hence, the Crims decide to leave the city and join the New Smoke.

Rebellion is important in this novel because it shows that humans should have the freedom to make their own choices. Even though conformity has brought peace and wealth to the new world, it has also taken away individuality and it has left certain groups vulnerable to abuse and certain dangers. For this reason, the rebellion is important, allowing hope for those who no longer want to give up their individuality, but do not know how to fight alone.

## Relationships

There are several relationships in this novel that are important to the overall plot. The first is the friendship between Tally and Shay. Tally and Shay have known each other since several months before their shared sixteenth birthday. Tally and Shay pulled tricks together as uglies and Shay taught Tally how to ride a hoverboard. When Shay decided to run away to the Smoke, she wanted Tally to go along, but Tally really wanted to become pretty. However, Tally followed anyway after she was blackmailed by Special Circumstances.

Shay begins to remember Tally's betrayal of her as the Crims become more and more bubbly. When this happens, Shay is destroyed by what she sees as Tally's decision to put Zane ahead of her. In the end, Shay becomes a Special and she is part of the reason Tally is forced to become the same.

Another important relationship in this novel is the one between Tally and Zane. Zane is the leader of the Crims and he has found ways to make himself bubbly despite the lesions in his brain. Zane turns to Tally in his attempts to remain bubbly, seeing in her a trickiness that he hopes will also help him become more bubbly. Tally ends up sharing the cure with Zane, something that causes Zane to suffer terrible brain damage. However, Zane is happy to be cured and to finally leave the city for the New Smoke.

When Tally arrives at the New Smoke, she begins to remember her time with David when she lived in the Smoke before and when they traveled to the city to rescue those who had been taken by Special Circumstances during the raid of the Smoke. This helps Tally recall her feelings for David. However, when Tally is forced to choose between David and Zane, she chooses Zane because he is helpless and she feels that they shared too much in the past month for her to turn her back on him. Hence these relationships are important to the plot, making relationships a theme of the novel.

# Style

## Point of View

The point of view of this novel is the third person. The author tells his story through the eyes of Tally Youngblood, a new pretty. Tally has become pretty in order to test a cure for the lesions given to pretties during their initial surgery, but the surgery has caused her to forget her promise and the purpose of the cure. However, Zane, the leader of the clique to which Tally belongs, helps her remain bubbly long enough to find the cure and share it with him.

By telling his story through Tally exclusively, the author allows the reader to become intimately involved with Tally and in her story. Tally is a complex character who appears very shallow at the beginning of the novel, but slowly becomes more than a pretty face, returning her mind to its previous state without help of a cure or surgical intervention. Tally is very intelligent, though a little naive, and she is able to overcome the damage the lesions in her brain have left her with. By telling the story through Tally, the author is able to show the reader how Tally moves from the simple-mindedness of a pretty into the girl who once traveled all the way to the Smoke on her own and survived. For this reason, the point of view of this novel is appropriate to its characters and plot.

## Setting

The novel is set in a futuristic world in which civilization has rebounded after being nearly destroyed by the destruction of all the world's oil. In this new civilization, people are given a surgery at the age of sixteen that not only makes their appearances pleasing and similar, but also changes their brains to prevent conflict and independent thought. It is this surgery and the knowledge of what the surgeons do to the brain that has inspired a small rebellion that is quickly growing outside of the cities.

The setting of this novel is essential to the plot of the novel because it is the situation that drives the conflict in the plot. Without this futuristic setting or the requirements of the civilization in the cities, the plot would make little to no sense to the reader. It is the fact that the Rusties all died out because of their reliance on oil and their wars and infighting that caused the destruction of the oil that motivates Special Circumstances to act as they do in the civilization, setting up the behaviors that the main characters are rebelling against. Hence, the setting works very well with the plot of the novel.

## Language and Meaning

The author of this novel tells his story using many descriptors that make fun of society while at the same time point out the unique themes of his story. The author uses the words pretty and ugly to describe different groups of people in society as modern society might use the words wealthy and poor. At the same time, the pretties use a way



of speaking that includes words like bubbly, pretty, and famous to describe not only people, but states of mind and popularity. By using this type of language, the author makes such distinctions seem almost ridiculous when a reader applies it to modern life.

The language of this novel reflects the conflict and characters of the novel very well. The author uses language to underscore the importance of conformity and physical attraction that exists both in his fictional world and in the real world. By using the language he does, the author plays with the themes of the novel in such a way that makes the reader catch his meaning in multiple ways. Not only this, but the language makes the characters more believable, more interesting, and their plight more obvious. For this reason, the language of the novel works well with the plot.

## Structure

The novel is divided into multiple chapters, each with its own title, but no chapter number. The novel is told in three parts, each part carrying a title of its own. The novel is written with both narration and dialogue, showing the story as much as telling it. The plot unfolds in a linear timeline, including only small bits of backstory that are required for the reader to understand the essential pieces of the plot and character motivation.

The novel contains one main plot and several subplots. The main plot follows Tally as she receives a cure for the lesions given to her brain during her pretty surgery and her decision to leave the city once more. One subplot explores the relationship between Tally and Zane, as well as that between Tally and Shay. Another subplot deals with the society in which Tally lives, the ritual of giving pretty surgeries to those who are sixteen, and the way in which these surgeries were developed. Finally, the novel includes a subplot that discusses the rebellion of the Smoke and the continued actions of those living in the New Smoke. All the plots come to a satisfying conclusion at the end of the novel.



## Quotes

"Getting dressed was always the hardest part of the afternoon" (Criminal, p. 5).

"She wondered what tricks Zane had pulled back when he was an ugly. He didn't tell that many stories about himself" (Lurker, p. 21).

"In his fascination with her scar, Zane was extra beautiful, and his expression gave her a tingly feeling - like being at the center of everything, but without the spinning" (Zane, p. 35).

"Of course, getting what you wanted never turned out the way you'd thought it would" (The High Tower, p. 55).

"It felt like setting off her first firework as a little, amazed that one little press of a button could make so much noise, wondering if she was going to get in trouble" (Bounce, p. 76).

"Maybe Shay wouldn't need the pills at all—maybe old memories from ugly days were enough. Perhaps thanks to every terrible thing that Tally Youngblood had ever done to her, Shay would find her own way to a cure" (Breakup, p. 93).

"Pretties didn't like conflict. Pretties didn't take risks. Pretties didn't say no" (The City's Edge, p. 141).

"Nature was tough, it could be dangerous, but unlike Dr. Cable or Shay or Peris - unlike people in general - it made sense" (Alone, p. 152).

"Tally remembered again her conversation with Dr. Cable, who had claimed that human beings always rediscovered war, always became Rusties in the end—the species was a planetary plague, whether they knew what a planet was or not. So what was the cure for that, except the operation" (The Edge of the World, p. 177).

"Everyone in the world was programmed by the place they were born, hemmed in by their beliefs, but you had to at least try to grow your own brain" (Holy Day, p. 187).

"Zane had changed her. From their very first kiss, even before he'd had the cure himself, being with him had made her bubbly." (Cold Water, p. 208).

"It was Shay. She was Special" (Specials, p. 222).



## Topics for Discussion

Who are the Rusties? What happened to them? How has what happened to them shaped the world in which Tally lives in? How does what happened to them impact the use of the pretty surgery in Tally's world? What does Tally think of the Rusties? How was this opinion shaped? What do the people of the Smoke think of the Rusties? How were their opinions formed? What mistakes did the Rusties make? What could the new civilization learn from them?

Who is Tally? Why did she have the pretty surgery? What did the surgery do to Tally's personality? For what reason? What is Tally's biggest concern at the beginning of the novel? What is her biggest concern at the end of the novel? Why the difference? How did Tally heal her brain? How does Tally know she is healed? Why would Tally want to be healed?

Who is Zane? What are the Crims? Why did Zane begin the Crims? What is the nature of Tally and Zane's relationship? Why did Zane seek Tally out? How does Zane claim he has managed to make himself bubbly in all this time? How does Zane hope Tally will continue to help him stay bubbly? Why is being bubbly important to Zane?

What is the New Smoke? What is the importance of this organization? Who runs it? For what purpose? Why does Tally want to take Zane to the New Smoke? What does Tally hope the people of the New Smoke can do for Zane? Do they? What is Tally's history with the people of the Smoke? Why does Maddy dislike Tally so much? How does David feel about Tally? How does Tally manage to ruin this relationship between herself and David?

Who are Special Circumstances? Who is Dr. Cable? How does Tally know Dr. Cable? What does Dr. Cable suggest Tally should do with her history of tricks? Why does Tally turn her down? Who becomes a Special Circumstances agent in this novel? For what reason? How does the Special Circumstances surgery change pretties? Are these changes a benefit? Explain. Why does Dr. Cable decide to force Tally to become a Special?

Who are the primitive people Tally runs into in the forest? Why are they allowed to live freely when the people of the Smoke are hunted down? What does Tally learn about these people that shocks her? What are the city doctors doing to these people? For what purpose? How are these people forced to remain in one, confined area? What does Tally believe is the reason for this? How does Tally finally escape this area?

What is the cure? What is it designed to do? How did Tally mistakenly take it wrong? What does the cure do to Zane's brain? For what reason? Will he recover? Why does Tally take Zane to the hospital? What do the doctors do to Zane in the hospital? Why can Maddy not change this? Why does Maddy insist on leaving Zane behind? Why does Maddy suggest Tally is not cured? Why does Maddy suggest that the city people will allow Tally to simply return to New Pretty Town? Does this happen? Explain.