THE GUN

Paul Langan
Protagonist - Tyray Hobbs

What do you remember about Tyray Hobbs from The Bully?

Tall  Mean
Strong  Aggressive
Bully  Jealous (Amberlynn)
       Angry
Characters

- Tyray, angry, disrespectful, afraid of dad, hatred, vengeful
- Mrs. Hobbs, soft, cowards, coddles
- Gil Hobbs, feared, violent, bully
- Ms. Spencer, strong, icy, bossy
- Lark Collins, cute, wholesome, freshmen, glasses, bit overweight, easily manipulated
- Mr. Mitchell, friendly
Chapter One

- How would you describe Tyray in five (5) words or less from information provided in this chapter?
- What conflicts are present in this chapter?
- Describe the relationship between Tyray Hobbs and Rodney Banks from before and after the fight.
- Describe Tyray’s mother and father.
Chapter Two

- How is “respect” defined in this chapter?
- In the previous chapter we are introduced to Lark Collins, describe her based on what we know so far. Why does Tyray hang out with her?
- Who gives Tyray the idea of a gun? How does this idea affect Tyray?
Characters
- Lark - tiny scar, sympathetic
- Tyray - impatient, manipulative
- Amberlynn - pretty, enemy, protective
- Warren Hobbs - jail
- Mr. Mitchell - funny
- Bones - tall, skinny, good teeth, fast, gangster/criminal. respect Warren
- Harold Davis - used to fear Tyray, some confidence
Chapter Three

- What stereotype has Tyray’s dad, Gil, taught Tyray?
- What does Tyray remember about the time he brought in a stray puppy? How does this effect him?
- What incident(s) lead Tyray into believing that he real needs the gun?
Characters

- Warren - looks like mother, concern, love, protective
- Cedric, Shamar, Eddie, Len - two freshmen, two dropouts, picked on him, don't fear Tyray
- Tyray - angry, frustrated
- Mrs. Hodden - respects manners, stopped fight
- Gil - forceful, power
- Darrell - responsible
- Mrs. Hobbs
- Londell James
At this point ...  

■ How do you feel about Tyray?  
■ Do you feel Tyray deserves what he is getting?  
■ How do you think Tyray feels towards his mother?  
■ Is Tyray receiving the support he needs from his family, friends, school, etc.?
Chapter Four

■ Tyray mentions that compared to the James’ brothers he has only done “kid stuff.” Why make this distinction? What does this really say about Tyray?

■ What emotions go through Tyray during his conversation with Mr. Mitchell?

■ What incident of violence did Tyray witness at a young age? How did this affect him?
Characters

- Tyray
- Mrs. Hobbs - victim
- Jupiter - rap sheet
- Mr. Mitchell - sharp, nosy, helpful
- Coach Lewis - wrestling coach, gives good advice
Chapter Five

- What is Tyray’s plan to get the $50 for the gun?
- What kind of abuse is Tyray and his mother living with?
- Why does Tyray question his mother and finally asks her about her devotion to his mother?
- Why did Tyray’s parents get married?
- What does Warren mean by “respect” in his letter to Tyray?
Characters
Chapter Six

■ Why does Lark remind Tyray of the abandoned puppy from years before?
■ What was the reason the Gil Hobbs was furious over what Warren had done?
■ What do you think is going to happen to Tyray when he meets the boys behind the gym?
■ How do you feel about Lark for trusting Tyray?
■ Find an example of alliteration and metaphor in the chapter.
Characters

- Amberlynn  - protective
- Jamee  - cares about friends
- Lark  - too trusting
- Tyray  - guilty
- Warren  - stands up for Tyray
- Gil  - bitter, devastated
Chapter Seven

- Why give such a descriptive visual of the alley next to the gym?
- What happens to Tyrya when he goes to Muscleman Gym?
- Why doesn’t Tyray go get his head injury checked?
- Why does Gil Hobbs push Tyray to get good grades?

- Personification, Onomatopoeia, Alliteration
Characters
Chapter Eight

- What happens at the school pep rally to upset Tyray?
- Why does Lark reject giving Tyray money a second time?
- What causes Tyray to have the dream?

Simile, Cliché

Tyray feels trapped by his circumstances. Using two references (Chapter 1-8), determine whether Tyray is really trapped by what’s going on around him, or by himself.
Characters
Chapter Nine

■ Why does Bones say he shouldn’t sell Tyray the gun? Why does he do it any way?
■ Why does Tyray go to see Rodney Banks once Tyray has the gun?
■ How does Tyray feel now that he has the gun?
■ Idiom p. 105
■ Alliteration
Characters
Chapter Ten

■ How does Lark feel about Tyray?
■ What makes it a struggle for Tyray to make his choice?
■ What choice did he make? How was he stopped?
■ What choice did Darrell make that helped Tyray?
■ In the end, we “see” a different side of Gil Hobbs? Using to references, explain how Gil showed how he cared for Tyray in his own way.
■ Simile, Foreshadow, Onomatopoeia, Metaphor
■ Will Tyray change for the better?
Characters