

Discussion questions for the novel: *The Astronaut From Bear Creek*

Please feel free to print and handout.

**-Spoiler Alert-** If you haven't finished the novel, the questions below will spoil the ending.

1. What type of book did you think you were getting into when you first started reading?
2. When you first see Jim and he interacts with Stanton, what did you think of him?
3. Abbey is broken when she arrives at the inn. What if Jim hadn't of let her stay.
4. Did Jim need Abbey? Why or why not?
5. What are your thoughts about Kelly Mae White's character?
6. The villain in this story is Miss Philhours. Discuss her role in the story and how she treated Abbey.
7. Discuss the pilots, Tom and Jerry. Did you enjoy their bit parts in the story?
8. What did you enjoy most about the book? Did you have a favorite part?
9. Discuss the underlying theme of Peter Pan. Did it have anything to do with the story?
10. Some readers thought that Jim and Kelly would end up together, did you have this premonition only to not have it come true? What else did you think would happen that did not come true?
11. Did you see the death of Jim coming? What did you think about his final request to see Abbey in the play?
12. How well will Abbey be taken care of due to the emails that Jim sent out before his death?
13. What do you take away from this story? What does it mean to you?

A few facts: Nick Allen Brown cried his face off while writing and editing the book. This book took one year of research and one year to write and edit. The cover went through 34 different designs. The school play was originally going to be Charlotte's Web where Abbey would perform, but the estate of E.B. White adamantly rejected the idea. Nick shelved the idea of using Charlotte's Web and pursued the story of Peter Pan. While writing the book, Nick would imagine 1990's version of Kevin Costner as Jim Mayfield.