

READER'S GUIDE

Throughout the story, Dora is under the control of several different characters. How does that control impact her ability to make decisions that are in her best interest?

In what ways are we controlled by others (employers, governments, relationships) and how does that differ from the means used by those who aimed to control Dora?

Dora is betrayed several times. Which of the betrayals do you think is the most egregious and why?

Gael and Don both take control over others in the wake of the invasion, how do they differ and what similarities do they share?

When Barbie, Mitch, and Dora are recaptured they each face a very different fate. Do you think that each person was given what they deserved? What would have been a more just and humane outcome for each of them?

Gavin is the only character that is not an adult. How does his fate impact Dora?

If you could change any aspect about the ending, what would it be and why?

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If Mitch had not interfered, Dora would have been subject to torture and had a tracker implanted in her thumb. If Mitch had not taken her from the hospital, she might never have fallen into the hands of Gael. Would Dora have been better off if Mitch had not been able to 'rescue' her from the hospital? If yes, please explain. If no, please explain.

When Simon and Dora enter the Porthana facility they discover a room full of supplies. What do you make of this stockpile and what would this signal to the characters about what the future would hold?

If each character were to be put on trial, how do you think they would fair? Which crimes would be excused and which would be punished? If you were on the jury how would you come to a decision on what would a just course of action?

When assessing the previous question, how might your deliberations differ if each character was evaluated solely on their crimes, with no consideration for their circumstances during the invasion?

In comparison to other modern post-apocalyptic stories, how does Nailbiters differ?