

## *TWTTIN Journals*

\* You are to write at least 1 page about the following situations or topics from this novel.  
Be sure to follow the directions of each section!

### ***Pre-Reading***

\* *Choose 4 of the following topics and write a 1 page journal.*

1. What is friendship? How far should one be willing to go for a friend? Friendship can be abused and used selfishly. Can you think of examples from literature--or from your own life?
2. Are street drugs worse than alcohol? Should the drinking age be lowered? Why do so many teenagers drink? Is there such a thing as drinking "responsibly" if you are a teenager?
3. How are you different from when you were younger? How are you the same? What are some signs of "growing up"? What's good about growing up? What are the disadvantages?
4. What do you think are the qualities of a "good parent"? How much should they know about your life? What rules should they have? What freedoms should they allow?
5. Do you like who you are? Do you ever do things you regret? Do you ever act in a way that surprises you? How much of your behavior is influenced by what others around you are doing? When are you willing to do something because it is what you think is right for you--even though those around you disagree? In what cases do you think it is best to conform? When is it best to break away from "the crowd"?

6. What do you think the expression (title) “That was then, this is now” means? What do you think is going to happen in this novel? Have you read anything else by S.E. Hinton? What sort of stories does she write?

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### ***Chapters 1 and 2***

*\* Choose 1 and write a 1 page journal about it.*

1. Bryon has a bad memory of being beaten up by two police officers. He believes that the reason he can't accept authority now is partly because of what happened then. Describe a bad memory you have--and its lasting effect on your behavior or attitudes.
2. Compare and contrast M&M's approach to life with that of Mark or Bryon. Think about the most obvious ways in which the boys are different, and be sure to pay attention to the less obvious ways in which they are similar.

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### ***Chapters 3 and 4***

*\* Choose 1 and write a 1 page journal about it.*

1. Bryon and Mark spend the afternoon talking about when they were “little kids.” Describe some of the things you and your best friend used to do together when you were little.
2. Describe the setting of Cathy's house, and compare how Bryon feels about being there to how he felt in Angela's house. Write about the differences that are most important to him.

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### ***Chapters 5 and 6***

*\* Choose 1 and write a 1 page journal about it.*

1. How does the incident with the Texans affect Bryon? Explain how Bryon's behavior has changed. Use details to support your position.
2. Pretend you are Bryon. After Charlie dies, you decide to write to his sister--the girl you used to date. Tell her what happened and how you feel about it.

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### ***Chapters 7 and 8***

*\* Choose 1 and write a 1 page journal about it.*

1. Compare and contrast the characters of Mark and Cathy. Briefly, analyze why they don't get along. Support your thoughts with details.
2. Pretend you are Bryon, resting in bed after the Shepards attacked you. You reflect on your life and how you've been going in circles; you start to think about what your life will be like ten years from now. Write down two versions of your future--a) if you continue as you are, and b) if you "get it together." Then make a list of the things you can do right away to change your life for the better.

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### ***Chapters 9 and 10***

*\* Choose 1 and write a 1 page journal about it.*

1. Interpret M&M's drug hallucinations. What might the spiders represent, and why is he in such torment? Support your ideas.
2. Do you think Bryon will regret turning Mark in? What will Bryon's mother say about it?

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## *Chapter 11*

\* Choose 1 and write a 1 page journal about it.

1. Imagine that Bryon had confronted Mark instead of calling the police. Write the conversation they have.
2. How satisfying did you find the ending? How else might the novel have ended?