

Hope and Despair in “The Shawshank Redemption” Notes

2. What Gives Andy Hope?

- “There are places in this world that aren't _____. There's something inside that they _____.”
- Andy tells Red “I’m a rock hound. At least I was in my old life. I’d like to be again at least on a limited basis.”
- Andy’s rocks are an example of _____
- Rocks are shaped naturally over _____
- Andy shaping the rocks into chess pieces, etc. represents _____

- They also symbolize Andy’s _____

- “That's the beauty of _____. They can't get that from you. Haven't you ever felt that way about music?”
- Music represents Andy’s _____
- He says that the music he hears in his head is something that belongs to him that the guards can’t touch or take away from him
- Through music, Andy gives the other prisoners their humanity back, if only for a few moments

- Red says: “It was like some beautiful bird flapped into our drab little cage and made those walls dissolve away, and for the briefest of moments, every last man in Shawshank felt free.”
- Tommy represents _____
- Andy wants to help Tommy get his high school diploma because he _____

- Tommy ends up giving Andy a hope that he never imagined... _____
_____!

3. Hope Turns to Despair

- But we know that Andy’s hopes are crushed by _____
- It seems as though Andy has finally reached _____
- Was Red right all along?
- “Let me tell you something my friend. Hope is a dangerous thing. Hope can drive a man insane. It’s got no use on the inside. You _____
_____.”

I guess it comes down to a simple choice, really.
Get busy living, or
get busy dying.

