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Discussion Questions: ***Northern Borders*** by Howard Frank Mosher

1. Why was it impossible for the grandfather to overcome his first love and passion to love again?
2. Why did Tut's father send him to live with the grandparents if he, himself, could not bear living with them?
3. Did Tut see himself as being abandoned by his father?
4. Do you think there was any kind of love between the grandparents?
5. What are we to surmise about the grandfather's status as an orphan?
6. Was it a badge of honor to be the meanest old bastard in the Kingdom?
7. What was it about Abiah that lead Austin to marry her and she him? Was there any moment of "happiness" between them?
8. What is the importance of time and setting to this novel?
9. What story techniques, themes and characters can be seen as Dickensian?
10. How did the elephant "fit" into the larger body of the story?
11. Chapter 3; The Snow Owl, defines the trilogy and the tension of view points between grand parents and it's effects on Tut. Discuss
12. Discuss some of the ways love is illustrated in this novel.
13. Are the values illustrated in The Lost Nation really lost?