

# ATPE BOOK of the month CLUB

## **The Secret to Lying** by Todd Mitchell

*Discussion questions written by Kristen Jackson's 10th grade students from Henderson ISD.*

1. What opportunities did James have at the new school that he didn't have at his old one? Would he have had the same problems had he stayed at his old school?
2. Do you think the friends James made at his new school were good or bad for him?
3. If you had the chance, would you want to change your identity like James did?
4. James says that the secret to lying is to believe yourself. What do you think James really believed about himself?
5. What do you think is the significance of ghost44's screen name? Why does this person stay anonymous?
6. Have you ever had dreams in which you were fighting for survival? Do you think dreams like this mean anything?
7. Do you think any of the ASMA students were true friends even though they didn't know "the real" James? If so, who was a true friend?
8. Why does James start cutting himself? Do you think it changed anything for him?
9. If you could befriend one of the ASMA students, who would you want to be friends with? Why?
10. Who is the *real* James?

