The Mark of the Dragonfly by Jaleigh Johnson
DTDL & GLADL Battle of the Books 2016

Name three specific destinations or towns one would find on a map of the World of Solace (or however many we choose, one point for each place. Also would work for a tie breaker question - whoever names the most places advances?)


Also mentioned: Molwey (while on train, Piper knew they were in Dragonfly territories) (p. 203), Phirimor (a supply stop – p. 231), Derghesh (small farming village – p. 323)

Who is the main character in Mark of the Dragonfly?
Piper (1)

What does Piper wear around her neck?
A tarnished silver watch (p. 1)

Who found the music box in the fields that needed fixing?
Micah (1)

Who is Piper’s friend in Scrap Town 16?
Micah Howell (p. 2)

Why are “Stiff hips” desirable customers to sell salvaged storm items to? (Hint: where do they get their name?)
“They have a lot of coin in their belt”. They “can’t walk right with all the money weighing them down” and they have money to waste (4,5)

How old is Micah?
11 (p. 5)

What do Archivists do?
Their life’s work was collecting meteor-storm artifacts to learn more about other worlds (p. 6)

Where did Micah find the music box?
In a crater, under the ice dragon's tail (6)

How did Scrappers make a living?
By collecting items from the meteor storms to sell at the trade markets (p. 7)

What is the main form of sustenance for Micah’s family? What do his parents do to make sure they survive?
They are fishermen (8)

Where did Micah's parents fish?
Meljoy lakes (8)

What type of fish did Micah's parent's fish for?
Why do the people of citizens of the scrap towns need to wait out the storms until after the wind comes? The dust from the meteors is very poisonous to breathe, also the meteors falling themselves are very dangerous (p. 9)

What do the people in town say about Piper and machines? That she is a “healer” who can fix them “without leaving a mark” (12)

Why was Piper unsuccessful in selling her watch? It would only work for her (13)

What did Piper pack in her bag before heading out to the shelter before the meteor storm hit? Cloths, heavy leather gloves, goggles, rice balls (p. 15)

How fast did you have to begin scavenging after a meteor storm to find anything valuable? Within 30 minutes (16)

Who is Scrap Town #16’s unofficial mayor, who also runs a general store and is one of Piper’s best customers? Arno Weir (18)

What was the role of the Trade Consortium in the scrap towns? They kept order by settling disputes, made sure there were healers, schools, and decent roads (p. 20)

After her father died, what did Piper vow to do when she had enough money saved? Buy a train ticket and leave for the capital of the Merrow Kingdom to work in a machinist’s shop. (23)

What is the name of the capital of the Merrow Kingdom? Ardra (23)

Who was missing from the shelter before the meteor storm? Micah (24)

What is the name of Micah’s older brother? Jory (25)

Who looked after Piper when her father went south to the factory so she did not have to live in the consortium dormitories? Micha and Jory’s family (26)

What did Piper and Micah see while trying to stay safe under a ledge during the meteor storm? A trade caravan- two wagons lead by sintees (29/30)
Why could Sintees tolerate a meteor storm?  
They were too blind, deaf and stupid to know any better (30)

Give two explanations scrappers made up to explain how things (treasures) fell from the sky during the meteor storms and landed in the scrap fields.  
1) Some believed it was the goddess’s doing 2) Some believed the items were forgotten about in their own worlds and somehow slipped through the cracks into a new world during the storms (the scrap towns). Piper personally thought the goddess might have ripped open the sky herself (she refers to it as a celestial tear) to allow the items to fall through during the storms. (31)

What happened to the caravan during the storm?  
It was destroyed by a meteor (31/32)

Both Piper and Micah got injured in the meteor storm. What part of the body did each injure?  
Piper twisted her ankle (p. 28) and Micah’s head was hit with debris (p. 33)

Besides the injured girl, what items did Piper scavenge from the wreckage of the caravan?  
Medicine kits, food packs with meat kept on ice, the tarp from the caravan (p. 35, 37)

Who did Piper tell Jory to bring back to his home once Micah was there?  
A healer (41)

What did Piper find on the wrist of the girl she saved from the caravan wreckage?  
A dragonfly tattoo, or The Mark of the Dragonfly (p. 44)

How did Piper know the girl she found in the caravan wreckage was very important?  
She had a dragonfly tattoo on her wrist, a symbol meaning she was under King Aron’s protection (p. 46)

What is the Mark of the Dragonfly a symbol of?  
Aron, the King of the Dragonfly Territories (p. 44), anyone who bears this mark is under his protection or part of his advisory council (p. 46)

Why was a dragonfly the symbol of King Aron?  
One of his oldest family crests was a crossed pair of sabers made to look like dragonfly wings, which started the tradition of referring to the reigning monarch as the Dragonfly (p. 46)

What was King Aron’s old family crest?  
crossed pair of sabers made to look like dragonfly’s wings (p. 46)

Which two powers had been rivals for as long as anyone could remember?  
The Merrow Kingdom and Dragonfly territories (44)

What did King Aron believe would further the world’s future?  
exploration and expansion (45)

What resource did King Aron seek most for his endeavors of exploration and expansion?  
Iron (45)
Why did King Aron stop trading iron with the Merrow Kingdom?
So he could keep the iron for himself to build steamships and airships and so he could prevent the Merrow Kingdom from building weapons (p. 45)

Why did Piper consider King Aron her father’s murderer?
Because he had built the factory Noveen where her father worked and died from the poisonous smoke he regularly inhaled (p. 47)

What is the name of the train that ferries goods and passengers on a north-south route through the Merrow Kingdom and the Dragonfly Territories?
The 401 (p. 49)

What was in the fish soup that Piper made for herself and Anna?
sturgeon, leeks and potatoes (50)

When Anna awoke at Piper’s house, what was she clutching in her hand?
Piper’s knife (p. 51)

What color are Anna’s eyes?
brown (52)

What does Piper offer Anna when she finally awakes after the storm?
Fish (sturgeon) stew. (53/54)

What language of tongue does Piper speak?
Trader’s Speech (p. 55)

What was Jory’s impression of the male survivor from the caravan wreckage who was wandering around town?
He didn’t like him – he wasn’t friendly and had a bad look in his eyes (p. 58)

What happens to Piper’s home while she leaves to check on Micah and send a letter on the 401?
The girl takes all of the items in Piper’s home out of their boxes, drawers, and cabinets. She leaves the home completely in disarray (60).

What did Anna feel was wrong with Piper’s house?
the size – everything was too big for one person/out of proportion (60)

What is the capital of the Dragonfly territories?
Noveen (61)

What is the name of the girl with the dragonfly tattoo? Why was it difficult for Piper to obtain this information? How does Piper get this information from the girl?
Her name is Anna, but she did not remember this when Piper asked. Piper holds up a broken mirror and asks the girl who she sees. This is how she communicates her name. (62)

Where do the Archivists live in Solace?

to the West (64)

After Piper told Anna about the caravan wreckage, Anna began hum a song. What type of song was it?
An old children’s nursery rhyme about the “forgotten things” in Solace. (64/65)

Where did Piper’s dad work?
A factory in Noveen (66)

How did Piper’s father die?
Breathing in the factory smoke made him sick and brought on an illness that killed him quickly. (67)

What is Piper’s last name? (This is rarely mentioned. This might be a good tricky question).
Linney (69)

How did Anna react to the man who showed up to claim her at Piper’s house after the caravan wreck and what did she call him?
She was terrified and told Piper not to let him in, she called him the wolf (70)

What was it about Anna’s condition that “the wolf” was so surprised about upon his discovery of her at Piper’s house?
That she was awake (72)

How did Piper incapacitate “The Wolf”/Doloman when he tried to forcibly take Anna from her home?
She hit him over the head with the pot of fish stew and he collapsed, unconscious. (75)

What items did Piper grab from home before she fled with Anna?
Knife, satchel, medicine & food packs from caravan, her father’s letters and drawings, a few extra shirts, a pair of pants, tool belt & tools (p. 76)

How did Piper and Anna flee scrap town #16 after escaping “The Wolf’s” grasp?
Became stowaways on the 401. (78/79)

What two defenses did the 401 have that Piper and Anna encountered when they tried to sneak on?
An alarm and flame vents (p. 80)

What happened to Piper when she attempted to illegally board the 401?
Her coat sleeve caught on an iron bolt as flames began to shoot out of vents that were meant to prevent raiders from boarding the train, but she placed her hand over the vent closest to her and pleaded silently for it to stop. The pipes suddenly and unexpectedly ceased to work and she was safe. (81)
What was the shape of Soot on Gee's face? 
bean shaped (82)

Where did the 401 orginate? 
the dragonfly territories (85)

After breaking onto the train and being caught by the guards, what saved Anna and Piper from being thrown off/charged with illegally boarding the 401?
Anna’s dragonfly tattoo. It was regarded as “genuine” and she was declared “under the king’s protection”. (86)

Although Piper did not have The Mark of the Dragonfly, how was she able to stay aboard the 401 with Anna?
She declared herself Anna’s official royal protector, an explanation that Anna corroborated, and the guards accepted this. (88)

Where does Anna tell Gee they need to go when they first get on the train?
Noveen (p. 89)

What is the name of the guard with green eyes who is in charge of security on the 401?
Gee (91)

While it was Piper’s dream to leave Scrap Town #16, why was she sad upon leaving on the 401?
She was leaving Micah behind (p. 92)

Once accepted as passengers on the 401, where did Gee lead Piper and Anna? What were their accommodations?
Gee took the girls to their own private luxury car specifically designated to people who bore the mark of the dragonfly. (94)

What fruit were in Anna and Piper's suite on the 401?
apples, oranges and grapes (94)

According to Anna, Piper was fierce like what?
a mother goshawk (96)

When finally settled into the private passenger train aboard the 410, Anna tells Piper “I’m glad you’re my protector” and likens her to this fictional bird: 
A Mother Goshawk (96) ---(This seems obscure but it is mentioned more than once. An acceptable answer could also be a mother bird).

What was the last fruit Piper remembered eating before she had fruit on the train?
wild blackberries (97)
What is the name of the woman who is in charge of everything on the 401?
Jeyne Steel (98)

What jobs do Jeyne, Gee, and Trimble have on the train?
Engineer (p. 183), security chief (p. 98), minds the firebox (p. 99)

Which character is referred to as “the fireman”? What is particularly peculiar about him that relates to his job?
Trimble, he is immune to fire (99)

What type of creature is Gee? What does he look like when he transforms from a boy into a creature?
Chamelin (99) His pupils turn a greenish-yellow; his feet and hands grow larger and also grow large claws; his body thickens and sprouts wiry green fur; his skin darkens to a green color to match; bone spurs burst from his spine; and his face takes on a hardened, angular, lizard like appearance. Finally he grows a 12 foot wing span. Basically an acceptable answer would be that he turns into a large flying lizard creature. (100)

Gee’s eyes are the same color as his furry body when he changes form – what color is it?
green (100)

How long was Gee’s wingspan?
Over twelve feet (100)

What would be the 401’s real security test?
the Cutting Gap (101)

What type of food was very hard to keep/rare to have in the scrap towns? What did most people survive on?
Meat from livestock is too expensive to raise and keep. Most families grow whatever crops they can manage during the short growing season and catch whatever they can in the surrounding lakes. (106)

Why does Piper think they are in danger from the wolf even when they are on the 401?
Because the 401 will stop many times and the wolf can probably get on a faster train and catch up with them (p. 108)

What is the name of the sarnun woman in Tevshal that Piper wants to seek out and why?
Raenoll, she may be able to tell them more about Anna (p. 111)

What special ability does a sarnun have?
Sarnums have strong, hyper-developed minds capable of telepathy and telekinesis (p. 110)

Name three physical traits of a sarnum:
Blue skin, chalk white eyes, three slits for a nose, tiny mouth cavity, cold skinned, blueish-white feelers that resemble tentacles that hang past their shoulders. (113/114)
Why didn't Arno Weir trust a sarnun when negotiating?
Because they didn't sweat (113)

What were the effects of meteor dust on Sarnuns?
damaged their lungs, hardened their feelers – aging them (114)

What is one major indication of a sarnum’s age that one can guess just by looking at them?
The level of calcification or hardening of their feelers. The meteor dust damages them over time. Young sarnums have soft, moist, glistening feelers. Older sarnums has stiff, rigid feelers. (114)

How long do sarnums usually live?
Into their sixties (114)

Why is there a heightened level of danger when the 401 stops in Tevshal? Why are passengers told to stay on the train?
There is a slave market happening during the few days surrounding the train’s stop and the city is “crawling” with slavers. (117)

Why is the green dust from the harvesting fields valuable to the slavers?
They combine it with other chemicals to make a tranquilizer. They pack it in little sacks and throw them at their targets to incapacitate them. (119)

What was the name of the porter who directed Anna and Pipe to a clothing merchant, and who was the clothing merchant?
Mr. Jalin, Ms. Varvol (p. 122-123)

What was Mr. Jalin wearing when he was talking with Anna on the train?
a navy blue jacket and black pants (122)

What does Anna discover she was wearing when she first took her old dress off on the train and why was this good news?
A leather money belt that held gold coins that would help the girls survive (123)

Who is Ms. Varvol and what do the girls trade her some of their gold coins for?
She is a clothing Merchant. She fits and sews the girls’ clothing in exchange for some of their gold coins. (122/123) --- You could also just simply ask what is the name of the clothing merchant on the 401 whom the girls purchase new clothing from.

On what finger did Ms. Varvol wear her emerald ring?
left index finger (126)

What was the shape of Ms. Varvol's emerald ring?
square (126)
Why does Ms. Varvol dismiss Piper at first?
She judges her by her ragged appearance and assumes she has come to beg her for her services.
(126/127)

What is the one thing Piper refused to part with during the fitting with Ms. Varvol? What was the compromise made?
Her father’s coat. As a compromise Piper gave up wearing her father’s boots, but kept the coat which Ms. Varvol patched up. (129)

What two clothing items of her father’s did Piper refuse to part with?
His coat and boots (p. 129)

What did Piper’s father used to call the city of Tevshal?
The Silver City or the Night Eye (p. 132)

What type of flower is unique to Tevshal? What characteristic makes them so unique?
Night’s eye. They only open at night and glow (referred to by Anna as bioluminescence) due to the chemicals from the sarnum perfumeries seeping into the soil over time. (132/133)

What is the one product produced by sarnums that is very specific and sought after from Tevshal? Why is this product so special?
Perfume. Sarnums have very sensitive olfactory receptors, which means they have a very keen sense of smell. Because of this, they value unique fragrances and excel at creating desirable scents and perfumes. (132)

What type of attraction was Anna fascinated by and purchased a ticket for while the girls were exploring the city of Tevshal?
A carousel (136-137)

What is Gee more susceptible to in beast form?
Illness and infection (144)

Why does Gee have trouble communicating while in beast form?
He can’t speak any language humans understand (p. 144)

More than anything, what keeps chamelins mostly in their human forms?
The transformation – it is unsettling to other races and they often react with fear or violence (p. 144)

Why does Raenoll say she may have a difficult time reading Anna?
“Because her abilities lie in reading objects; their destinies are fixed, so it is a simple matter to divine where they are from and where they are going. A person, on the other hand, is mutable, an entity that changes and evolves. Their destinies are uncertain.” (148)

Piper is weary of giving Raenoll a large sum of money because she says she doubts her abilities. What important object does Piper give the sarnum woman in order to test her powers?
The pocket watch she carries (148-149)
How does Raenoll communicate her vision to her customers? What is their experience like when they are having their object read?

She projects the images that appear to her on a white sheet. The customer is able to see what Raenoll sees as it is cast upon the sheet as a “moving picture”. (150)

What city did Raenoll confirm that Anna was from? Describe the home in Raenoll’s vision.

Noveen. The home is a large white stonework mansion set a top a cliff overlooking the ocean with beautiful gardens and a fountain. (154)

Why did Raenoll want to speak with Piper alone? What did she tell her?

She wanted to talk to her alone because she did not want to alarm Anna. She told her that Anna is very fragile and if Piper abandons her she will die. She also tells her that the two of them are connected and that Anna needs her. She says that she senses that the reward Piper will receive if she gets Anna to Noveen will be greater than anything she can imagine, but the task will also be horrifying. (157)

What happens to Anna and Piper as they are leaving Raenoll’s home?

They are attacked and abducted by slavers (160-161)

Who sent the slavers after Anna and Piper in Tevshal?

The Wolf (161)

What did the slavers steal from Anna and Piper?

Anna’s leather money belt filled with the gold coins. (162)

What did the slavers forget to take from Piper that helps the girls escape?

Her knife that she keeps on her belt. The girls were tied up so the knife helps them cut themselves free from the knots that bind them. (163)

After the carriage flips, the slavers chase Piper and try to attack her with a very specific item. What is it?

Bolas, or dust filled sacks, comprised of toxic meteor dust and other chemicals that render victims defenseless and dazed. (170)

Piper is cornered by a slaver with a revolver. What happens to the revolver when Piper stares at it?

It explodes in the slavers hands. (171)

Who/what saved Anna as she was chased by the slavers following the carriage accident in Tevshal?

Gee in chamelin form. He swooped from the sky and snatched her up before the slaver could run her down. (173)

What is “The Wolf’s” real name?

Master Doloman (174)

How does Piper incapacitate Doloman during the final stages of the slaver attack in Tevshal?
She throws a poisonous bola at him. It explodes and he is rendered immobile. (178)

When does Piper first learn Gee is a chamelin?
While trying to rescue her and Anna from the slavers in Teshval, Gee gets hit with the poison dust and while incapacitated, transforms back into human form in front of Piper (p. 179)

Who rescues Piper and Anna from the slavers?
Gee (p. 179)

What does Trimble keep in his belt?
small glass vials filled with colorful liquids corked with rubber stoppers (183) The vials are alchemical concoctions and antidotes (201-202).

What is physically unique about Jeyne Steel?
She has a prosthetic arm, from the elbow down, made of steel and brass. (183)

Where do most chamelins live?
In the west with the archivists. (185)

Generally speaking, what are the characteristics of chamelin communities?
They are family oriented and protective by nature. They live in large groups, establishing their communities near archivist strongholds, because archivists value protection, too. The chamelins protect the archivists. (189)

Who is Doloman? What does he have in common with Anna?
His royal title is Master Doloman and he is a member of King Aron’s advisory council. In addition, he is also the king’s chief machinist. He is pretty much the second most powerful man within the Dragonfly territories, and he also bears the Mark of the Dragonfly (which is what he has in common with Anna). (192)

What machine central to the book did Master Doloman help to build?
The 401 (192)

Why are Jeyne and Gee conflicted about helping Anna and Piper when they find out Doloman is after them?
Because Doloman is technically their boss and also under King Aron’s protection, so they have an obligation to him (p. 192)

Why does Jeyne suspect that Master Doloman sent slavers after Anna and Piper as well as his reasoning for not just simply boarding the 401 and demanding that they be handed over?
She suspects that he is taking secretive measures because he does not want to attract attention, and more importantly, he does not want the authorities to know. (194)

What is the climate like in the Dragonfly Territories?
Hot and humid as it is located on the coast of an ocean in the far south (198), later it also mentions an area being rocky and barren as opposed to lush as Piper would have imagined (p. 255)

Why is it so dangerous for the 401 to pass through the Cutting Gap? 
Raiders try to board the train and steal cargo by any means necessary. (199)

What is special about the 401 as it relates to the security of the train? 
It is set up with internal defenses. The train is a weapon in itself. (200)

What does Trimble wish for the 401, rather than being controlled by King Aron? 
He wishes Jeyne could buy it and run it as an independent operation, bypassing Cutting Gap (p. 202)

What room on the train does Anna rearrange? 
The library (p. 205)

What does Anna do to the library on the 401? Why does she do this? Why is this a problem? 
She rearranges everything; pulling all of the books off of the shelves and stacks them in towers because she doesn’t think you can see them properly behind the glass. This is a problem because the books all topple over once the train moves (206)

Which book in the 401’s library triggers two memories for Anna? What are the memories? 
*Encyclopedia of Predator and Prey Animals.* She has a memory of a very old, nice, male voice reading her a passage about wolves and stress responses in prey animals- the frozen muscle response and instinct to fight a predator or seek escape. Fight or flight. (208)

She also remembers that she has a crescent shaped scar on the back of her neck that Doloman used to talk about. She also remembers cold metal and sharp pains like fire all over her skin. (209-210)

How did Anna discover the scar on her neck and what shape was it? 
She remembered it while reading a book in the library, crescent-shaped (p. 209)

According to Gee, what is the purpose of all of King Aron’s factories and use of steel? What is his specific goal? 
He wants to have a fleet of steamships ready to set sail for the uncharted lands by next summer. The summer after that he wants five sky ships to cross the Hiterian Mountains. (215)

According to Gee, what is the 401’s weakest defense system? 
The vestibules, or the fire vents that malfunctioned when Piper and Anna initially attempted to sneak onto the train. (216)

What does Gee confide in Piper about regarding what happened to him when he was seven? 
Gee tells Piper that his family sold him when he was only seven years old. (219)

At what age did Gee become a slave and how many times did he try to escape? 
Seven years old, six times (p. 219-220)

How do slavers mark /value their purchases? 
By giving them “slashes”. The more slashes on a person = greater value. (219)
Who rescued Gee from the slavers and how did he/she get him released?
Jeyne Steel, she negotiated a (cheap) price for him (220)

How did Gee come to work on the 401?
He was trying to escape from slavers and flew into a rail yard where the 401 was being repaired. Jeyne found in a boxcar and bought him from the slavers. Since he had no home to go back to, Jeyne gave him work on the 401. (p. 220-221)

What is Gee worried about will happen to the 401 in the future and why?
He thinks it will get shut down because it is old and Aron is moving on to newer technologies (p. 221)

If stepped on, what triggers the alarms and the vestibules on the 401?
The pressure plates (223)

What is Trimble immune to/what is he able to manipulate? How does this relate to his job on the 401?
What is the name for this particular gift?
Fire (226-228) He is in charge on the firebox, or making sure the train is loaded up with enough coal to continue running smoothly. (227) He is called a “fireman” (227)

What does Piper have a special connection to, or rather what is inside her that magic responds to? What is her gift?
Piper is able to manipulate and fix machines. She can control machines to function or cease function at will. (228)

What is it called when a person is able to control specific types of objects (like machines) or elements (like fire) with their will and have them respond accordingly?
Synergy. The person who has the power of synergy is called a synergist. For example, both Piper and Trimble are synergists. (228)

How does Trimble think Piper activated her synergist talents to shut down the flame vents and make a gun explode?
She was scared and she protected herself on instinct, the mechanical items responded to her will (p. 228)

What did Gee have all over the walls of his room on the 401?
Maps of Solace (p. 232)

Who is the train’s designated healer?
Trimble (233)

Why does Piper blame herself for Gee getting sick?
He warned her not to go into Tevshal due to the slavers but she did anyway, and then while rescuing her he got hit with the poison dust that made him sick (p. 235 and earlier)
Why does Piper seek out Anna to help Gee when he is unconscious and extremely ill from the bola dust? Because she is a living encyclopedia of knowledge. She hopes she will have the information they need to heal Gee and find an antidote to his cough and the dust trapped in his lungs. (236)

When searching for how to heal Gee from the bola dust, what type of animal do Anna, Piper, and Trimble research in hopes to better understand how to cure him? Why this particular animal? A bat because it is a flying mammal, like Gee. (240)

Which chemical in the bola bags is crippling to creatures like sarnums and chamelins, but not humans? What does Trimble do to save Gee? Tiferi is the chemical (241, 242). Trimble concocts an antidote and injects Gee with the milky liquid to fight the bacteria caused by the Tiferi. (243-244)

Why does Anna think she knows so much information? She thinks she has read a lot of books in her past (p. 244)

While Gee is still non-responsive following his sickness from the bola dust, what does Trimble say to Piper that she denies the truth of and becomes upset about? Trimble tells Piper that Gee “likes” her. (246)

Why does Trimble say Piper and Gee are a lot alike? They’re both protective of the people they care about (p. 246)

What major tool on the 401 helps Anna to begin to remember who she is? Hint: She says they are “a part of her”. Books (249)

How does Piper disable the alarm before she attempts to test her abilities? She removes the clapper from inside the bell (p. 251)

What does Piper do to “test herself” in order to confirm whether or not she is a synergist? She reenacts her initial attempt at sneaking on the 401 by triggering (stepping on) a pressure plate connected to the fire vents and trying to turn them off (p. 252)

What does Piper learn when she attempts to test her abilities that may be a side effect of using them? Bigger effects of her magic may cost her a lot of energy, draining her (p. 253)

What did Piper dream about just after she tested her powers to see if she was a Synergist, and then later happened in real life? She dreamt of standing on top of the train with Gee flying above her (p. 256)

What did Piper notice was changing about her and Anna after some time spent on the train?
Since they were eating well, they were both gaining weight and Piper’s hair was thicker & shinier (p. 258)

What is Gee’s usual attire?
A rumpled shirt and overalls. (260)

What was Piper always noticing on Gee’s face that changed location and shape?
A soot smudge (p. 260 and earlier)

After the events in Tevshal, where is the next location that holds trouble for the 401?
The Cutting Gap (first mentioned on 261)

The Cutting Gap was once rich farming and hunting land where inhabitants thrived. What happened in the past two years to transform it into a barren landscape?
The King found rich iron deposits and strip mining sucked every bit of life out of the territory. (261)

What happened to the farmers and the hunters who once sustained themselves off the land in the cutting gap before it was stripped bare by mining?
They became sky raiders who attack the 401 on gliders and hide in the caves. (262)

Ever since Piper and Anna boarded the 401, how does Gee describe the daily operations of the train?
What does he attribute this too?
He says they have never run smoother or faster. He attributes this to Pipers gift as a synergist with machines. Her magic has improved the running of the 401. (263)

How old is Gee?
13 (p. 264)

What task does Gee give Piper to help with during their run through the cutting gap in order to help protect the 401 from the sky raiders?
He puts her in charge of “third-tier defenses” in the defense station at back of the train. (265)

Name as many of the 401's defenses mentioned by Gee while training Piper in the third tier defense room. One point for each correct answer.
   1) Flame Turrets
   2) Spikes that jut from the ceiling and the sides of the cars
   3) Smoke Screens (267-269)
   4) In emergency situations the hatch can be opened and someone can utilize the cross bow to manually fight off the raiders (270)
   5) Pressurized darts (275)

Why have the Cutting Gap raiders stopped using the tactic of tearing up sections of the track?
It slowed everything down, including other trains. The raiders can be more efficient if they hit multiple trains while on the move (p. 269)
What type of weapon triggers Anna’s memory in the defense room? Hint: she remembers knowing how to use it skillfully.
Crossbow (278)

While Piper and Anna are in the defense station waiting for the events in the Cutting Gap to unravel, what does Anna remember about the kind old man who she previously remembers reading her stories?
What does she think he might be?
She has memories with him in the cold, surrounded by pine trees. She thinks he might be a scientist. (278-279)

What do the sky raiders do initially to throw off Anna and Piper, along with the rest of the 401?
They attack both the front and the back of the train initially. Normally the back of the train is the last to be threatened. (282)

What happens to Piper as she tries to defend the train from the top of the defense car?
She gets lifted up by a glider and then tries to escape by jumping back down to the train (p. 288-289)

How does Piper injure her hand while trying to defend the 401 against raiders?
She escapes a glider by jumping back onto the roof of the train and grabs hold of a blade/barb to keep herself from falling, which cuts her hand (p. 290)

What happens to Piper and Gee after Gee rescues Piper from the roof of the 401 following her escape from the raider’s glider?
Gee is hit from behind with another glider and is sent tumbling down from the sky to the ground, with Piper in tow. They are surrounded by raiders with cross bows following their fall and Gee is captured in a thick net. (293-294)

How did Piper stop the raiders from shooting her after Gee flew back to the train to trade Piper for the cargo?
She used her magic to make all of their crossbows explode (p. 297)

Where does Gee always land on the 401 after he returns from his scouting or other flights?
The observation deck (299)

What happens to Anna following Gee and Piper’s return to the observation deck after their narrow escape from the raiders?
She is attacked on the observation deck by a lone raider who slashes her left arm wide open, shoulder to elbow. (302)

Following Anna’s terrible injury on the observation deck, why is Piper the only one who can save her?
Anna is, in large part, a machine. Piper is a synergist whose magic is specialized for machines (p. 312)

What is Trimble’s theory regarding the dynamic between Piper and Anna?
Since Anna is a machine, she responds to Piper’s synergy magic. He thinks Anna has been reacting to Piper since they first met and that had it not been for Piper being the one to pull her out of the caravan wreck in the first place, she never would have survived. Piper revived her without even knowing it was her specific form of magic that healed her (hence, why Doloman was so surprised to see her awake upon finding them in Piper’s home back in the scrap town.)

How does Piper know Anna has a human heart?
They have seen blood in her (p. 320)

What does Anna have running through her body that is similar to blood?
A thread of gold liquid that flows among her machine parts that passes in and out of view, like blood in a vein. (319)

What does Piper discover that she thinks is the reason behind Anna’s arm immobility?
A bundle of several wires, similar to tendons in a human body that were severed when the raider’s dagger cut her arm. (321)

Where does Jeyne plan to hide the girls before the 401 reaches Noveen in order to buy them time and avoid Doloman?
Derghesh, a small farming village that supplies food to the capital. She has friends there that she feels she can trust. (323)

What does Piper discover is just as important as her magic in healing Anna following the raider attack?
Her skill and extensive knowledge of machines. If not for that, in combination with her magic, she would not have been able to do the work that Anna needed in order to get better. (326)

What is Jeyne’s nick name for Gee?
Green-Eye (334, though she uses it very frequently though out the book)

After sleeping for several hours following her work on Anna’s arm, Piper is woken up suddenly by Jeyne due to what alarming circumstances?
Anna is missing from the 401 (331)

Why does Anna elect to leave the 401 and take an express train to Noveen?
She doesn’t think that Doloman will hurt her, but she can’t be sure that he would not hurt Piper or the others. She feels that if she delivers herself to Doloman and is able to give him what he wants he will leave everyone else alone. (335)

What is Piper’s plan for getting into Doloman’s house? What does she plan to tell him in order to gain entrance?
She plans to go by herself and offer to tell him how she revived Anna. She thinks that if she offers to show him her magic it will keep her alive long enough to get to Anna and attempt a rescue. (337)

How did Piper arrive in Noveen and why did she take this method?
On Gee’s back, flying onto the city, overlooking the ocean. Not by way of the 401 in case Doloman and his guards were waiting for her at the station. (339)

Who lives inside the tunnels and caves in the large rock face cliff in the capital of Noveen? Sarnums (340)

What does Piper show the guard at Doloman’s gate that she hopes will help her gain entrance but does not ultimately work? A fake Dragonfly tattoo (p. 343)

How does Piper get the guard at Doloman’s gate to escort her into Doloman’s home? She incapacitates him with slavers’ dust (p. 344)

What does Piper take from the guard to help protect her against the dangers inside Doloman’s home? She removes the revolver from the side of his belt. (345)

Why was Piper suspicious as she came upon and entered Doloman’s house? He only had one guard at the gate and the first door she tried was unlocked (p. 345)

Who is waiting at the station with a written request to search the train as soon as the 401 pulled into the capital? Who is the request from and who are they looking for? The King’s Guard. The request is from Doloman and they are looking for Piper. (349)

What did Doloman already know about Piper that came as a great surprise to her? That she is a synergist and she is the reason that Anna woke up in the first place. It came as a surprise because she had no idea that he knew. (353)

How did Doloman come to possess Anna? A scrapper from Scrap Town Eighteen brought her to him a year prior. He showed Doloman what she was and Doloman purchased her from him. (354)

Why was Anna so valuable to Doloman? She is the most advanced machine he’s ever seen and studying her could lead to great technological improvements (p. 354)

What problem did Doloman say he encountered while experimenting on Anna? Her heart had been broken – some trauma had injured her so she no longer functioned (355)

Why did Doloman take Anna back to the scrap towns? To find the scrapper that sold Anna to Doloman in hopes that he had more information about her. Specifically where she came from and how to fix her. (355)

Where does Doloman suspect the trader who sold Anna to him originally found her?
He suspects he pulled her from the scrap fields and that she came into Solace by way of a meteor storm. (355)

Why does Doloman need both Piper and Anna? What does he want them to become in relation to him? He needs both of them because Anna will not function without being near Piper and her magic. He wants them to become his adopted daughters. (357)

Why was Doloman keeping Anna a secret from Aron? Because he was a traitor and was actually trying to use Anna to further his own goals and those of the Merrow Kingdom (p. 358)

For what reasons should Piper take Doloman’s offer to adopt her and Anna? She and Anna would be rich and well-provided for, Doloman planned to unite the two warring kingdoms, which would hopefully help everyone, including scrappers and factory workers, have a better life (p. 359)

What happens when Anna throws the vial Piper gives her at Doloman’s feet when the girls try to escape Doloman’s house? It explodes into blue flames at his feet, catching his clothing on fire. (364)

What happens when Anna jumps from Doloman’s balcony as she tries to escape? She is caught be Gee (365)

What group of people show up at Doloman’s house as he is attacking Piper on his balcony? What do they accuse Doloman of? King Aron’s guard, they accuse him of treason (368)

How did King Aron come to learn about Doloman’s disloyalty? The King’s spies intercepted messages sent by him to the royal palace in Adra (372)

What was on display in King Aron’s gallery? Two models – a steamship and a sky ship (p. 373)

What surprised Piper about King Aron’s appearance? He was younger than she expected. (374)

What is Doloman’s sentence for his treason against King Aron? He is sentenced to life in prison and is spared being sentenced to death on account of his honesty. (375)

What explanation do Piper and Anna offer the king to explain why they were in Doloman’s house at the time of his arrest? Piper tells him they are crew from the 401. Anna said they found one of his traitorous letters so he kidnapped them and took them back to his house (p. 376)
Anna does not sleep like humans do. Explain what is actually happening when she appears to be sleeping.
She drifts into a fog, a place where there is no light and sometimes she can hear sounds but not always. (279-280)

After being released by the King, where do Anna and Piper make their new home?
They become crewmembers of the 401 (p. 384)

What does Anna want to spend some of her wages from the 401 on?
Books for the train’s library (384)

At the end of the book, what does Gee give back to Piper?
Her father’s coat (384)

What is the only thing Piper says she needs from Scrap Town #16 when they return on the 401?
To see/check on Micah (p. 385)

Creatures mentioned/races
Chamelin (Gee) p. 99 – flying mammal (p. 240)
Sarnun (Raenoll) p. 110
Sintee? (p. 134) – maybe more like animals, grapa hounds (p. 136), Dravisht raptor (p. 166)