

QUESTIONS ABOUT
THE TRAVELING CAT CHRONICLES
By Hiro Arikawa
Part 3

Although this story includes several points of view, the primary point of view is that of Nana the cat. Nana is a very astute cat who usually manages to manipulate his owner Satoru to do whatever he wants. Although he can't cure Satoru, he manages to help Satoru's aunt as well as his many friends better understand their lives.

The questions below concern pages 178 to the end of the book.

1. Nana is afraid of water and yet Satoru takes him on a ferryboat. How does Nana feel about riding on the ferry? What observations lead him to his conclusion?
2. The dogs tease Nana saying that he is pampered, but the chinchilla cat puts them straight. What does he tell them about Satoru?
3. What does Nana do when Satoru takes him from the car into the field of pampas grass? What happens next? What does Satoru say that makes Nana very happy?
4. What does Nana say is the crucial difference between cats and dogs?
5. Cat's have less ability to see colors than humans. How does Nana learn to recognize the color red? How do colorblind humans learn to recognize different colors such as red traffic signals versus green signals?
6. Whose grave does Satoru visit? Where does he get the flowers he uses to decorate the grave?
7. What else does Satoru do at this gravesite?
8. Describe the rainbow they see in the sky.
9. How does Noriko's older sister pay for Noriko's college education? What does Noriko study?
10. Why are Satoru's grandparents opposed to his parents' marriage?
11. Noriko wants very much to be a good guardian for Satoru. Does she feel she's succeeded? Why or why not?
12. Why does Noriko move into her new apartment?
13. Why does she quite her job as judge?

14. What once happened to make Noriko afraid of cats?
15. List a few mistakes Noriko makes while trying to make friends with Nana.
16. Is Noriko happy with how she raised Satoru? Is Satoru happy?
17. When Satoru's parents are killed, Noriko decides to adopt him. What secret does she reveal to Satoru at this time about his parents?
18. Why do Noriko and her boyfriend break up?
19. Why is Satoru always so happy? How has Noriko contributed to this happiness?
20. How does Satoru prevent Nana from following him when he goes to the hospital for the last time?
21. How does Nana escape from Noriko? Where does he go?
22. How does Nana live after escaping? How does he keep from being captured?
23. What does "the ECG screen flat-lined" mean?
24. How does Nana comfort Noriko when Satoru dies?
25. Why doesn't Satoru tell his friends he is dying? If you were in Satoru's situation, would you do the same?
26. What does Nana do with a box of tissues while Noriko is gone?
27. What kind of photography does Kosuka specialize in?
28. What does Yoshimine bring Noriko?
29. Why does Noriko take Nana to visit Sugi and Chikako?
30. What does Noriko find under an apartment building and bring home?
31. What final task does Nana want to finish before she joins Satoru in the Great Hereafter?