

**Discussion Questions**  
***How to Rob an Armored Car***  
**by Iain Levison**

1. *How to Rob an Armored Car* deals with what could be rather grim subject matter—three down-on-their-luck friends who turn to crime because they see no other way of improving their lives—but the author tells their story in a humorous way. How does the use of humor make the novel more or less effective?
2. Are the three main characters in this novel—Mitch, Kevin, and Doug—sympathetic? What is your reaction to their crimes? Which character do you find the most sympathetic of the three?
3. Mitch and Doug are stuck in dead-end jobs at the beginning of the novel, and they later become unemployed. Kevin, on the other hand, runs his own dog walking business and actually enjoys the work. Why does Kevin join in Mitch and Doug’s crimes? How are his motivations different than those of his friends?
4. Doug thinks that Linda is angry at Kevin more because she feels “left out” than because he’s been committing crimes. Do you think this is true? Why does Linda sleep with Doug, and what do you make of her relationship with Kevin?
5. Are Mitch, Doug, and Kevin correct in their belief that turning to crime is the only way they can better their financial situations? What are their other options? Are they better off at the end of the novel than they were at the beginning?