

Participation in Democracy
Kailua High school
Social Studies Requirement
2015-2016
Mr. Wilson

Notes: The Giver

Disorder, chaos, confusion, envy, hatred led to ashes; community was the solution for human misery

The rules of community: precise language...never lie

Five rules of the receiver: okay to be rude...okay to lie...no medication other than standard medication; especially no medication for pain; you may not discuss your training with anyone, ever; you may lie

Snow: Jonas first experience of memory. Why did the Elders eliminate snow? Snow made it difficult to grow crops; difficult to transport crops; coldness created famine and misery. Therefore climate had to be controlled.

So how was it? It was good. How does Jonas know the child's name—Gabriel. Gabriel had the mark—one day he would be chosen too.

The Bee sting: is that the pain? No, that is nothing compared to what you will know. What quality did you see—the color yellow. If you the sled was special... a stunning sunset at sea. Jonas discovered the colored red (sunset, apple): just like her hair Color race religion...they created difference. Difference creates envy, greed, hatred. We need sameness, don't you think? Yes.

Fiona: Jonas, what's going on with you...you are seeing something...can't you tell me? Jonas: give me your hands...What do you see? She does not see the rainbow in the waterfall.

"Citizens please be reminded that it is impolite to touch community members who are not your immediate family"

Jonas is breaking the rules; the Chief Elder reminds the Giver to obey the rules. The Elders do not want to loose another Receiver.

What is past the boundaries of memory...if the receiver crossed the boundary, does that mean everyone will regain their memories? Maybe. The Giver then leads Jonas to a piano. Jonas is overwhelmed by music. Just like music, there is something else that you cannot see with your eyes. Something that lives deep inside you. Something those morning injections take away. They remove something. Emotions...they are very deep, they are primal. Listen, they call you from inside. (cut to Lucy)

the Chief Elder visited his house and asked if he was succeeding; he told her that all he does is listen to the receiver and then go home.

The Giver lives in a house that resembles a Greek or Roman temple that is built on “the edge” of the community and the beginning of elsewhere. The edge symbolizes the known and the unknown.

The first giving: Jonas sees snow, a sled, a home. Memories of the past.

Fiona: how was it? All we did was talk.

“Faith is seeing beyond”

We got rid of differences.. we need sameness so we eliminated color, race, differences.

ELSEWHERE: I wasn't far away, it was right there (beyond the clouds).

Jonas is receiving the collective memory and pain of human history. The Giver tries to warn him, but Jonas feels as though he is ready and doesn't need to be warned.

He was wrong (elephant hunt)

This Comfort Object is not a hippo; it is an elephant and once elephants were real.

Jonas is now dreaming—in color—a dream is a combination of reality, emotions, and what you had for dinner....You stopped taking your medication. “What you feel for someone else—love.” We used to have love.

Jonas is now seeing everything in color—his bike ride with the Fiona—she asks him why he is acting weird (he was trying to tell her that he loves her) When

Jonas returns home he asks his father if he loves him. The mom interjects, “Use precision of language.” His sister asks, “what is love?” The mom says that Jonas has used a word so antiquated that no one knows the meaning any more. At night Jonas visits Gabriel—“I love you Gabriel”

What does love mean?

He returns the next day to the Giver and begins to tell him that he tried to explain to his family about love: but the Giver grabs him and Jonas becomes a soldier in the middle of a battle. The battle freaks out Jonas—the pain is too great. Rosemary—Jonas’s predecessor—couldn’t handle the pain either. Jonas did not want to return, the pain of war was too much. Fiona sees Jonas from a distance and sees that he is upset. Jonas asks Fiona to stop her injections. He tells her the pain is too great—Fiona agrees to stop the medication if Jonas continues.

He returns to the edge, to the house of giving. Rosemary is playing (in a hologram). The Giver says that she no longer exists, except in the hologram and in his memory. The tipping point for Rosemary was receiving the “loss of a mother.” Experiencing loss was too much for Rosemary. Jonas sees his own infancy—he had a twin and the twin was killed by his father. His father did not know what death meant—the young and old are killed. Only the Giver and the Receiver understand death.*

Jonas comes home and is told that Gabriel did not achieve maturity and that Gabriel would have to be released to Elsewhere. His father didn’t know any better; he didn’t understand murder. “It’s our fault. If the receivers back and back and back knew, why didn’t they do something?” But what can you do?

Jonas confides in Fiona. He asks her what she feels. She says that she doesn’t feel right, that she needs her injection. Jonas then kisses her. “What was that?”, she asks.

Jonas goes home and asks about Gabriel’s absence. He is concerned that Gabriel has been sent back to the infirmary. Jonas reflects that murder has become an act by some other name (released to Elsewhere).

Jonas decides he will do something: Something can be done. Something must be done. The Giver tells Jonas that “he is what we have been waiting for.” The Giver gives Jonas a map that will lead Jonas to the Boundary of Memory. If

you did cross this boundary, all the memories will return. I need to stay because the people will need help.

The Chief Elder asks the Giver if he knows where Jonas is: The Giver lies and says no.

When they decided to kill Gabriel, they decided that it was time for Jonas to take action.

“I like this map. Don’t mess it up. I want it back.”

“The Receiver-in-Training is missing and may be dangerous.”

Jonas asks Fiona for help to get Gabriel. He wants Fiona to come with him.

“Attention nurturers”

Fiona carries an empty cradle as a distraction to allow Jonas to escape.

“Subject lost to the Edge”

The Chief Elder goes to the Giver and subdues him and places him in detention.

“Jonas has become dangerous...you (Asher) must find him, and then lose him”

“Asher, if you were my friend, trust me”

Asher picks up Jonas and releases him into a river—loses him. Jonas and Gabriel emerge from the river and continue through a desert in pursuit of the Boundary of Memory. Meanwhile Fiona and the Giver are visited by Jonas’ mother. Fiona tells her that something has been stolen from her...that she has felt things

As the Elders interrogate the Giver, he tells them that he felt love for his daughter (Rosemary). The Chief Elder tells him that love is a frivolous emotion. The Giver retorts: With love comes faith and hope. No. When people have the freedom to choose, they choose wrong every time.

Jonas discovers a sled and he and Gabriel ride the sled down hill to the house that he saw in his vision from the Giver. The house was real.

