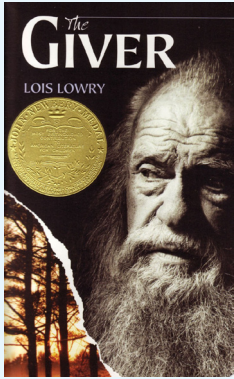


The Giver



AUTHOR Lois Lowry
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LA BOOKSHELF KM763
VOICETEXT Yes
LEXILE LEVEL 750L
GRADE EQUIVALENT 5.9

OVERVIEW

Jonas's world is perfect. Everything is under control. There is no war or fear of pain. There are no choices. Every person is assigned a role in the community. When Jonas turns 12 he is singled out to receive special training from The Giver. The Giver alone holds the memories of the true pain and pleasure of life. Now, it is time for Jonas to receive the truth. There is no turning back.

SUGGESTED GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

- Character Map
- Character Traits Worksheet
- Five Paragraph Essay Template
- KWL Chart

LEARNING ALLY LESSON PLANS

- *The Giver* Character List
- *The Giver* Character Essay Questions
- *The Giver* Character Futuristic Society Worksheet

AUTHOR INFORMATION

Author Lois Lowry was born on March 20, 1937, in Honolulu, Hawaii. She published her first novel, *A Summer to Die*, in 1977. After this serious drama, Lowry showed her lighter side with 1979's *Anastasia Krupnik*, which became the first in a series of humorous books. She won her first Newbery Award for the 1989 novel *Number the Stars*. In 1993, Lowry received the honor a second time for *The Giver*, which would eventually become a 2014 film. More recent works include *Son* (2012) and *Gooney Bird and All Her Charms* (2013).

BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED

• What is political correctness?

- Following the belief that language and practices which could offend political sensibilities (as in matters of sex or race) should be eliminated
- › Have students complete a KWL Chart to show what they already know about political correctness, and what they would like to know about PC before reading the story.

- › Examples of PC:
 - “mentally challenged” instead of “retarded”
 - “African-American” instead of “Negro” or “Colored”
 - “Handicapped” instead of “crippled”
 - “Asian American” instead of “Oriental”
- › What other examples can students think of?

• What is a utopian society?

- A place of ideal perfection especially in laws, government, and social conditions
- › Have students provide examples of what would be present in a utopian society. In other words, what would our society need to get rid of in order to have a utopian society? Think of education, food, transportation, literature, movies, entertainment.
 - › How does Jonas fit into this society?

• What is a dystopian society?

- An imaginary society or society that is undesirable or frightening to its inhabitants, the opposite of a utopian society
- › Have students provide examples of what a dystopian society would look like. Think of education, food, transportation, literature, movies, entertainment.

VOCABULARY

- intrigue (*verb*): to cause to be interested or curious
 jeer (*verb*): to laugh at with contempt
 palpable (*adj*): capable of being perceived or felt
 distraught (*adj*): deeply upset or agitated, usually from emotion

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wheedle (*verb*): to urge or influence by flattery, gentle urging, or caressing

defiant (*adj*): strongly resistant to authority or an opposing force

resolve (*verb*): to settle or find a solution to

chastisement (*noun*): the act of scolding or punishing someone

self-conscious (*adj*): excessively aware of one's own appearance or actions

petulant (*adj*): easily aggravated or annoyed

WRITING PROMPTS

- Is it a good idea to change everyone to be the same? Does diversity create an unfair world? Explain your thoughts.
- Is it a good idea to limit memory for everyone to personal experience? If we were to eliminate all memories and materials that described the history of our civilization, would we create a better world?
- How does Jonas feel about this “utopian society”? Does he agree with it? State examples from the book.
- Is the setting for *The Giver* a utopian or dystopian society to you? Explain why you feel this way, making sure to include specific examples of the book.

LITERARY DEVICES

Point of View

The P.O.V. is 3rd person subjective. Although the novel is told by an outside observer perspective, the narrator describes the feelings and thoughts of Jonas.

Conflict

A main conflict in the novel is “man vs. nature”. This means that man tries to control or overcome the forces of nature. Specifically, life, death, weather.

Setting

The setting of *The Giver* is a world where people do not know diversity, pain, death, war, or any other negative components of past societies.

SUPPORTING MEDIA (graphic novels, movies, video clips)

The Giver movie

The Giver movie trailer

Introduction to *The Giver* novel

COMMON CORE BIG IDEAS

- Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize the text.
- Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).
- Describe how a narrator's or speaker's point of view influences how events are described.
- Analyze how visual and multimedia elements contribute to the meaning, tone, or beauty of a text (e.g., graphic novel, multimedia presentation of fiction, folktale, myth, poem).

WAYS TO HELP DIVERSE LEARNERS

- Allow students to use audiobooks to read literature
- Allow kinesthetic and tactile learners to produce collage, art piece, play, or song to represent writing prompts (students will then present to class)
- Allow students to work in groups or pairs on one large project with each student working on their individual strength for each aspect of project
- Allow speech to text technology for essays
- Read questions aloud during any type of examination or worksheet
- Use audiobooks or reading aloud to class while students follow along
- Allow use of www.learnersdictionary.com/ for students to gain insight into concepts with simpler language

RESOURCES

www.webenglishteacher.com

www.teacherspayteachers.com

www.brighthubeducation.com