

? The Giver Free ↗ Author Lois Lowry – Soccerjerseys-wholesale.co

Posted on 15 January 2019 By Lois Lowry

Amazing Book, The Giver By Lois Lowry This Is Very Good And Becomes The Main Topic To Read, The Readers Are Very Takjup And Always Take Inspiration From The Contents Of The Book The Giver, Essay By Lois Lowry Is Now On Our Website And You Can Download It By Register What Are You Waiting For Please Read And Make A Refission For You

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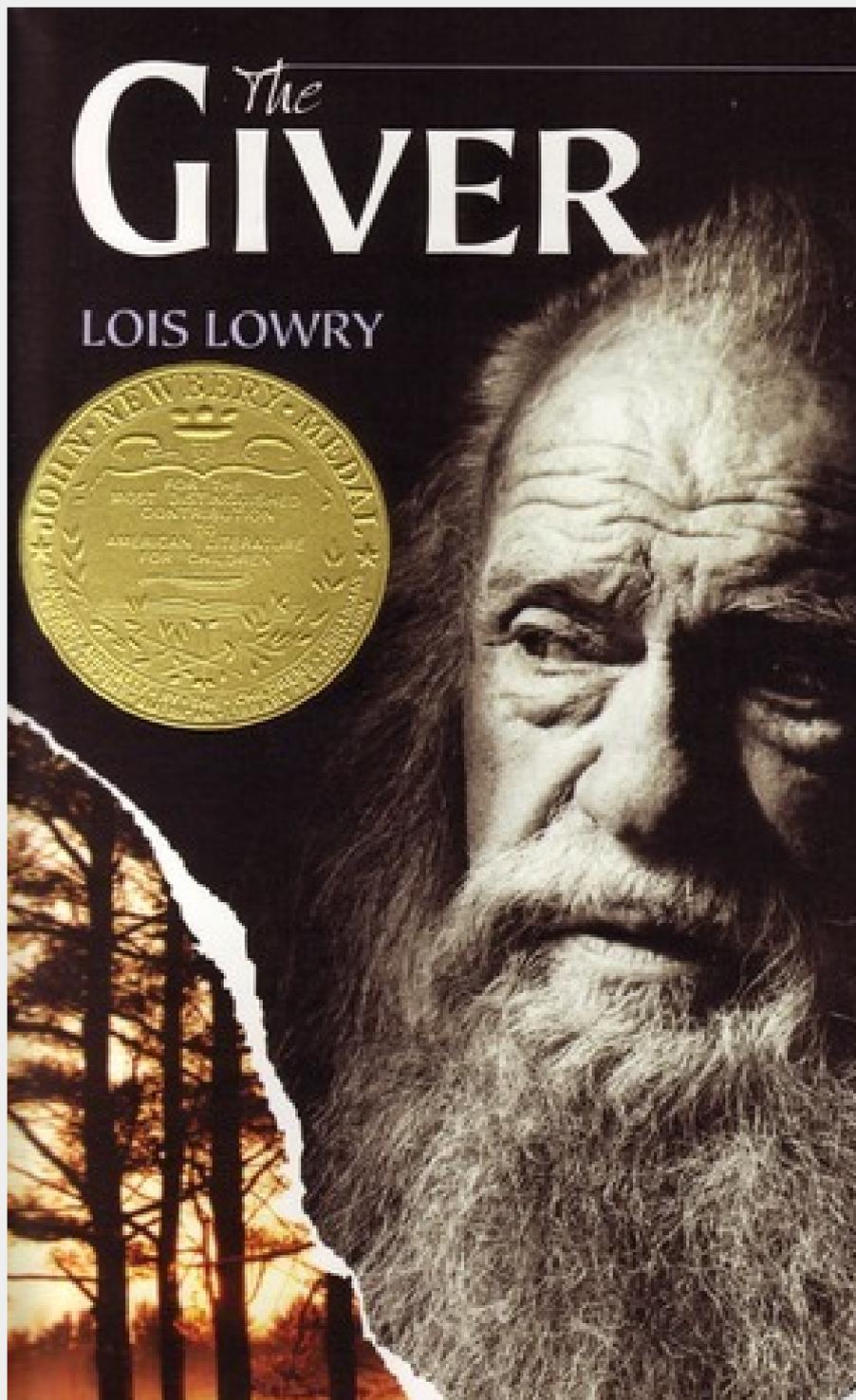
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10 thoughts on “The Giver”



J.G. Keely J.G. Keely says:

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Lowry's book is a piece of nationalist propaganda, using oversimplification, emotional appeals, and dualistic morality to shut down her readers' minds. More troubling is that it is aimed at children, who don't yet have the critical faculties to defend themselves from such underhanded methods. Unsurprisingly, Lowry adopts the structure of the monomyth, equating a spiritual journey with a moral one. Her Christ figure uses literal magic powers to rebel against his society. This rebellion and the morality behind it are presented as natural, to contrast with the abnormal morality around him. Lowry doesn't seem to understand that we get our morality from our culture, it isn't something inborn that we lose. This is the first hint of Lowry's misunderstanding of the human mind. She assumes her own morality is correct, and then builds her story to fit it. She also makes the character act and think like a modern person would, despite never adequately explaining how he came up with such unusual notions. It's the same trick many historical fiction authors use, leaving us scratching our heads as to why a Fourteenth Century French peasant speaks like a second wave feminist. I'd suggest that Lowry falls to this fault for the same reason they do: she has no talent for imagining how others might think differently. Lowry's book ends with the standard nonspecific transgressive spiritual event that marks any overblown monomyth. Since the book is not a progressive presentation of ideas, it does not suggest any conclusion. Instead, the climax is a symbolic faux death event symbolic of what, none can say. Confusingly, Lowry later redacts the ending in the sequels, undermining the pseudo-spiritual journey she created. Though some call this book Dystopian, it's closer to the truth to say Lowry borrows elements from the Dystopian authors, attempting to combine the spiritual uplift of the monomyth with the political and social deconstruction of the Dystopia. What she doesn't recognize is that the faith of the one conflicts with the cynicism of the other. She draws on ideas and

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images from many other authors Bradbury, Huxley, Orwell, Burgess, but doesn't improve upon them. These authors created novels that reflected the world around them. They based them on the political events of the times, presented with realism and careful psychology. Though they presented the struggle between the individual and the society, they portrayed morality as grey, and suffering as the result of individual human faults, not political systems. Lowry doesn't realize that the best way to critique Fascism or Communism is not to present it as evil, but to simply present it as it was. But Lowry's world is not based in reality, it is symbolic and hyperbolic. Instead of writing about how poverty makes the world seem small and dull, she has the characters magically unable to experience life. Instead of an impersonal government, she presents a sort of evil hippy commune. The only political system it resembles is a school, which is a neat little trick to get the kids interested. The idea that school is unfeeling totalitarian hell is not an uncommon one, but it's one I'm surprised teachers would support. The book also suggests a creche, but lacking similarity to any real world system, it doesn't work as a political criticism. Lowry creates this artificial world to suit her purposes, but it is not a symbolic exercise like *Animal Farm*. We understand that the pigs of *Animal Farm* are symbolic, because there are no talking pigs. Lowry's world is insidious, since its oversimplification is hidden. She builds an artificial world to support the dualist morality that she's pushing. She presents the same knee-jerk fears about euthanasia and abortion that people use against Women's Rights or Health Care. Worse than these Straw Man arguments is the fact that she never deals with the economic causes of totalitarianism. Tyrants don't just rise up and take control by their own force of will, they come into power because of the socioeconomic situations that surround them. Lean times produce strong, fascist leaders while profitable times produce permissive, liberal societies. Strong, centralized leadership simply

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doesn't self-propagate in cultures where everyone is clothed, fed, and housed. The Holocaust was socially about some ideal of change and purity, but it was economically about the transmission of wealth from Jews, Poles, and Catholics to Germans and specifically, to those Germans who had elected the new ruling party. The atrocities of war are, for the most part, committed by normal people on other normal people. By presenting the power structure as amoral and inhuman, Lowry ignores the fact that people will willingly cause others to suffer. Painting the enemy as evil and alien is just an unsophisticated propagandist method. She contrasts her evil with the idealized goodness of emotion, beauty, and freedom. This is nothing than the American dream of specialness that Mr. Rogers was pushing for so many years. We are all special, we are all good, we all deserve love and happiness. Sure, it sounds good, but what does it mean? Where does this specialness come from? If it is just the sanctity of human life, then it's not really special, because it's all encompassing. If all of us are special, then none of us are. There's nothing wrong with valuing life, but when Lowry presents one mode of life as valuable and another as reprehensible, she ceases to actually value humanity as a whole. Instead, she values a small, idealized chunk of humanity. People are good, except the ones I don't like is not a moral basis, nor is it a good message to send to kids. If the specialness is only based on fitting in with a certain moral and social guideline, then Lowry isn't praising individuality, she's praising herd behavior. The protagonist is only special because he has magic powers. His specialness is not a part of his character, it is an emotional appeal. The idea of being a special individual is another piece of propaganda, and its one kids are especially prone to, because kids aren't special they are carefully controlled and powerless. Giving a character special powers and abilities and then using that character to feed a party line to children is not merely disingenuous, it's disturbing. There is also a darker side to

universal specialness giving a child a sense of importance without anything to back it up creates egotism and instability. Adults noticed that children with skills and friends had high self-esteems, but instead of teaching their children social skills and knowledge, they misunderstood the causal relationship and tried to give them self-worth first. Unfortunately, the moment unsupported self-worth is challenged, the child finds they have nothing to fall back on. Their entitlement didn't come from their skills or experiences, and so they have nothing to bolster that sense of worth. Instead, any doubt sends them down a spiral of emotional instability. A single book like this wouldn't be the cause of such a state in a child, but it does act as part of the social structure built to give a sense of worth without a solid base for that worth. People like to believe they are special, kids especially so, but being a remarkable person is not a result of belief but of actions. If the book had informed them, then it would leave them better off, but giving them a conclusion based on emotional appeals does nothing to build confidence or character. Many people have told me this book is good because it appeals to children, but children often fall for propaganda. Children develop deep relationships with pop stars, breakfast cereals, and Japanese monsters. This does not make them good role models for children. Feeding specialness to kids along with a political message is no better than the fascist youth programs. Lowry intends to criticize. The obsession with individuality is just another form of elitism. It's ironic that people in America most often describe themselves as individuals when pointing out the things they do to align themselves with groups. But banding together in a community is not a bad thing. For Lowry and other Red Scare children, any mention of communal can turn into a witch hunt, but we all give up some personal rights and some individuality in order to live in relatively safe, structured societies. There are benefits to governmental social controls and there are drawbacks, and it's up to us to walk the line between the

two Anarchy and Totalitarianism never actually exist for long we are social animals. It's not difficult to understand why Lowry is so popular, especially amongst educators. The message she gives aligns perfectly with what they were taught as kids, from Red Scare reactionism to the hippy dippy unique snowflake mantra. These ideas aren't entirely misguided, either. It's good to recognize the benefits of difference and the dangers of allowing others to control our lives. If a reader believes that fascism and socialism are inherently wrong and that their own individuality is their greatest asset, they will likely sympathize with Lowry's work. However, this doesn't make the book honest, nor beneficial. One of the hardest things we can do as readers is disagree with the methods of authors we agree with ideologically. It makes us feel good to find authors who agree with us, but this is when we should be at our most skeptical. Searching the world for self-justification is not a worthwhile goal, it simply turns you into another short-sighted, argumentative know-it-all. Yes, men never progress. Lowry is toeing the party line. She does not base her book around difficult questions, like the Dystopian authors, but around easy answers. She doesn't force the reader to decide for themselves what is best, she makes it clear what she wants us to think. Her book is didactic, which means that it instructs the reader what to believe. Even if her conclusions about Individuality vs Community are correct, she doesn't present arguments, she only presents conclusions. Like rote memorization or indoctrination, she teaches nothing about the politics, social order, economics, or psychology of totalitarianism or individuality. The reader is not left with an understanding, just an opinion. The baseless individuality of the book lets the reader imagine that they are rebels that they are bucking the system even as they fall into lock step. By letting the reader think they are already free thinking, Lowry tricks them into forgetting their skepticism. She is happy to paint a simple world of black and white, and this

is likely the world she sees I doubt she is purposefully creating an insidious text, she just can't see past her own opinions She writes this book with a point to make, and makes it using emotional appeals and symbolism She doesn't back it up with arguments because she doesn't seem to have developed her opinions from cogent arguments. In the end, she doesn't show us that the structure of this society is wrong, she says nothing poignant about individuality vs community instead, she relies on threats to the life of an innocent infant Yet nowhere does she provide an argument for why communal living or the sacrifice of freedoms for safety must necessarily lead to infanticide. In politics, making extreme claims about the opposing side is called mud slinging, it is an underhanded and dishonest tactic It works Arguing intelligently is difficult, accusing is easy, so that's what Lowry does. She is another child of WWII and the Cold War who hasn't learned her lesson She quickly condemns the flaws of others while failing to search out her own Even after the Holocaust, there are many racist, nationalist, violent Jews conflict rarely breeds a new understanding. America condemned the faceless communal life of the Second World, and yet America created The Projects We critiqued strong governmental controls, but we still have the bank bailout, socialized medicine, socialized schooling, and socialized charity America condemned the Gulags and Work Camps, and yet we imprison one out of every hundred citizens far than Stalin ever did Some are killed, all are dehumanized. As a little sci fi adventure, the book isn't terrible It's really the pretension that goes along with it Lowry cobbles together religious symbolism and Dystopic tropes and then tries to present it as something as complex and thoughtful as the authors she copied Copying isn't a crime, but copying poorly is. Like Dan Brown or Michael Crichton, she creates a political pamphlet of her own ideals, slaps a pretense of authority on it, and then waits for the money and awards to roll in

and they did Many people I ve discussed this book with have pointed to those awards as the surest sign of this book s eminent worth. Award committees are bureaucratic organizations Their decisions are based on political machinations This book is a little piece of Nationalism, and so it was lauded by the political machine that Lowry supports The left hand helps the right If awards are the surest sign of worth, then Titanic is a better movie than Citizen Kane. What surprises me is how many of those who brought up the award as their argument were teachers If a politically charged administrative committee is the best way to teach children, then why do you take umbrage when the principal tells you that bigger class sizes and fewer benefits are fine Listen to him doesn t he have award plaques The other argument is usually that kids like it I usually respond that kids also like candy, so why not teach that Some people also get angry at me for analyzing a book written for children *Of course it s not a great book, it s for kids If you want a good book, go read Ulysses* I prefer to give children good books rather than pieces of political propaganda even if they agreed with me Children can be as skeptical, quick witted, and thoughtful as adults if you give them the chance, so I see no excuse for feeding them anything less Kids aren t stupid, they just lack knowledge, and that s a fine distinction It s easy for adults to take advantage of their naivete, their emotionality, and their sense of worth Just because it s easier for the teacher doesn t mean it s better for the child. When we show children something that is over simplified, presenting an idealized, crudely moralizing world, we aren t preparing them for the actual world If you give a child a meaningless answer to repeat, he will repeat it, but he won t understand why Why not give the child a book that presents many complex ideas, but no rote answers, and let them make up their own minds If they don t learn how to separate the wheat from the chaff and form their own opinions early, in a safe, nurturing environment, what chance will they have on

their own as adults In all the discussions and research regarding this book, I have come across very little analysis It s especially surprising for a book with such a strong following, but there aren t many explanations of why the book is supposed to be useful or important. This lack of argument makes sense from a political standpoint, since there is no reason to analyze the worth of propaganda its worth is that it agrees with society and indoctrinates readers Analyzing it would defeat the purpose political diatribes do not stand up to thoughtful attention. Perhaps someday someone will create a thoughtful, textual analysis of this book that will point out its merits, its structure and its complexity I ve gradually come to doubt it I never expected when I wrote my original review of this book that it would garner this much attention. I still welcome comments and thoughts, but if your comment looks roughly like this *You should read this book again, but this time, like it You think you re smart but you aren t You re mean Lowry is great This book won awards and kids like it It s meant for kids anyways, why would you analyze what its about I bet you never even read the sequels Go read Moby Dick because you are full of yourself* I ve heard that one before If you do want to comment though, you might check out this article I find it helps me with presenting my ideas.

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Kristine Kristine says:

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I ve taught this book to my 6th graders nine years in a row Once I realized that the book is actually a mystery, and not the bland sci fi adventure it seemed at first skim, I loved it and each time Nine years, two classes most years 17 TIMES I ve come to see that the book isn t the story of a depressing utopia It s the story of the

relationship between the main characters the Giver, Jonas, and I won't say her name And of course, the baby Gabe. Every year, as we read the book out loud together, I am amazed at details the students notice things I've missed the previous 15 times, or questions they raise that lead to further insights for not just the class but ME My God, the things they come up with, that I as an English major, or even me if I'd read this with a book club, could never have gone that far in depth. As I began to fully understand the book over the years, I was better able to guide their discussions, which helped them think deeply about the book, and made me appreciate the book even And by guide, I don't mean calm, controlled, teachery, I already know the answer talk My discussion techniques, simple I'd stop the tape books on tape are AWESOME the narrator is always so much better than I could ever be and say something like, So, what do you think Doesn't this seem a little WEIRD and off they'd go, bouncing ideas off each other until finally someone said something incredible, something no kid had thought of in the past nine years Once I myself knew how to be interested in this book, I knew what might keep them hooked Or, I myself would suddenly realize something new, and I'd stop reading and say, OH MY GOD DID YOU GUYS GET WHAT THAT MEANT WHAT IT MIGHT MEAN I feel free to participate myself, since I myself still have so many questions about the book I'm not spoiling the ending when I bring up my own questions, because I know this book is a mystery in which things don't much get answered they're left to linger, and that's part of the beauty and hopefulness in this book There are still lines, moments, in the book that give me chills I wait for them greedily, just to hear the words spoken I feel lucky to have been forced to read this book a dozen times There are other books I've read a lot with my students, and this is the one that most stands up over time, the only one that keeps my interest I truly am on the edge of my seat to see what we will realize next Because I've seen that,

even if I think I have it all figured out, some kid is going to say something to rock my world. I can't believe Lowry was able to make a book this clever part of me thinks a work this good is impossible, and that we are just reading too much into it But no, it's all there, all the pieces, and she put them there I just don't see how could she have written such a tightly woven mystery how could she have know all of the questions the book would raise And you know what, she probably didn't A book isn't like drawing a map You make the world, and things happen And in this case, she did make a perfect world I SO did not mean that as a UTOPIA PUN I hate puns so much I mean, she so fully created that world where everything that happens is plausible Just read the damn book, then call me Or, call me after like, Chapter 13, then after 18 and 19 he book Lines that almost make me cry

Reply



James Carroll James Carroll says:

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This book is perhaps the best refutation that I have seen in some time of a common philosophy of pain that is sometimes found in the popular media and in *some* versions of Buddhism According to this philosophy, pain is the ultimate evil, and so, to eliminate pain and suffering we must give up desire, and individuality Self is an illusion, and leads to pain desire and agency are dangerous, so we should give them up and join the cosmic oneness enlightenment to find a utopia without pain As George Lucas unfortunately has Yoda say to Anakin, you must give up all that you fear to lose And, of course, this is hogwash Choice, agency, adversity, love, desire, and real pleasure are dangerous, they can lead to pain, but without them life has no purpose Love could lead to the loss of that which we love, but life without love

is empty Purpose comes from choosing Purpose comes from overcoming adversity Yes, you could choose poorly, and that could lead to pain, choice is dangerous, but without it, life has no meaning, it is colorless Greatness in life is found by overcoming adversity, not by the absence of adversity Without opposition, there is nothing to overcome, and thus there may be no bad, but there is also no good, there may be no pain, but there is also no joy Spoiler Alert The book s ending mirrors this ambiguity Although some later books answer some of these questions, at the end of *this* book we are left to wonder Did he die Did he live All we really know is that he was made free, and he made a choice was it the right one Did it lead to happiness for him Did it lead to happiness for the community who will now have his memories Will they destroy themselves, or will the Giver be able to help them find true purpose and happiness in life We don t know, because that is the way of all choices We can t always know the outcomes of our decisions, and therein lies the danger, but the risk is well worth the rewards.

Reply



Julie Ruble Julie Ruble says:

? The Giver Free ↗ Author Lois Lowry – Soccerjerseys-wholesale.co
I think I m missing something Everyone *loves* this book and I liked it too, but it wasn t *amazing* or anything. The Giver felt like a very sparse story to me First, there isn t much characterization, so I didn t form an emotional connection with any of the characters not even with Jonas or the Giver two central characters Asher and Fiona particularly Fiona are introduced such that you assume they will play greater roles in the book than they do I don t feel like I knew Mom or Dad or Lily at all While the lack of an emotional bond with these lesser characters may be due to the nature of their community,

Jonas and the Giver should really be sympathetic, in my opinion. Second, the description of the community itself is sparse. There is so much that could've been described about this utopian community. I feel like Jonas' selection, his revelation about Release, and his eventual choice could've been built up and framed better. I feel like I got the quick campfire version. Finally, while I appreciate its overall message about the importance of individual differences, human emotion, etc., I felt like the book was a bit heavy-handed with its moral. Jonas' initial support of his community and gradual change of heart seems intended to present both viewpoints, but doesn't succeed in my opinion. The book's agenda was clear to me from the beginning. It also doesn't present alternative possibilities such as a world without Sameness but also without war, a world without Release but also without starvation, etc. The choice is either here with Sameness and no color or Elsewhere with pain and suffering. When teaching the book, I also felt it was very important for students to understand how this heavy-handed moral that most of us would agree with somewhat demonstrates Lowry's and our own privilege. That is, the reason it's easy for us to say that Jonas' community is horrible is because of our own relatively privileged lives. If we lived in Darfur, were extremely impoverished, lived in a country where women were treated as property, etc., we may make a very different choice about Jonas' life. Despite all of this, believe it or not, I *did* like *The Giver*. It's an enjoyable read. It had a great plot, the community was interesting, and the ending was fantastic and JUST a little ambiguous. Cool.

Reply



Nick Nick says:

4.5 HOLY STARS

I don't remember reading a book as fast as I read this one. It was a great read. I couldn't put the book down for hours. And I must say it's different from other books that I have read so this review actually is going to be somehow different from others. So let's start.

I enjoyed the beginning, maybe because it looked like a dystopian kind of book and as you may know I love dystopian books. Also the colorless nature and emotionless were things that made me to continue reading the book. This is one of those books that keeps getting interesting page by page.

What I really enjoyed from this book, the reason why I gave it 4.5 stars is because there were some moments described so beautifully and full of energy and life. Somehow they made me think about life and all things that it has, the nice, the cruel, the dreams, the goals, the feels, everything and how beautiful it is. I'm not this emotional but I must say that they were some sentences that are worth reading over and over again. This book also shows how life would be without colors, emotions, without the fun of it. It sucks

Okay.. So let's move to the story

This book is about a boy called Jonas who lives in a world full of order and rules. He has two best friends, one of them is this girl called Fiona. At the ceremony he is chosen to be the receiver of memories and from that moment his life changes

Characters Jonas

I liked this character because I can relate to him somehow. He is smart, caring and most important curious about things. And that curiosity leads him to the impossible known.

Fiona

What I really liked about Fiona is her rebel side. She breaks the rules almost every time but on the other side she is caring and fights for people she loves.

Me while reading the book favorite sentences For the first time, he heard something that he knew to be music He heard people singing Behind him, across vast distances of space and time, from the place he had left, he thought he heard music too But perhaps, it was only an echo I liked the feeling of love, Jonas confessed He glanced nervously at the speaker on the wall, reassuring himself that no one was listening I wish we still had that, he whispered Of course they needed to care It was the meaning of everything now he saw the familiar wide river beside the path differently He saw all of the light and color and history it contained and carried in its slow moving water and he knew that there was an Elsewhere from which it came, and an Elsewhere to which it was going Even trained for years as they all had been in precision of language, what words could you use which would give another the experience of sunshine Things could change, Gabe, Jonas went on Things could be different I don't know how, but there must be some way for things to be different There could be colors And grandparents, he added, staring through the dimness toward the ceiling of his sleepingroom And everybody would have the memories And here in this room, I re experience the memories again and again it is how wisdom comes and how we shape our future The worst part of holding the memories is not the pain It's the loneliness of it Memories need to be shared It's so worth reading. I highly recommend it to you if you like dystopian books

Also the movie is out now Pictures from the review are not mine, I took them mostly from Google images or Tumblr

[Reply](#)

✖ **Miranda Reads Miranda Reads** says:

? The Giver Free ↗ Author Lois Lowry – Soccerjerseys-wholesale.co

Man oh man, for a children's book Lowry certainly didn't pull any punches. Jonas lives in a *perfectly* perfect world. Every family has one mother, one father, one girl and one boy. Families always get along, the parents never disagree, no one has any secrets. Everyone contributes to society equally. No one is ever outraged, angry, sad. *The life where nothing was ever unexpected. Or inconvenient. Or unusual. The life without colour, pain or past.* However, what appears perfect on the surface hides a far darker truth. There isn't any negativity in their world, but also, there isn't any true happiness or love. All emotions are suppressed, children are taken from birth mothers, and defected individuals are released. His society is alive but not living. Jonas is ready to undergo the ceremony of twelves during which are children born in the same year age to the next level. He will be assigned his role in society, but when he is supposed to accept his new job, he's given the title of Receiver. Something he's never even heard of. No one really knows what the Receiver does other than the Giver. Soon Jonas learns that the Giver holds the collected memories of the societies long since past and passes it along to the next generation. Jonas is faced with startling realities that he would've never considered: how beautiful color is, how heartbreaking loss is, and how incredibly wonderful love can make a person feel. *The worst part of holding the memories is not the pain. It's the loneliness of it. Memories need to be shared.* And soon, he comes to a decision. One that would irrevocably shift his small world. *Of course they needed to care. It was the meaning of everything.* I first read this one in fifth grade and whew! It was a doozie. Reread it this year and I'm starting to wonder if kids would like English class a lot if any of the books were a bit cheerful. That being said, reading this one as an adult completely changed my perspective. I remember liking it,

in a slightly apathetic way, in fifth grade Now, I m wholly invested in the plot, the characters and the world What an incredible dystopia Audiobook CommentsVery well read by Ron Rifkin He wasn t a stunning narrator but definitely an enjoyable one Though, it was a bit disconcerting to hear a grown man s voice for 12 year old Jonas.Blog Instagram Twitter

Reply



Jeffrey Keeten Jeffrey Keeten says:

? The Giver Free ↗ Author Lois Lowry – Soccerjerseys-wholesale.co
SPOILER ALERT I don t know what you mean when you say the whole world or generations before him I thought there was only us I thought there was only now Read the book, watch the movie, experience the synergy We don t live in a dystopian world, but we do have a growing number of our population who believe that all that exists is NOW, that history is irrelevant, and that there is no future It simplifies existence when a person can convince themselves of this No need to learn about the past, no need to think about tomorrow, they just react to what they have to do today I insist on being a complicated creature What I learn about the past helps me make decisions about the present The dreams I have for the future influence my decisions in the NOW The past, the NOW, and the future all mingle together with very little delineation Reading this novel, experiencing this future society, my nerves were as jangled as if Freddy was running his metal tipped fingers down a chalkboard over and over again That is not Lois Lowry s fault it had much to do with my natural abhorrence for everything and everyone being the same The life where nothing was ever unexpected Or inconvenient Or unusual The life without colour, pain or past When Jonas turns twelve he, like every other twelve year old, is assigned his life s

work He is delegated to the ancient, wise, old man called The Receiver Because Jonas is now The Receiver, the old man by definition becomes The Giver He is the vault, the keeper of memories, the only person in the community that knows there was a past Jonas is understandably confused, overwhelmed with the concept of anything other than NOW Jonas is seeing red In a monochrome society devoid of color, it is the equivalent of seeing a UFO or a Yeti Color changes everything As The Giver lays hands on him, transferring memories to Jonas, he starts to see the world as so much Color creates depth, not only visually, but also mentally Jonas's expectations increase exponentially, quickly He wants everybody to know what he knows, but of course that is impossible, most assuredly dangerous *They were satisfied with their lives which had none of the vibrancy his own was taking on And he was angry at himself, that he could not change that for them* SAMENESS eliminates pain, discrimination, desire, pride, ambition, choice, thinking, and all the other things that make us uniquely human To eliminate bad things also requires an equal measure of a loss of good things In making this society the holes in the strainer were just too small The Elders select your mate for you no homosexuality allowed in this society, but then with the elimination of desire, by a cornucopia of pharmaceuticals, it doesn't really matter if one is gay, straight, or pansexual Your mate is really just a partner, someone to schedule your life with Children are assigned to you They are nurtured by others until they are walking, and then like the stork of old they are plopped into a family unit Two children only per couple Women are assigned for childbearing, but only for three children, and then they are relegated as laborers for the rest of their lives Childbearing is looked on as one of the lowest assignments a woman can be given The Elders decide what job you will have for the rest of your life, well up until you are RELEASED No decisions necessary ever The worst part of holding the memories is not the pain It s

the loneliness of it Memories need to be shared The Giver, his mind not as elastic as it used to be, is consumed by the pain of the memories He needs to speed up the process of passing some of that distress to Jonas For the first time in his life Jonas feels real discomfort Pills in the past had always taken away any pain he felt, from a skinned knee or even a broken arm As The Receiver he has to understand the source of the pain, and to do so he must feel it There was another Receiver She had asked to be Released A than niggling concern to young Jonas Even though the rule for The Receiver, You May Lie, bothers Jonas, it becomes readily apparent the he learns the imperative that rule becomes The veil has been lifted from his eyes, and it is impossible to put the genie back in the bottle He must choose the path that his predecessor chose to be released , or he must go into the great beyond of ELSEWHERE which is anywhere but there The Giver has had to be so courageous, staying, holding memories for everyone, bearing the annoyance of only being consulted in moments of desperation, knowing so much that could be so helpful, and yet, made to feel like a dusty museum piece with the placard stating Only Break Glass in Case of Fire. The conclusion really bothers people, but I consider the ambiguous ending as one of my most favorite parts of the book For those who read the books *Choose Your Own Adventure*, this is a Choose Your Own Ending Pessimists and optimists seem to choose according to their natural preference for a glass half empty or a glass half full I was struck by an odd parallel between the ending of *Ethan Frome* and the ending of this book Only, being an optimist, I of course chose a very different result than the finale of *Ethan Frome* If your children have read this book or are currently reading this book, do read it The language is by design simplistic The concepts though are much larger, and you will enjoy your discussions with your children This is a perfect opportunity to slip in some of your own brainwashing by

including some of your own views of our current society into the dialogue. In an attempt to make Eden they produced a Hell I kept thinking as I read it of the culling and the brutality that had to occur to gain this much control over human beings I most certainly would have been RELEASED in the first wave Compared to a future like this, we are living in a PARADISE With all our issues, we still have choice We have color We have desire We have ambition We have a past, a future, and a present We are not drugged zombies well most of us, well some of us We can read a book and see the world from another's perspective We can choose our mate, as dicey as that seems for most people We can have a child, if we choose, who will be The Receiver of our collective memories and in the process we gain another generation of immortality Regardless of how everyone feels about this book, I would hope that most people come away from reading it feeling a little better about life as it is now, and also realize the importance of a remembered past and a hopeful future If you wish to see of my most recent book and movie reviews, visit also have a Facebook blogger page at

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Matt Matt says:

? The Giver Free ↗ Author Lois Lowry – Soccerjerseys-wholesale.co

If there are no wrong answers, can we really say that something has any meaning It is very easy to start an interesting science fiction story Simply begin with a mystery Don't explain things to the reader and leave them in a state of wonder In this way, everything will seem interesting, intriguing, and worth exploring Tap into the reader's powers of imagination and allow them to make your story interesting in ways you need not imagine, and perhaps cannot create This is a good plan

for starting a science fiction story Lots of science fiction stories begin in this way On television, almost all of them do X Files , Lost , Battlestar Galactica , The 4400 , The truth is out there They have a plan The Giver starts in this way In the first few pages as the setting unfolded, I was struck by the parallels to China after the cultural revolution the bicycles, the uniform like clothing, the regulated life, the shame based culture, and the sameness I also thought of China, because I immediately grasped that this had to be a culture which was designed to gently crash its population There were many clues that the world was heavily overpopulated and the primary goal of the culture so described was to crash the population without descending into society destroying anarchy the highly regulated birthrate, which was insufficient to sustain the population To sustain the population, than 17 out of each 25 females would have to be assigned to be birth mothers, and this clearly wasn't the case The replacement rate for a society is about 2.3 live births per female maybe 2.1 in a society that is safe and careful clearly they were implied to be below this ratio so clearly this was a society that was trying to shed population Equally clearly, this was a society that engaged in widespread euthanasia for the most trivial of causes, which hints at a culture which doesn't value life because people are in such abundance that they can be readily disposed of I suspected that Release was euthanasia almost immediately from the context in which it was introduced, and this was almost immediately confirmed when it was revealed that infants were subject to release Clearly, infants can't be meaningfully banished, so clearly release was euthanasia So I was intrigued by the story I wanted to see what happened to Jonas and his naive family who had so poised themselves on the edge of a great family wrecking tragedy in just the first few dozen pages of the story I wanted to receive from the storyteller answers to the questions that the story was posing, if not some great profound message then at least some story

that followed from what she began. But it was not to be. The first clue that the whole construct was to eventually come crashing down was that Jonas clearly didn't understand release to mean euthanasia. Nor in fact did anyone seem to know what release meant. This shocked me, because in the context of the setting it was virtually impossible that he and everyone else did not know. I could very easily imagine a stable society where human life was not prized after all, societies that believe that human life is intrinsically valuable are historically far less common than ones that don't. We know that the society is life affirming, both because we are told how pained and shocked they are by loss and by the fact that Jonas responds to scenes of death with pity and anger. What I could not believe in was a society which held the concept of precision of language so tightly and so centrally that the protagonist could not imagine lying could in fact be founded on lies. That's impossible. No society like that can long endure. Some technological explanation would be required to explain how the society managed to hide the truth from itself. If release took place in some conscious state of mind, then surely the dispensers of Justice, the Nurturers, the Caregivers, and the sanitation workers would all know the lie, and all suspect as Jonas did that they were being lied to as well. Surely all of these would suspect what their own future release would actually entail, and surely at least some of them would reject it. Surely some not inconsequential number of new children, reared to value precision of language and to affirm the value of life, would rebel at the audacity of the lie if nothing else. Even in a society that knew nothing of love, even if only the society had as much feeling as the members of the family displayed, and even if people only valued others as much as the Community was shown to value others, surely some level of attachment would exist between people. Soma or not, the seeds of pain, tragedy, conflict and rebellion are present if ever the truth is known to anyone. Nothing about the story makes any

sense None of it bears any amount of scrutiny at all The seriously you consider it, the stupid and illogical the whole thing becomes We are given to believe that the society has no conception of warfare, to the point that it cannot recognize a child s war game for what it is, and yet we are also given to believe that they train pilots in flying what is implied to be a fighter craft and that the community maintains anti aircraft weapons on a state of high alert such that they could shoot down such a fighter craft on a moments notice We are given to believe that all wild animals are unknown to the community, yet we are also given to believe that potential pest species like squirrels and birds are not in fact extinct How do you possibly keep them out of the community if they exist in any numbers elsewhere We are given to believe that technology exists sufficient to fill in the oceans and control the weather and replace the natural biosphere with something capable of sustaining humanity, but that technological innovation continues in primitive culture We are given to believe that they are worried about overpopulation and starvation, and yet also that most of the world is empty and uninhabited or that this inherently xenophobic community lives in isolation if in fact it doesn t span the whole of the Earth We are given to believe that this is a fully industrial society, yet the community at most has a few thousands of people Surely thousands of such communities must exist to maintain an aerospace industry, to say nothing of weather controllers Why is no thought given to the hundreds of other Receivers of Memory which must exist in their own small circles of communities in the larger Community Surely any plan which ignores the small communities place in the larger is foredoomed to failure Surely the Receiver of Memory knows what a purge or a pogrom is How are we to believe that Jonas s father, whose compassion for little Gabriel is so great that he risks breaking the rules for his sake, whose compassion for little Gabriel is so great that he risks face by going to the committee to plead for

Gabriel's life, whose compassion for little Gabriel is so great that he discomferts himself and his whole family for a year for the sake of the child, is the same man who so easily abandons that same child at a single setback when he has witnessed the child grow and prosper. Doesn't it seem far easier to believe that this same man, who is openly scornful of the skills and nurturing ability of the night crew, would readily blame the night crew for Gabriel's discomfort? I can only conclude, just as I can only conclude about the illogical fact that no one knows what release is, that everything is plastic within the dictates of the plot. Jonas's father feels and acts one way when the needs of the plot require it and feels and acts in different ways when the needs of the plot require something else. What I can't believe is that this is any sort of whole and internally consistent character or setting. Every single thing when held up to the light falls apart. There is not one page which is even as substantial as tissue paper. It is almost impossible to draw meaning from nonsense, so it is no wonder that people have wondered at the ending. What happens? The great virtue of the story as far as modern educators are probably concerned is that there are no wrong answers. Whatever you wish to imagine is true is every bit as good of an answer as any other. Perhaps he lives. Perhaps he finds a community which lives in the old ways, knowing choice and war and conflict which probably explains why the community needs anti-aircraft defenses. But likely from the context he dies. Perhaps he is delusional. Perhaps he gets to the bottom and lies down in the deepening snow which the runners can no longer be pushed through and he dies. Perhaps he dies and goes to heaven, maybe even the heaven of the one whose birthday is celebrated by the implied Holiday. Perhaps it is even the case that he was sent to his death by the cynical Giver, who knew his death was necessary to release the memories he contained to the community. Perhaps he didn't just die, but was slaughtered as the sacrificial lamb killed by a murderous

lie from the one he trusted too well For my entry in the meaningless answers contest, I propose that the whole thing was just a dream This seems the easiest way to explain the contradictions A dream doesn't have to make sense And the biggest clue that it is a dream is of course that Jonas sees the world in black and white, with only the occasional flashes of recognized color around important colorful things as is typical of that sort of black and white dream Perhaps Jonas will wake up and engage in dream sharing with his family, and they will laugh at the silliness and then go to the ceremony of twelves Or perhaps the whole community is only a dream, and Jonas will wake up and go downstairs and open his Christmas presents with his family.

Reply

 **Emma Giordano Emma Giordano** says:

? The Giver Free ✈ Author Lois Lowry – Soccerjerseys-wholesale.co
3.5 5 Stars I read this book previously in middle school for English class and was still able to appreciate it almost a decade later *The Giver* is a story that sticks with many of us as it is often a part of required reading in school I consider it one of the most impactful academic reads from my adolescence as it was one of the first stories to feel targeted towards me I think the concept is fantastic and appreciate it's method of tackling serious issues through the lens of a teen Though it was published after many famous dystopian stories of similar nature, I feel *The Giver* succeeds in resonating with younger readers and challenging them to think critically about society in a way many others cannot. Reading as an adult though, I do feel I enjoyed it less I had many questions about the structure of the world that weren't answered in text I'm aware it's a series, but for a first installment, I feel it could have benefitted with detail I felt it was lacking in characterization as I did not feel much attachment to the characters Additionally, with both times I've read this novel, I tend to feel unsatisfied by the ending The last

chapter or so is such a drag in my opinion and doesn't make me WANT to read. Overall, I'm sad that I didn't enjoy *The Giver* as much as I did at thirteen but I'm glad I read it a second time.

Reply

 **Lola Lola** says:

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Woah, I can easily understand why such a grand amount of people loved this book and definitely see why many were not satisfied with the movie. I cannot believe how many elements of this story they changed. However, there is something that I must admit I preferred the movie because of how melancholic and hopeful it made me feel and for the suspense inside it that the book irrevocably lacked. It is not something that I hear myself say often at all. I have always been that little full of criticism girl who could not help but compare books to movies and movies to books. Quite a negative experience I tend to have with the latter. I mean, *Red Riding Hood* trailer, starring Amanda Seyfried, was enticing. Reading the film to novel adaptation though felt like walking through mud, tiring, boring, and endless. Why I granted it a three star rating is beyond me. Let's just put that aside though. After all, it is of *The Giver* that I shall talk about and my time spent reading the story was definitely not wasted hence the four star rating even if not what I anticipated. First, the hero was very young, a detail that I seemed to have forgotten before starting this read. Not a problem though, for Jonas showed an impressive and admirable maturity in his character. Even I, at twelve, and others around me at that time, were not as reflective, wise, and intelligent. Sure, math held no secrets from me, but I was not actually resolving problems for the greater good or aware of the true face of the world. As opposite as the situation and context definitely were, the fact remains that Jonas led this story with greatness and, along the way, opened my eyes to some beautiful themes. It shook me to witness

how unimportant Fiona appeared and how no chemistry was palpable between Jonas and her Apparently, they were friends through Ashen mostly, or at least that is what I deduced Of course, they volunteered together but it is not as if they talked and shared moments like true friends normally do Plus, we could barely see her because of how her presence was omitted Ashen was definitely endearing in this while, in the cinematographic adaptation I apologies for bringing it up again I growled at him continuously This was another example of a book with fine simplistic writing My first one, I believe, was Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe Then I discovered some others and familiarized myself with this type of writing I am completely in favour of it since it can bring such a peaceful atmosphere to stories and make the reader easily understand every detail written However, there is something that I unluckily often stumble upon when this style is present and this was no exception repetition But maybe it is easier to distinguish it since everything in the writing is clearer Even though I brought up an equal or so it seems amount of positive and negative elements for The Giver, I must let you know that the negative ones never bothered, annoyed or frustrated me They were there, and I was aware of them, but never let any of those weaknesses keep me from enjoying my read Because I did So much.PS For a couple of minutes, I thought that I just read one of the first dystopian books ever written, but this list proved me the contrary.

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