

7. There were some special memories that the Giver had been holding back from Jonas, keeping them for himself. What were these memories?

8. Jonas and the Giver devise a plan to force the community to bear memories of the past. Briefly summarize this plan.

Thinking About the Story:

9. After viewing the release, the Giver tells Jonas:

"They can't help it. *They know nothing...* It's the way they live. It's the life that was created for them. It's the same life that you would have, if you had not been chosen as my successor."

Explain what the Giver means.

10. The Giver says, "The worst part of holding the memories is not the pain. It's the loneliness of it. Memories need to be shared."

Since the start of his training, how has Jonas begun to experience this loneliness? How does sharing painful memories help ease the pain?

11. Jonas wants the Giver to join him in escaping the community. "You and I don't need to *care* about the rest of them," he tells the Giver. Why is Jonas' statement contrary to what they are trying to accomplish?

12. Is Jonas' escape intended to help Jonas or help the rest of the community?

13. Why does the Giver insist on staying behind in the community?

14. At the end of Chapter 20, what do we learn about the identity of the previous Receiver-in-training? How does this help explain the Giver's difficulty in having to train her?

Name: _____

Date: _____

***The Giver*: In-Class Discussion & Reflections
Chapters 21-23**

1. Why does Jonas flee the community with Gabriel?

2. What rules did Jonas break when fleeing the community?

3. How do Jonas and Gabriel avoid being spotted by search planes?

4. How does the landscape change as they travel farther from the community?

5. As they travel farther from the community, what happens to the memories Jonas has been given?

Thinking About the Story:

6. During the journey, what is Jonas able to endure on his own, without the benefit of received memories to help him?

7. Reflecting back on his choice to leave the community, Jonas wonders if he did the right thing: "Once he had yearned for choice. Then, when he had had a choice, he had made the wrong one: the choice to leave. And now he was starving."

How does Jonas realize that he made the right choice?

8. Do you think Jonas *did* make the right choice?

9. Look closely at the following passages:

[Gabriel] cried because he was hungry and cold and terribly weak. Jonas cried, too, for the same reasons, and another reason as well. He wept because he was afraid now that he could not save Gabriel. *He no longer cared about himself.* (Italics added.)

For a fleeting second [Jonas] felt that he wanted to keep [the memory of sunshine] for himself, to let himself bathe in sunlight, unburdened by anything or anyone else. But the moment passed and was followed by an urge, a need, a passionate yearning to share the warmth with the one person left for him to love.

How do these passages sum up the effect that Jonas' year in training have had upon him?

10. At the end of the story, what memory comes back to Jonas as they crest the top of a hill? How was this memory different from the other ones given to him?

11. Look again at the last two paragraphs of the story. Consider the last two sentences:

Behind him, across the 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.

What might the author be suggesting with these final sentences?