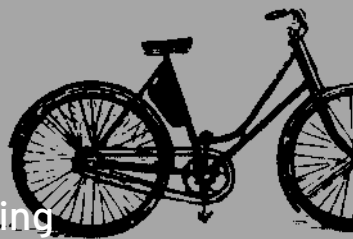


## Chapter Charter: Questions to Guide Your Reading



The following questions will help you think about the important parts of each chapter.

### **Chapter 1**

- What do you imagine it means when someone is “released”?
- What are some clues that Jonas’s community is different from the one in which you live?

### **Chapter 2**

- How would you feel not to have your own individual birthday?
- If you were attending the Ceremony of Twelve with Jonas, what Assignment do you think the Elders would select for you?

### **Chapter 3**

- How would you feel to be watched all the time, the way Jonas is?
- Do you think it says something about Jonas that he sees the apple change?

### **Chapter 4**

- Jonas’s community has a lot of rules. Do you think that’s a good thing or a bad thing? Why?

### **Chapter 5**

- Why was Jonas embarrassed about telling his dream?

- How important is sameness in Jonas's community? How important is it in your community?

### **Chapter 6**

- All the members of Jonas's family had to sign a pledge that they would not become attached to the newchild, Gabe. Do you think it's possible to keep such a promise?
- What do you think of how families in Jonas's community are formed?

### **Chapter 7**

- Do you think Asher should have been given the discipline wand when he was three, for saying "smack" instead of "snack"?
- How would you feel if you were in Jonas's shoes and the Chief Elder skipped right over you when she was making Assignments?

### **Chapter 8**

- What do you think Jonas's Capacity to See Beyond is?
- Would you rather be selected, as Jonas was, or assigned, as his groupmates were?

### **Chapter 9**

- Jonas tells himself several times that things can't change between him and his best friend, Asher. Do you think they can? Do you think they will?
- Why does Jonas find the final rule in his instructions, "You may lie," so unsettling?

## **Chapter 10**

- What do you think it means to live in a place where no doors are ever locked?
- Jonas says, “I thought there was only us. I thought there was only now.” Do you think that’s a good way to live?

## **Chapter 11**

- Can you imagine giving up such things as snow and hills because they are impractical?

## **Chapter 12**

- Imagine a world without color. What color would you miss most?
- What value, if any, is there to Sameness?

## **Chapter 13**

- Do you agree with Jonas that people have to be protected from wrong choices?
- As Jonas continues his training, he often finds himself angry with his groupmates and his family. Why?
- The Giver says that without memories, knowledge is meaningless. What does he mean?

## **Chapter 14**

- Do you agree that painful memories are made easier when they are shared?
- Do you think it’s fair that one person in the community—The Receiver—should have to be burdened and pained by memories so that no one else is?

## **Chapter 15**

- Why do you think The Giver asks Jonas to forgive him?

## **Chapter 16**

- The Giver gives Jonas many good memories. What are some of *your* best memories?
- Do you think the elderly should be part of the community, or separate, as in Jonas's community?
- Do you think Jonas's parents love him? Do you think they know what love is?
- Do you agree with Jonas that things could be different? How?

## **Chapter 17**

- Why didn't the game of good guys and bad guys that Jonas's friends play seem harmless to Jonas anymore? Should Jonas have asked them to stop playing it? Why or why not?

## **Chapter 18**

- Do you think Rosemary sounds like she was or wasn't brave?
- Why did The Giver seem distracted after telling Jonas to stay away from the river?

## **Chapter 19**

- What do you think of what Jonas's community calls "release"? Were you surprised at what it was?
- How do you think this new knowledge will affect Jonas?

## **Chapter 20**

- Jonas knows that if his plan fails, he could be killed. But he believes that if he stays, his life is no longer worth living. Do you agree?
- Do you think The Giver should go with Jonas or stay? Why?

## **Chapter 21**

- How does Jonas show that he understands that the meaning of everything is to care about others?
- How do you think The Giver will feel when he realizes Jonas is gone? How will Jonas's friends and family feel?
- Why is the community so desperate to get Jonas back?

## **Chapter 22**

- Jonas briefly wonders whether he made the wrong choice when he decided to run away. What do you think?

## **Chapter 23**

- Although most of the memories have left Jonas, the feelings have not. Why do you think that is?
- How do you think the story ends?