

### THE GIVER TRANSMITS THE FOLLOWING MEMORY TO JONAS

When The Giver placed his hands on Jonas' back, he was transported to a dark barn with a small candle light. A black man held a book up near the light, absorbing the words, educating himself. A white man walked into the barn yelling for the man who was absent from his work on the plantation. The black man blew out the candle and quickly attempted to hide the book from the white man's view. As he rounded the corner, he caught him hiding the book and his face grew enraged. He moved swiftly over to the boy cowering in the corner. "Coloreds are not allowed to read, and you know it! You are my property, so get your sorry self back on that field" New words entered Jonas' mind - slavery, racism, inequality.

The plantation owner lifted his hand and beat the boy until his face was bloodied. Tears streamed down his face. Jonas awoke in the Giver's room, crying in disbelief.

## THE GIVER TRANSMITS THE FOLLOWING MEMORY TO JONAS

The Giver placed his hands on Jonas' back. Jonas now found himself aboard a ship far outside of the earth's atmosphere. Jonas watched as the astronaut settled the ship down on the unknown surface. The astronaut allowed himself the luxury of a long, deep breath as he stared through his helmet visor at the alien world before him. He was surprised at how quickly the dust, hurled away by the final thrust of the engine, had settled back on the surface. Within seconds the moon looked as if it had never been disturbed by the strange machine now resting on the firm lunar soil. Jonas stared at the rocks and shadows of the moon, marvelled at the horizon that curved into the velvety blackness just a mile away. The astronaut's voice was calm, confident, clear. "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The *Eagle* has landed safely."

© Presto

# THE GIVER TRANSMITS THE FOLLOWING MEMORY TO JONAS

The Giver's hand transported Jonas to a small chapel with two people, hand in hand, looking deeply into each others' eyes. A man stood before them and said "the bride and groom have decided to write their own vows". The woman, all in white, smiled at her groom and spoke words that made Jonas feel warm inside. She spoke of how they met, their courtship, and the strong emotions she felt for him. He reciprocated by sharing his vows to her while their families, young and old, listened intently, wiping tears of joy from their eyes.

Jonas had never seen this display of love before. He knew his parents had been selected as mates, but did not realize that, Elsewhere, people chose their own mates based on their feelings.

The bride and groom shared a kiss, which surprised Jonas as outward displays of affection were not customary in his community. As the couple pulled away and walked back down the aisle, Jonas was back in the Giver's room.



# THE GIVER TRANSMITS THE FOLLOWING MEMORY TO JONAS

The Giver put his hands on Jonas and suddenly Jonas felt very warm. He looked around and realized he was surrounded by sand. A new word came into Jonas' consciousness - desert.

Workers were using picks, chisels, and brushes to uncover a set of stairs deep into the sand. The workers called the name 'Carter'. A man walked down the stairs. The bottom revealed a doorway still covered in rubble - there were several seals on the bottom of the door with the name Tutankhamen on them. After several hours of working, the door was fully exposed. After days of work getting the door opened, the crew walked down a long dark corridor to another door, which also took a great deal of work to open. Behind that door was the golden tomb of the young Egyptian Pharaoh. The room filled with statues, gold boxes, jewelry, other riches. Jonas saw a look of wonder and excitement on the archeologist's face.

### THE GIVER TRANSMITS THE FOLLOWING MEMORY TO JONAS

The Giver's hand, pressed firmly against Jonas' back, began to transmit a painful memory. People were assembled in long rows near signs that read 'Extreme Danger: High Voltage Wires'. Men with guns watched those in line with disgust waiting to enter the camp. Finally, the guards laid out large boxes. Everyone in line had to put in their valuables. Women and men were forced to drop in their wedding rings, and valued possessions. Those who did not give up their valuables were brutally beaten. Everyone was separated by gender and walked into what they called the B Camp of Auschwitz. Everyone there was desperate for food and many prisoners were wasting away from starvation. People who had died were not buried, but were cruelly disposed of end of the barracks row underneath the watch tower. It was a nightmare. Every twenty four hours a cart came. People were simply grabbed by the hand and foot and tossed on there. Jonas knew where they were being taken. Jonas' eyes were filled with tears as he woke up writhing in pain in the Giver's room.

# **MEMORY TRANSMISSION**

happened in our country in the recent past and transmit that memory to Jonas with words. Consider why have The Giver passes on collective memories of the whole community to Jonas. Choose something that has you chosen that event to give him, what Jonas will learn from it, and how he will react

You place your hands on Jonas' back and transmit the following memory (recent historical event):



Why did you choose this even to give to him?

What would Jonas learn about the world from this transmission? How would he react?