

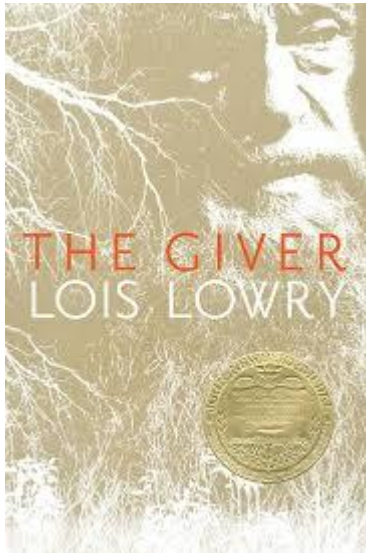
The Giver

Lois Lowry

Reviewed By: Kaylee Li, 12

Star Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity

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The Giver is about a boy named Jonas who lives in a society where everyone is expected to be the same. There are no real choices, pain, or strong emotions because the community believes sameness keeps life peaceful. After Jonas begins learning memories from the past, he starts to understand freedom, love, and the importance of individuality. The book shows that a world that seems perfect may not actually be perfect at all.

The themes of this book are conformity, freedom, and individuality. I personally like this book! It is something great to get from a library and suits the ages 12 and up. I just like how the book shows that a society that appears perfect may actually be deeply flawed.

This also relates to my swimming. I'm a competitive swimmer who goes through intense training. In the book, Jonas had to experience physical and emotional pain (like starvation and sunburns) to understand true strength and joy. I (and many other swimmers) face similar mental and physical challenges. We have to endure the intense, burning pain of lactic acid, freezing cold morning practices, sore muscles, muscle cramps, exhaustion, and sometimes fatigue. We accept this temporary suffering to achieve the joy of a personal best time or a gold medal.

Recommended Titles:

1. Wonder by R.J. Palacio
2. Out of My Mind by Sharon M. Draper
3. Number the Stars by Lois Lowry