

Student Essay on The Role of the Receiver in The Giver by Lois Lowry

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Contents

Student Essay on The Role of the Receiver in The Giver by Lois Lowry.....	1
Contents.....	2
Essay.....	3

Essay

The Giver is about a boy named Jonas. Jonas lives in a perfect world with no pain and no one greater than anyone else. His community is without color, weather, hills, or even feelings. Everyone is assigned a role in his community. Jonas' Assignment when he became twelve was to be the community's new Receiver. The Receiver is the person who holds all the memories, good and bad so no one will suffer from them. Like the memory of war, people would feel sorrow. When Jonas receives the memories and feels the burden they leave within him he wants everyone else to have to feel that too. He doesn't think that it is fair that he has to carry this burden just to protect everyone else. Jonas shares his concerns with The Giver. The Giver was the old receiver. He passes the memories to Jonas and helps him to understand them. After hearing Jonas' concerns, he agrees that they must do something. They decide that Jonas must leave the community. By Jonas leaving he will leave all of the memories for the people to deal with. The Giver had to stay to help the community to understand these so called "feelings and experiences" they were going through. Jonas reached the place he had longed for, a place called "Elsewhere."