

# millard

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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November 30, 2005

Dear Ms. Lowry,

I always wondered what it would be like if there was perfect order in the world. After reading *The Giver*, however, I realized I should hope the world never becomes as orderly as in your book. I cannot imagine what would happen if there was so much order in the world. Would someone try to make it stop or would everyone think it was better that way? The thought of a world like that is confusing and frightening.

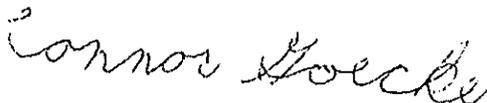
Many of the community rules annoyed me: climate control, no color, no expressions and assigned jobs. The meaning of Release, especially, puzzled and infuriated me. So the baby was a little small; that shouldn't mean he had to be killed! When Jonas found out what the meaning of Release really was, and saw his dad perform it, I was startled that he did not confront his dad. I would have, had it been me. Of course, now that I think of it, that might have been against one of his job rules: "You may not tell anyone what you do with me."

If I lived in Jonas' world and had found out what Release meant, I would have tried to do something to stop it. Of course, no one would have helped me because they believed it was for the best. The others in the community could not see what was happening and were not allowed to speak their minds.

Jonas didn't really live in a *community*; it was more like a kingdom with an unfair ruler. The elders made all the choices and nobody could do anything to make their own decisions. It would be a horrible place to live. The only good thing would be that there would be no war.

I am immensely glad that you wrote this book because you've shown me that my life is heaven compared to life in Jonas' community. Hopefully, your book will warn generations ahead not to make mistakes that would turn the world into a terrible place to live.

Sincerely,



Connor Goecke