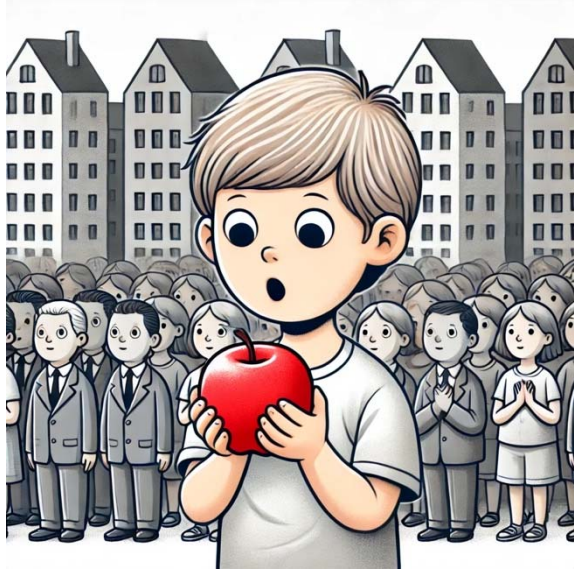


Name _____



Seeing Beyond

Jonas had always believed his community was perfect. Everyone followed the rules, and life was predictable and safe. No one experienced hunger, pain, or war. But no one saw colors either. Everything was the same, from the clothes people wore to the houses they lived in. The world was dull and gray, but no one noticed—except Jonas.

One day, while tossing an apple with his friend Asher, Jonas saw something strange. For a brief moment, the apple changed.

He didn't understand what had happened, but he knew it was different. Later, he noticed the same strange shift when he looked at Fiona's hair. It wasn't until he began his training as the Receiver of Memory that the Giver explained the truth: Jonas was beginning to see color.

Jonas learned that long ago, people could see all the colors of the world—the blue sky, the green grass, and the bright red of a sunset. But his community had chosen "Sameness" to eliminate differences and prevent conflict. They removed colors, emotions, and choices to keep life simple and controlled.

At first, Jonas was amazed by the beauty of colors. He saw red in apples, orange in pumpkins, and deep blue in the sky. But as he gained more memories, he realized what his community had lost. Without color, people could not see beauty. Without choices, they could not decide what they truly loved. The more Jonas learned, the more he saw how limited his world had become.

Seeing color made Jonas feel different from everyone else. He understood that the community had taken away more than just color—it had taken away freedom. Without colors, people could not choose what they liked best. Without memories, they could not understand true emotions. Jonas wanted everyone to experience what he was seeing, but he knew they never would.

His new ability made him question everything. If his world was truly perfect, why had so much been taken away? Was it really better to live without colors, feelings, or choices? Jonas knew he could never go back to seeing only gray.

For the first time, he realized that to truly live, people needed more than just safety. They needed color, emotions, and the ability to choose their own paths.

