





story, making the magic, setting the tone and mood. She played quite beautifully.

Jonah loved to act. He came alive in the character of others, leaving all his shyness behind. He had wanted to play Ralph, the main – heroic – part, but even in the auditions, he'd known he wasn't right for the role. In the end Mrs Rainer had chosen him to play Piggy, and he was happy enough with that, proud of it too. It was a big part, important in the story. And he had the best song. Mrs Rainer told him that his singing voice was the main reason why she had given him the part.

Jonah liked the character of Piggy, empathized

with his bewilderment, his apartness, his longing to belong and his inability to do so. He didn't like what happened to Piggy in the end, of course, but he knew from school how cruel some people could be, and how right the author, William Golding, had been about the power of the mob.

No one was about as Jonah came wandering across the playing fields and through the iron gates. Every time he came into school, even though he'd been there nearly a year, Jonah was amazed at the sheer size and grandeur of it – especially after his little village junior school. There were acres and acres of playing fields and woods, and a wide gravel driveway that swept through