Scythe

Purposely killing another morally good in human being is one of the worst things someone can do. Scythe, written by Neal Shusterman, is a novel set in the future on mortality is conquered and people live forever except specific circumstances. One of these and the one mainly focused on by the book is “gleaning” where one of the scythes pick and kill someone from society who they deem fit to die whom do not get revived when killed. The book follows 2 teenagers whom get selected by the scythe Faraday to become new scythes to glean people and the cycle continues. Killing in this sense is given a moral pass by the narrator as in the book it is seen that the reason is a good cause by helping society at large by attempting the curb the population growth and help retain aspects of when mortality existed. Murder can be defined as the unlawful premeditated killing of one human being by another.  Although in the book these killings are not unlawful but in the world we live in now these would clearly be illegal and they are certainly premeditated by the scythes doing the act. Although counter to Shusterman’s vision of the world in the book, it is clear that the Scythes in the book dedicate their lives to committing immoral acts and are morally misguided.

Many scythes in the book are seen to abuse there powers to “glean” people in a fashion that is clearly morally abhorrent. One of these scythes and the scythe that the book mostly follows is scythe Goddard. Scythe Goddard plays the main antagonist of book shown by his actions such as mass gleaning, taking the high scythes daughter hostage and forcing Rowan to disable his pain nanites to inflict suffering on him. The stance the book is obviously scythe Goddard is clearly amoral and terrible but what is the fundamental difference between Goddard and the scythes that are seen as moral from the book that makes scythe Goddard the worst but the others morally passable. The book seems to counter this with saying that since scythe Goddard enjoys his gleanings this makes him bad but the “better” scythes do not enjoy gleanings. But why would the mental state of a murderer change the fact of the matter, the person being dead which is generally considered why murder is amoral in the first place.

The scythedom is an organisation which which ruins the utopia the book it set in. The death of an individual can be a very traumatising thing and causes suffering to not only the individual dying but the people around them such as the family, friends and peers. The death and destruction of selected individuals is the crux of the scythedom. Having an organisation based on the Death of humans essentially picked at random or picked at random depending on the persons choice is fundamentally a terrible organisation. Death is not something to be taken lightly violates rules and laws in almost every culture.

The thunderhead is the ai responsible for the utopia seen in the book. It is the entire government, justice system and manages the entire in the most fair and just way theoretically possible. It is designed as a god with the purpose of helping humanity in every possible way by maintaining a one to one relationship with all of earths citizens. All except a few, criminals and scythes. The thunderhead in the book is hard-coded to never interact with the scythedom or interfere by its creators, but why would this possibly be the case. The real world god if this world, the personification of good in this world is cannot be wrong. It is clear that the creators of the thunderhead knew that the all-knowing thunderhead would see that the scythedom is evil and stop it so the creators excepted the scythedom from the thunderheads rein. This is just another reason why the scythedom is clearly a terrible organisation.

To conclude the scythedom is clearly a awful organisation predicated on the idiotic idea that death must be preserved when mortality has been conquered. This organisation uses logical fallacies of tradition and brings it to the extreme by keeping the tradition of one of the worst things in the world, death.

James. Proof-read your draft. Your ideas are not yet logically ordered in an essay format and there are many spelling and grammatical errors. See to the advice in comments – make a thesis and support with evidence in body paragraphs. You have good ideas, but no direct evidence yet which makes your essay very general and does not allow you to demonstrate analysis or understanding of language features.

Ms 😊