

Instead, the sentence manages to portray that EVERY SINGLE problem with grammar can be safely classified as NOT being erroneous.

HOW do people mess this one up so often?! It drives me INSANE.

This next one is pretty insane.

I just finished reading *Catching Fire* after being pressured by my acquaintances telling me it was good (it wasn't), and apart from not finding the word "whom" once in the book (though it really needed it in LOTS of places--my dad thought I was going insane every time I shouted "WHOM!" at my book-- and he wasn't all that incorrect), I found a very interesting sentence (I'm also going to write the preceding sentence for the sake of context):

Everybody offers to guard while the others rest, but in the end, it's Johanna and I who stay up. Me because I'm really rested, she because she simply refuses to lie down.

Did you see that?

Because it was really saddening.

I honestly don't even care about "me". Yes, it's wrong, but so were half the instances of the word "who" in the book. The second sentence *should* have started with the word "I".

Okay, got that.

But *why*, in the name of all that is good (and a substantial amount that is bad), did the author decide to SWITCH halfway through the sentence?

I can understand writing

Me, because blah blah, her because more blah blah.

because you're at least using two *objects* - two wrong words.

But what could possibly have possessed the author to use an object in the first half of the sentence, then come to her senses and use a subject for the second half?

You'd have to be *trying*.

Perhaps Suzanne Collins was.

Honestly, these grammar things are hurting me on the inside. Making me sad.

### **Reflection on Grammar:**

Looking back on this is kind of funny. I'm not as obsessed with grammar now as I was when I wrote this, mostly because I've realized that nobody will ever actually care. As it turns out, people do not particularly appreciate it when they're constantly corrected on their improper use of the word "who". Oops.

I refuse to let myself commit such terrible atrocities, but I no longer correct others on the problems that they tend to have with how they use their words. Their crimes against our already-ugly language are not mine to observe. I was not born to bring justice to the world of grammar usage. I have found other purposes in my life.

But come *on*, Suzanne Collins. Her editor has problems, too. If you're going to make the (stupid) stylistic decision to completely ignore the existence of the word "whom", go ahead and do it. But it's *not* okay to make such blatant errors in the middle of your writing. That's the sort of thing that editors are supposed to catch.