

American Born Chinese by Gene Luen Yang



A cool interesting way of combining both past and modern times with one another. Perfect way of telling two stories in one book and then combining the two into one heartfelt lesson.

I read this book all within an hour and a half. It was a fast read but the lesson for the reader and main character packed a punch. The story retells a Chinese tale about the monkey king while also sharing what it is like to grow up in America being Chinese.

The book hit home for me, and I could relate the characters in the story a lot. I am not Chinese, but I am mixed race. It can be hard to love yourself and your culture when people are so quick to insult it. I can understand what it is like not being able to fit in with your peers because of cultural differences. But it can also be difficult because growing up in America, with a predominantly English-speaking family. Not being able to relate to the same culture that your peers make fun of you for because of a language barrier or lack of relation can be frustrating. I related to just wanting to fit in with your peers and doing whatever possible to achieve that goal.

In the new year this book is my best read so far, I recommend this book to everyone. But definitely to minorities. Knowing that you're not the only person who feels like that and to know people of different races and cultures feel the same way is comforting. But it is important for people to educate people. A lot of hurtful and mean comments just come from ignorance. If you inform people, they won't be so quick to make a stupid and hurtful joke. Everyone should give this book a read, and even though it deals with real issues it is a funny read as well.

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