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Summary

The book I read was *American Born Chinese* by Gene Luen Yang. It is about a monkey king, an American boy named Danny, another American boy named Jin, and a Chinese boy named Wei-Chen. The monkey king works hard and becomes a master at kung-fu so he can be unstoppable, and he thinks he can make himself a god if he gets skilled enough. When he thinks he is a god, he meets with the real god, and the real god traps him under a mountain of rock for 40 years.

Jin goes to school like every other American kid, but he is a misfit. Then, Wei-Chen arrives from China to Jin’s school. Wei-Chen is Jin’s only friend. When Jin first notices Amelia, the girl he has a crush on, he can’t stop thinking about her. Wei-Chen notices Jin’s liking for Amelia and tries to set them up.

Danny is a very popular kid at his school. He switches schools every year because his cousin Chin-Kee always comes halfway through the year and embarrasses Danny. Chin-Kee is a very annoying character that is a know-it-all and thinks he is god-like.

At the end of the book, Jin transforms into Danny. Danny meets up with Chin-Kee and they get in a fight. He knocks Chin-Kee’s head off, and it is really the monkey king in disguise.

Recommendation

I would recommend the book, *American Born Chinese* by Gene Luen Yang, to anyone who likes an adventure book. Throughout the book, the characters keep switching between chapters; keep switching between cultures, and between countries. The book starts off in China with the monkey king learning kung fu, to America and so forth. I liked this book because it had three story lines and it wasn’t complicated at all. The story lines slowly came together at the end which made everything make sense even more. *American Born Chinese* was a quick and easy read, but it had such an easy storyline to follow. I would also recommend this book to anyone at a lower reading level, so that they can understand what is going on with the quick chapters and the pictures to go along with every single scene. Another thing I liked about this book was that it had such a unique ending and no other book has a climax like this one. The climax was Danny and Chin-Kee fighting, and when Danny punched him in the face one last time; his big head had come flying right off of his body and out came the monkey king’s head. The monkey king was like a guardian angel to Danny. He visited him every year to make sure things were going good. Chin-Kee was supposed to visit Wei-Chen once a year every year because Wei-Chen was really also actually a monkey. *American Born Chinese* is definitely one of my favorite books because it was one of the only stories that I went along with from the front to back covers of the book. I would not recommend this book to anyone on a very high reading level because they would get bored of the plot and would be through with the book in a hour. Overall, I liked this book a lot.