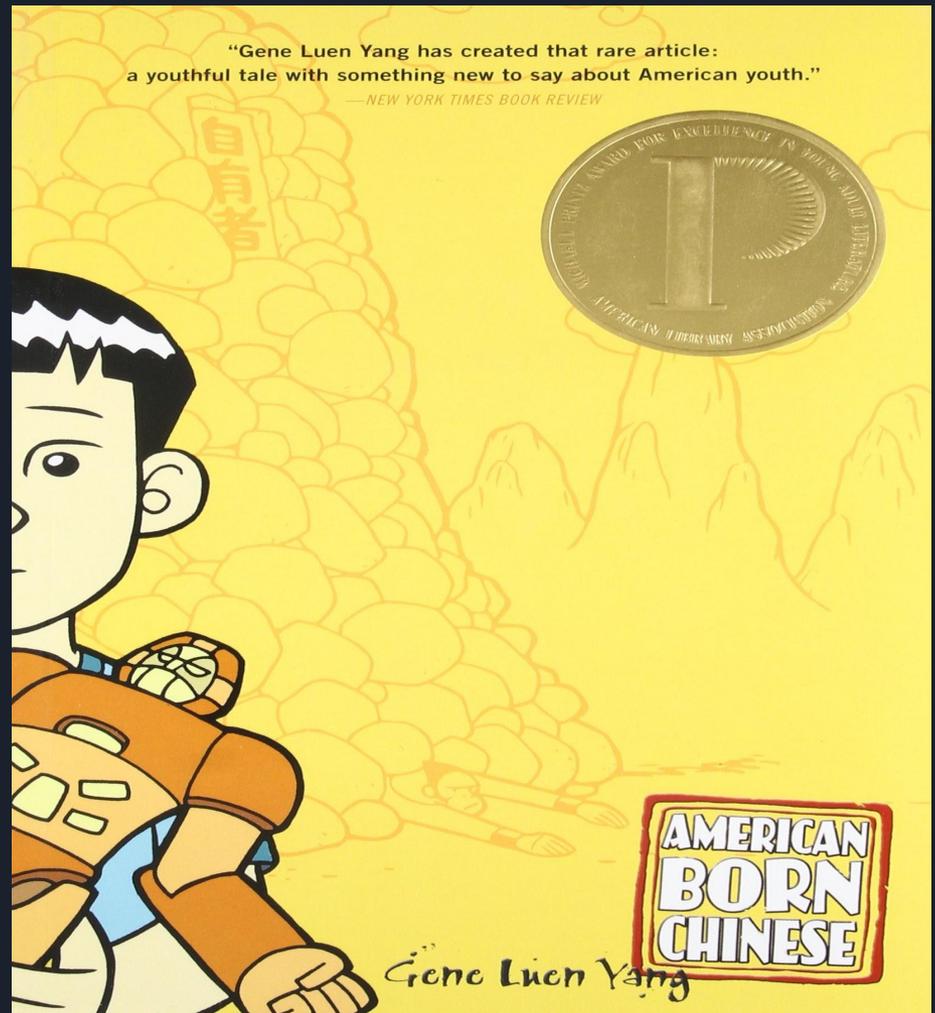


American Born Chinese
Gene Luen Yang

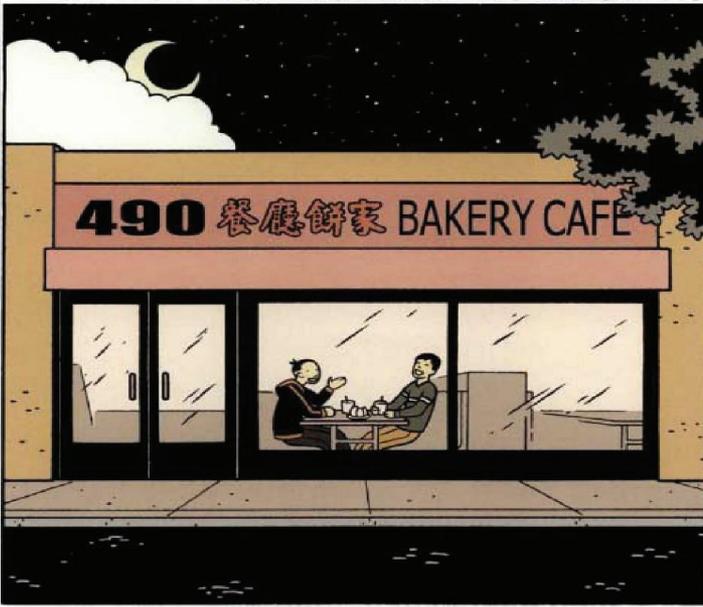
Hailey Betz
Marissa Allan
Cleon Liu
Hamza Zuberi



Setting

- TIME: Parts of the book take place in modern day society and other parts take place 500 years before that.
- PLACE: One of the main places in this book is the schools. There are 2 different schools in this book. Both take place in America and one of them is called Mayflower Elementary school, and the other is Olphiant High School. Another location is Heaven and Flower Fruit Mountain where the Monkey Kingdom was located.
- CULTURAL SETTING: The locations on earth both take place in America. Though it was an American school there were some students with Chinese backgrounds. Everyone spoke English. The social class system for the Monkey King is he is the king and ruler of the Monkey Kingdom, he is trying to become more powerful. For Jin he's just trying to fit in.
- ATMOSPHERE, MOOD: The mood in the book is intense and frustrated and mad.
- SPECIFIC DETAILS (house, apartment, school, etc.): We know that Jin-Wang moved from an apartment to house. There are two schools, and a Monkey Kingdom. Another important location is the Bakery Cafe that Jin Wang ate at every day for a month until he saw Wei Chein.

Images Related to setting



The Complication

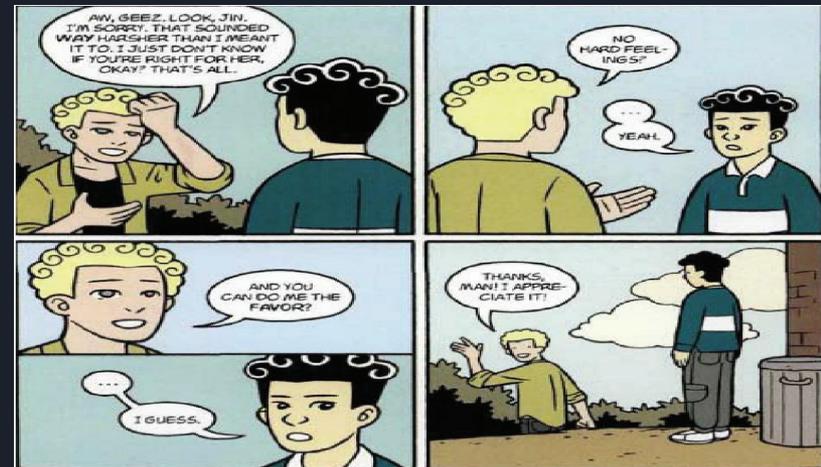
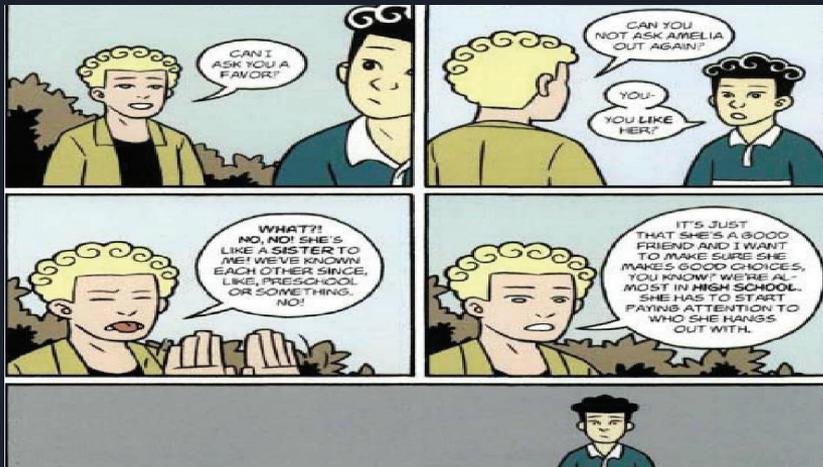
- The Major event that causes the most action in the novel is when the Monkey king isn't allowed to enter the dinner party because he wasn't wearing shoes.
- Ge gets mad and causes a ruckus
- He then becomes more powerful and beats up each god one by one to prove that he is now Great Sage Equal Of Heavean.



Conflict

Man vs Man

- This man vs ,an conflict is between Jin-Wang and Greg. They both like the same girl and Jin-Wang tried so hard to get her and he did.
- But then Greg tells Jin Wang that he can't go out with emilia anymore which starts the conflict.
- Jin Wang then despises timmy and Greg could be the reason Jin-Wang kissed Suzy.



Conflict

Man Vs Man

- Another conflict is The Monkey King vs his creator. He doesn't want to believe that he is only a monkey but his creator said that he intended on him being one.
- This led to the Monkey King fighting his creator thinking he could win
- But things didn't go as planned for the Monkey King and he was buried under a mountain of rocks for 500 years



Jin Wang

- one of main character
- has a crush on amelia harris
- clumsy
- polite
- sad
- unhappy
-

Chin-kee

- mispronounced
- stubborn
- greed
- when he talks spit coes out
- when he talks he mixes up he Ls with his Rs

Wei-Chen-Sun

- brainy
- calm
- clever
- nice
- polite
- skillful
- smart
- wise
- wei-chen-sun has a girlfriend suzy

Monkey King

- bossy
- demanding
- disrespectful
- hopeless
- impolite
- mean
- rude
- selfish
- the rocks fell on him and he was stuck there for 1000s of years

Greg

- cheerful
- quiet
- friendly
- greg is telling jin wang not to ask amelia on a date again (she is like a sister to me)

Danny

- active
- afraid
- depressed
- embarrassed
- is embarrassed of his cousin chin-kee and how talk he gets his Ls and his Rs mixed up when he talks

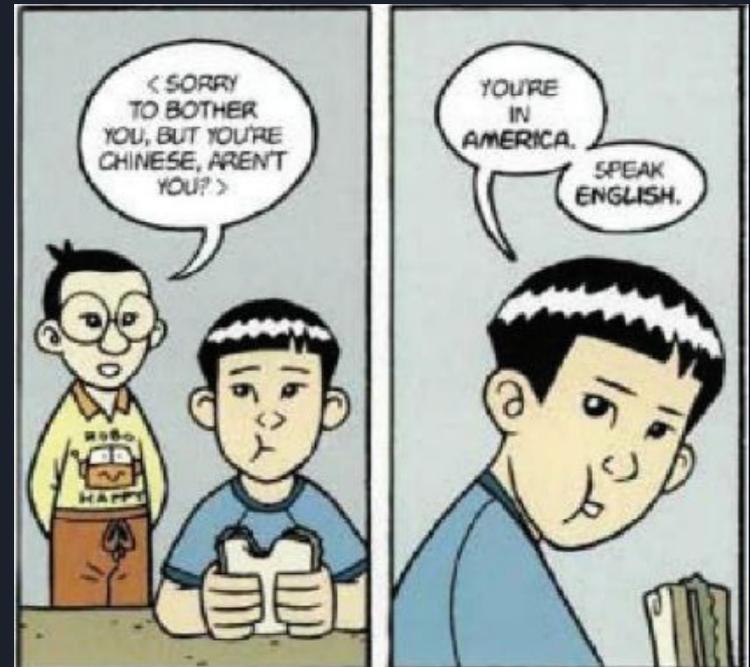
Pertinent Passages

The Protagonist Character

“<Sorry to bother you, but you’re Chinese, aren't you?>?”

“You’re in America, speak English”

- This passage shows the theme of the protagonist, the passages is Wei Chan speaking Chinese to the main character Jin Wang.
- Jin Wang says to Wei Chen to speak Chinese, which shows that Jin Wang is scared to been seen speaking Chinese.
- Relates to him being self conscious of his own cultural identity.
- His own culture is Chinese, and he doesn't like to speak Chinese which revolves around insecurities of his own culture



Pertinent Passages

The Central Conflict

“Hey, I CHINK sits getting a little nippy out here.” “You’re right! I’m getting GOOK bums.”

-Passage shows bullies saying racial slurs to Jin Wang, Wei Chan, and Suzy

-This shows the conflict is the minorities always struggling with their culture and them always being pick on

-The conflict is always about the culture and race conflict between Jin Wang, Wei Chan, and Suzy around the school

-Many of the conflicts they faced are related because of their background



Pertinent Passages

The Novels Theme

“Yes, Yes. I apologize profusely sir, but i cannot let you in, you don't have any shoes”

“It gets so bad by the end of the school year that I have to switch schools.”

“Can you not ask Amelia out again?”

- This 3 passages shows the major theme of the novel
- Shows that there is always conflict from reaching their goals and always trying to fit in with the society
- The first one shows the monkey not going into the party just because he doesn't have shoes, because he doesn't fit in
- The second one is when Danny needs to switch schools because of his cousin, which shows there is conflict between his cousin and him which makes him switch schools because he doesn't fit in
- The third one is Greg restricting Jin Wang from hanging out with Amelia which also stops Jin Wang's goal to hang out with Amelia



Connections

“<The milk tea here sucks>”

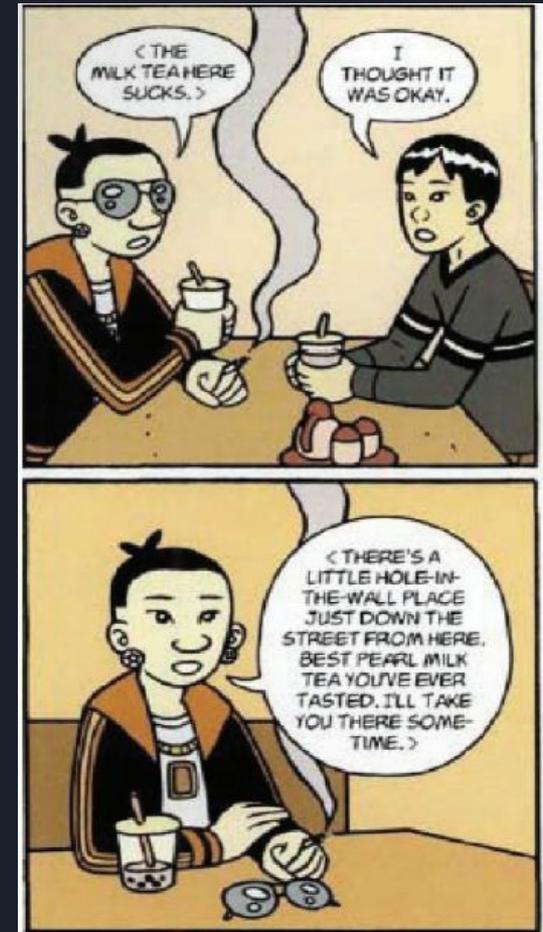
-This passage is about Wei Chan going into a bakery and drinking the milk tea, he then comments about it saying it is bad

-This connects in real life because in some restaurants that are not purposed on selling pearl milk tea, the pearl milk tea will often be bad

-This is because they don't always maintain the pearls or even the milk tea

“<There's a little hole in the wall place just down the street from here. Best pearl milk tea you've ever tasted. I'll take you there sometime>”

-This passage shows Wei Chan saying there's a place which sells amazing pearl milk tea which is probably a store that is meant for selling milk tea where they would make the pearls and milk tea fresh



Connections

“Shut up, Wei-Chen! I am not gonna...”

“Don’t be such a cowardly turtle! Raise your hand!”

“Wei-Chen are you volunteering?”

“*sigh* Yes Mr. Graham I would love very much to volunteer.”

“Thank you, Wei-Chen”

-In this passage, it is Wei Chen attempting to volunteer his friend Jin Wang but then fails and volunteers himself

-This relates to school because sometimes when the teacher is in need of a volunteer, the classmates friends usually try to volunteer their friend which often does not work like Wei Chen



Background Information

- 3 stories; characters are connected by wanting to fit in.
 - Takes place in 1980s, Ancient China.
 - Location: America/ the U.S./ Ancient China
 - Culture of the people: very stereotypical/racist.
 - Social condition: Chinese boy struggling to fit in.

American Born Chinese





Transformer

- Jin, Wei-Chen and the Monkey King want to become someone different
 - Jin transforms into a white boy named Danny.
 - Jin finds out that he is happier being Chinese than American.
- The Monkey King wants to be powerful and equal to other gods.
- The Monkey King transforms into a human until he figures out that it's better to be a monkey.

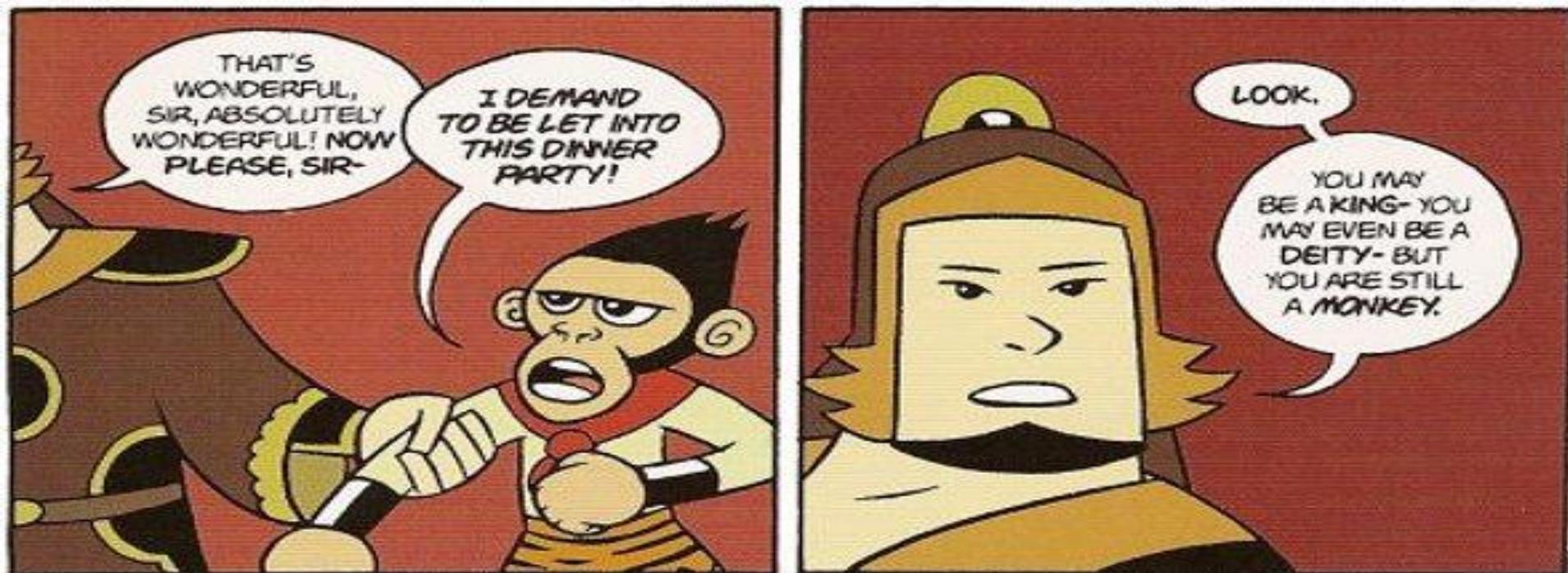
Disciple

- Disciple - personal follower.
- The Monkey King became a monk's disciple.
- The Monkey King was the favourite disciple of Taoist.
- The Monkey King realized it was good to be a monkey after the monk helped free him.



Discrimination

- This word is important because all three characters get discriminated against in the story.
 - Jin gets discriminated against just for being Chinese.
- The Monkey King gets discriminated against just because he is a monkey and not a true deity.
 - Wei-Chen gets discriminated against just because he is Chinese like Jin.
 - When the Monkey King got discriminated against, he was not happy.
- The Monkey King decided to beat up the other gods and goddesses to make himself feel better.



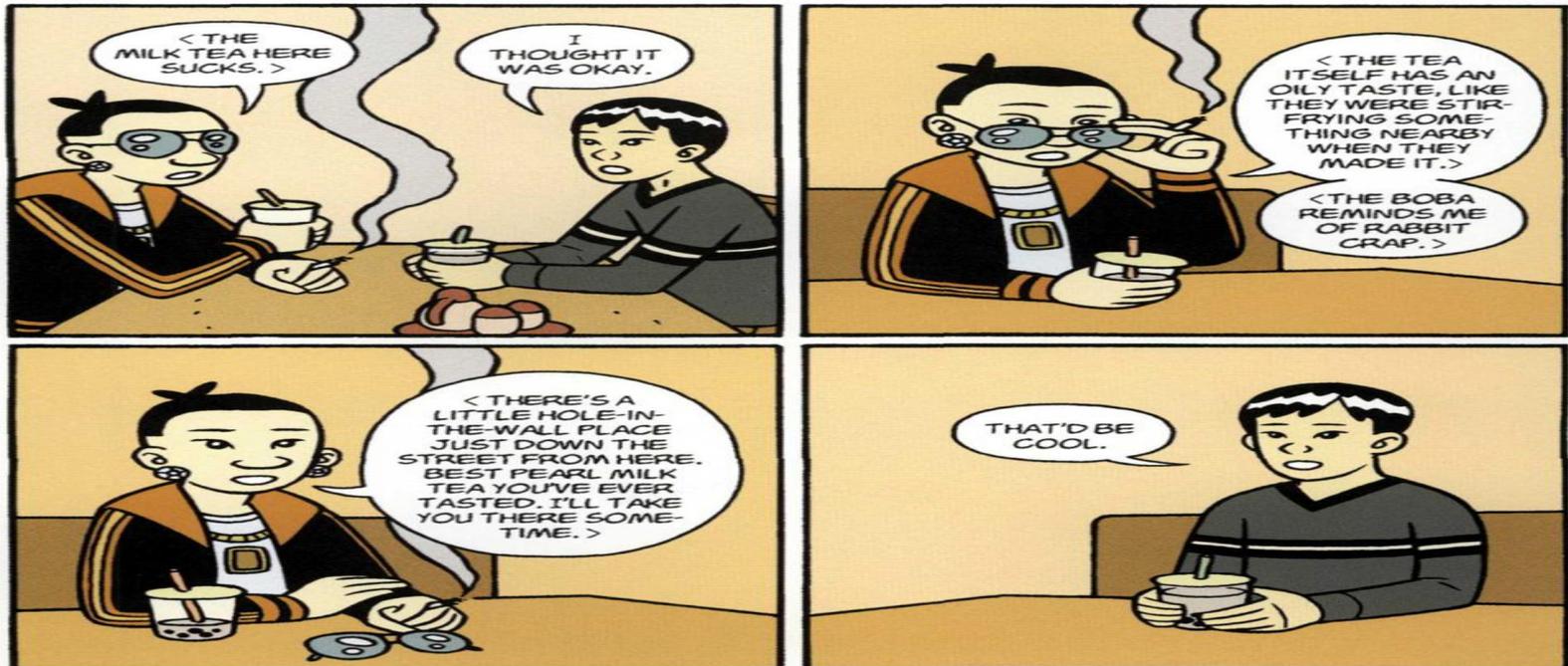
Identity

- All 3 characters have identity crises. (multiple crisis.)
- The Monkey King's identity crisis starts when he is told that he can't attend the dinner party in Heaven since he is wearing no shoes.
- Jin Wang's identity crisis starts when he doesn't have any friends because someone named Timmy who thinks Chinese ppl eat dogs.
- Wei-Chen's identity crisis starts when he tries to make friends but nobody wants to be his friend.
 - Like Jin Wang, Wei-Chen and the Monkey King have existential identity crises.



Acceptance

- The characters have to find acceptance within themselves for who they are.
- They have to accept the culture they come from in a world where others aren't accepting of other cultures.
- The characters learn that it doesn't matter if other people accept them, it matters if they accept themselves.



The Writer's style 1

"<The milk tea here sucks>"

"<The tea itself has an oily taste, like they were sti frying something nearby when they made it. The boba reminds me of rabbit crap.>"

-This passage shows the milk tea as oily because they were stir frying something next to which you could imagine happening in the kitchen

-Not only this passage helps you visualize why the milk tea is so bad, it also describes the taste the pearl milk tea, such as an oily taste and the pearls being like rabbit crap

-This passages shows the writer he likes to use imagery in his writing

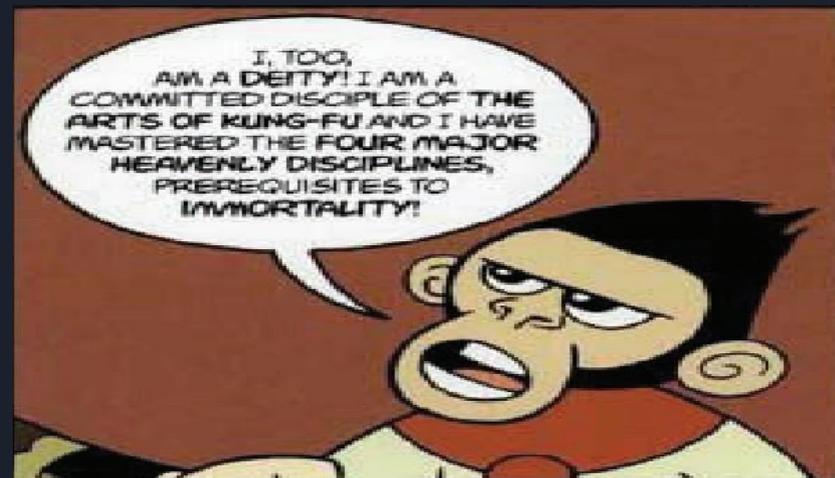
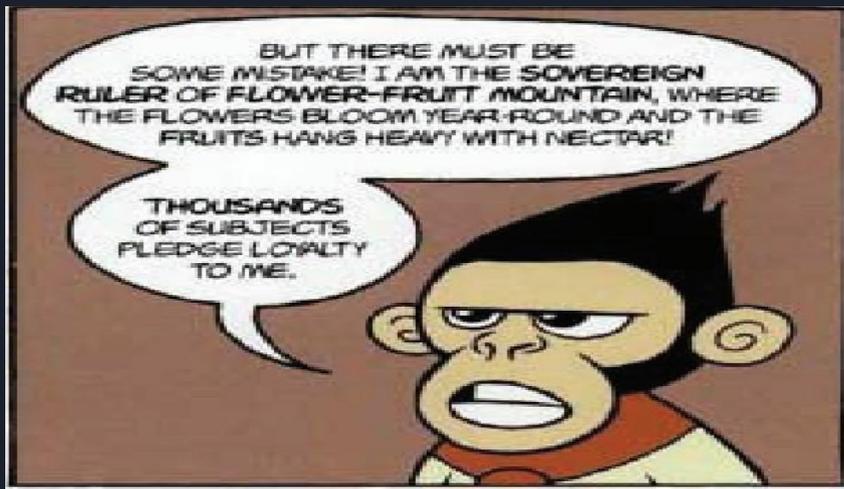


The writer's Style 2

“But there must be some mistake! I am the sovereign ruler of flower fruit mountain were the flowers bloom year-round and the fruits hang heavy with nectar! Thousands of subjects plead loyalty to me”

“I, too and a deity, i am a committed discipline of the arts of kung fu and i have mastered the four major heavenly disciplines prerequisites to immortality!

- These two quotes show that the Monkey King thinks very highly of himself and he is also considered a god. He is a ruler and feels as if he should be allowed into the dinner party
- We can also tell that when it comes to the monkey king section the author uses a different types of words, more ancient. When it goes to Jin-Wang's section its modern words, but when hes talking about the Monkey King he uses more ancient and descriptive words



Conclusion: Was it a good read?

- Share your group's overall impression of the novel.

Our group enjoyed the book because we thought it was well written and interesting - Hailey

- What made it a good read?

Some of the characters were comical and made me laugh - Hailey

- Would you read another book by the same author?

yes i would read another book by the same author maybe a graphic novel.-marissa

Of course - this author knows how to make people laugh - Hailey

- What type of reader might also enjoy this book?

a reader who likes graphic novels and comics -marissa

Someone who understands what it feels like to be discriminated against.

Credits

Setting, Complication, and Conflict

Hamza Zuberi

Illustrator and Character Studies

Marissa Allan

Passages and Connection

Cleon Liu

Background Information and Key Words

Hailey Betz

Writer's Style and Conclusion

Writer's Style 1 : **Cleon**

Writer Style 2: **Hamza**