In The Year Of The Boar And Jackie Robinson
Shirley Temple Wong sails from China to America with a heart full of dreams. Her new home is Brooklyn, New York. America is indeed a land full of wonders, but Shirley doesn’t know any English, so it’s hard to make friends. Then a miracle—baseball—happens. It is 1947, and Jackie Robinson, star of the Brooklyn Dodgers, is everyone’s hero. Jackie Robinson is proving that a black man, the grandson of a slave, can make a difference in America and for Shirley as well, on the ball field and off, America becomes the land of opportunity.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 730L (What's this?)

Paperback: 176 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; English Language edition (September 2, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0064401758


Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 5.2 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (122 customer reviews)


Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

When I read this book I had to read it for school. I am glad I did! This story takes place in New York City. Shirley Temple Wong is put in American school where everything is different. She tries to understand America but it’s hard because she only knows Chinese ways. This story about an immigrant Chinese girl trying to make friends and trying to keep true to her Chinese background. I think people of all ages should enjoy this book. I rate this book 5 stars. Enjoy!!!!

Wow. My sister read this book when she was my age and she said that she didn't like it that much. Well, I am the opposite of her. This book is great! In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson is...
about a girl who comes to America from China in 1948 or 1946 and has to learn English and fit in with American kids. It's fun to read about her struggles with life in Brooklyn, New York. I had to read this book for school, but do not regret it. And teachers, this book is a great book to read to your class. So pick up this book and start reading!

The book In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson is a particularly good book for young readers. It is not only entertaining but informative as well. Young readers and adults alike can relate to some of the awkward experiences that follow Shirley throughout her first year at her new school. In this book the author Bette Bao Lord uses her own experiences as a young immigrant to explore a child's need and concern to gain a sense of belonging in a "New World". Through Shirley Temple Wong's experiences in Brooklyn New York, we gain an insight into the difficulties an immigrant must endure in order to learn and adapt to a new culture. Throughout the book there are numerous examples that depict Shirley's journey as she tries to belong. "Day by day, week by week, little by little Shirley shrank until she was no more...why else did the class, which had welcomed her so warmly at first ignore her so now?" (Page 51) Shirley, being only a child does not know what is American culture, only that she wants to be a part of it. After unsuccessfully trying to copy what the school children do, she concentrates her attention on baseball. By gaining knowledge on the sport, she becomes a part of her school community. Baseball and the hero Jackie Robinson help Shirley learn about American culture and to gain new friends. Baseball also contributes to her gaining a sense of belonging in America without losing her Chinese culture.

The book is about a girl who goes to New York. She was born in China so she has to make new friends, and get used to the American tradition. So one day she decided to play baseball, after that she loved the game. She started to make new friends after she hit a home run. When she went up to bat everyone would cheer her on and it made her feel like part of the group. When Jackie Robinson was invited to their school she was greatly honored to present him with the key to their school. In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson is a very good book. Even though African-Americans weren't allowed to play in the baseball league, Jackie Robinson made it into the league and hit a bunch of home runs and became one of the leagues favorite players. I would recommend this book for people ages 9 and above.

(...) This book starts out in China where a young girl, named Bandit is forced to go to America. She must go because her father wants Bandit and her mother to move to America and make it their
home. Bandit is not sad however, because she'll finally get to be together with her father. Bandit takes the name of Shirly Temple Wong and starts her trip to America. At first she struggles but soon, she learns to play baseball and starts making friends. Something I like about this book is the way it is clear and understandable and also a little funny. Many people would be able to relate to some of her embarrassing moments. I think the book is very understandable because there are no big words and the sentences are kept simple. I could just read through the entire book without going back to make sure I read some paragraph right. "One sunny afternoon, Shirly leaned out the third story window of P. S 8 slapping the chalk from the class erasers." This quote is one of the good ones. It is clear and the author keeps it simple with enough detail to satisfy the reader. One part that was funny, and I could relate to was when Shirly got lost on her way back from the store. "What a fool she was! Nothing but a fool. Utterly ashamed, she hid her face in her arms." This quote from the book describes Shirly after she is lost and gives up. I remember many times when I was young and would get lost a lot and start getting scared. My favorite part of the book was when Shirly is told to go home. She thinks that the kids hate her and want her to go home, but really they meant to get her to run to home base. It is funny how some things can be misconceiving and how people may think very differently from others.

This is an incredible children's book!!! I cannot stress enough how much I loved it. I ordered this for my mom because she is an elementary English teacher. She bought this as one of the books to read with her class and is so glad she did. She has just adored this book! It is so cute and very accurate. She has been able to plan lots of fun activities with her students including a rewards system with candy and baseball cards, just like from the story. She also was able to bring fortune cookies to class and the kids enjoyed that, too. She has had so much fun with this book and it has been really cool for her to see the students enjoy the book and have some fun reading and learning about a girl their age from a different culture and time. She also got to talk with the students about the Chinese zodiac and explain to them what that is and what it means. She has had a blast with the book and so have the kids! If you're considering getting this for your child or someone you know, I highly recommend it!! It is so cute and this book is great. Very well written and very appropriate for elementary school kids! Give it a shot! You won't regret it :)

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