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Picture Books on Asian Transnational/-Racial Adoption

Since identity in transnational/-racial adoption is complex and often ambivalent and while many tensions exist in the lived experiences of such adoptees and in the scholarship on them, what is the purpose of picture books on transnational/-racial adoption beside fostering the habit of reading or initiating an appreciation for the graphic arts? To what degree can picture books communicate sensitive topics and the extreme situations of transnational/-racial adoption to children whose orientation in time, place, and reality is very limited? How can we introduce the antagonism of the social amid the attractiveness of confining the adoption story to a narrative of victimization or salvation? In my essay, through examining selected picture books that are reasonably popular and well known, I explore these questions in an investigation anchored to my primary inquiry into the purpose of picture books representing transnational/-racial adoption.