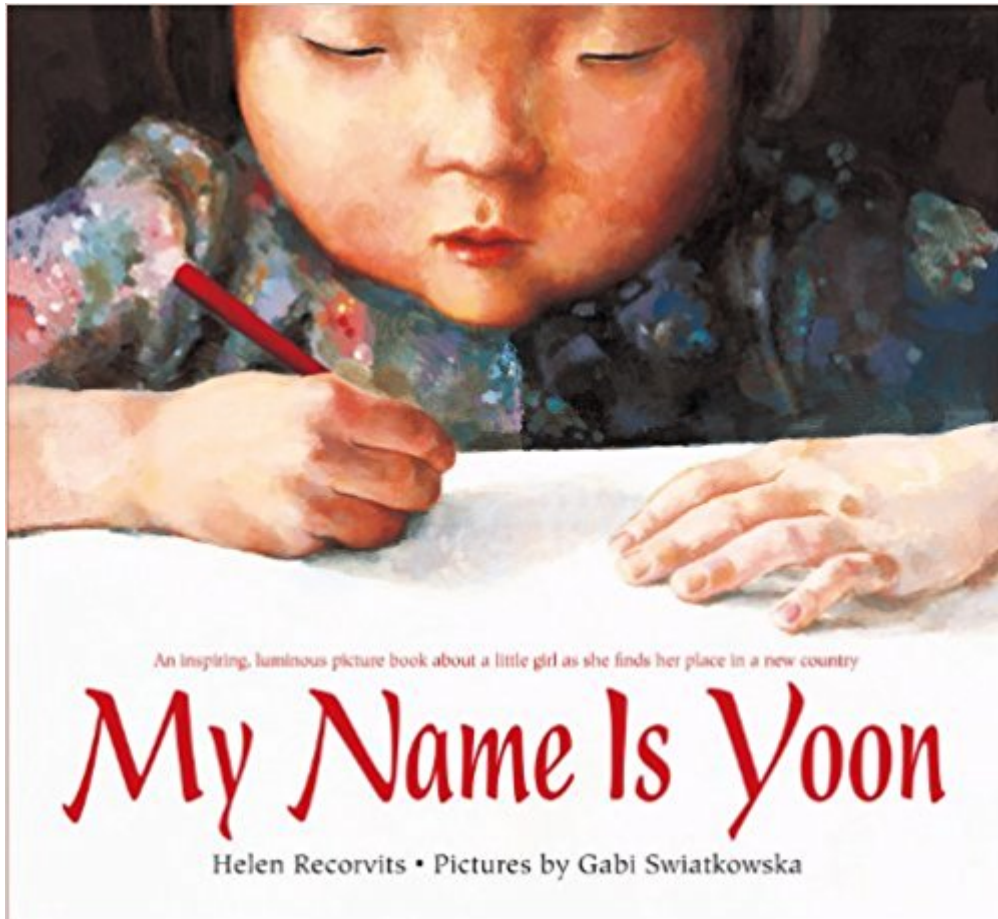




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My Name Is Yoon



Synopsis

Getting to feel at home in a new country Yoon's name means "shining wisdom," and when she writes it in Korean, it looks happy, like dancing figures. But her father tells her that she must learn to write it in English. In English, all the lines and circles stand alone, which is just how Yoon feels in the United States. Yoon isn't sure that she wants to be YOON. At her new school, she tries out different names—maybe CAT or BIRD. Maybe CUPCAKE! Helen Recorvits's spare and inspiring story about a little girl finding her place in a new country is given luminous pictures filled with surprising vistas and dreamscapes by Gabi Swiatkowska. *My Name Is Yoon* is a Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 480 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Square Fish; Reprint edition (June 10, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1250057116

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Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 0.1 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.3 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 24 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #19,850 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Asian & Asian American](#) #40 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > First Day of School](#) #45 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Kindergarten-Grade 2-With subtle grace, this moving story depicts a Korean girl's difficult adjustment to her new life in America. Yoon, or "Shining Wisdom," decides that her name looks much happier written in Korean than in English ("I did not like YOON. Lines. Circles. Each standing alone"). Still, she struggles to please her parents by learning an unfamiliar language while surrounded by strangers. Although her teacher encourages her to practice writing "Yoon," the child substitutes other words for her name, words that better express her inner fears and hopes. Calling

herself "CAT," she dreams of hiding in a corner and cuddling with her mother. As "BIRD," she imagines herself flying back to Korea. Finally, she pretends she is "CUPCAKE," an identity that would allow her to gain the acceptance of her classmates. In the end, she comes to accept both her English name and her new American self, recognizing that however it is written, she is still Yoon. Swiatkowska's stunningly spare, almost surrealistic paintings enhance the story's message. The minimally furnished rooms of Yoon's home are contrasted with views of richly hued landscapes seen through open windows, creating a dreamlike quality that complements the girl's playful imaginings of cats on the chalkboard, trees growing on walls, and a gleeful flying cupcake. At first glance, Yoon seems rather static, but her cherubic face reveals the range of her feelings, from sadness and confusion to playfulness, and finally pride. A powerful and inspiring picture book. Teri Markson, Stephen S. Wise Temple Elementary School, Los Angeles Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

K-Gr. 2. "I wanted to go back home to Korea. I did not like America. Everything was different here." Yoon doesn't want to learn the new ways. Her simple, first-person narrative stays true to the small immigrant child's bewildered viewpoint, and Swiatkowska's beautiful paintings, precise and slightly surreal, capture her sense of dislocation. Reminiscent of the work of Allen Say, the images set close-ups of the child at home and at school against traditional American landscapes distanced through window frames. In a classroom scene many children will relate to, everything is stark, detailed, and disconnected--the blackboard, the teacher's gestures, one kid's jeering face--a perfect depiction of the child's alienation. By the end, when Yoon is beginning to feel at home, the teacher and children are humanized, the surreal becomes playful and funny instead of scary, and Yoon is happy with friends in the wide, open school yard. Now she is part of the landscape. Hazel Rochman Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Yoon is a little girl who has moved to America from Korea. She feels very displaced and is unhappy with having to write her name in English. Korean writing is much more beautiful to her. This story illustrates how difficult it can be to move to another country and learn another language. It's hard and it often implies that a person must give up ways of living that the person holds dear. This story provides a smidgen of insight into this conflict.

A gentle study of a young child adapting to a new culture. A relative said it was reminiscent of how

she felt when she first came to America.

We love this book. Illustrations are beautiful. And its simple prose conveys Yoon's feelings so well

The book brought back memories of my grandmother who had told a story of her necklace that she let someone hold. That was the last time she ever saw it. This book teaches us a dear lesson, the pictures are beautiful as is the story.

An interesting perspective

Thank you for the great service, great book for our immigration unit. It gives another perspective of immigrants moving to another country.

great

Thank you

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