

Grace Lin

Children's Author and Illustrator

By: Cora Weitzel, Grace Denniston, and Hannah Vest



“A book can show you the world but
it can also show you a reflection of
yourself.” – Grace Lin

(“A Video Interview With Grace Lin”, 2020)

About Grace Lin

Grace Lin has had a passion for creating children's books since elementary school. She grew up in upstate New York with her older 3 sisters and parents. She attended Rhode Island School of Design, where she studied and created art. She used her artwork to publish her very first book “The Ugly Vegetables” in 1999. Grace Lin has made it her mission to write books that represent her Asian heritage and culture because she is trying to “capture the culture she didn't learn when she was younger and trying to recapture the things she didn’t know”.



(“A Video Interview With Grace Lin”, 2020)

About Her Books

- Picture Books
 - A big Bed for a Little Snow
 - A Big Mooncake for a Little Star
 - The Ugly Vegetables
- Early readers
 - Ling and Ting Series
- Novels
 - Year of the Dog
 - The Year of the Rat
 - Dumpling Days

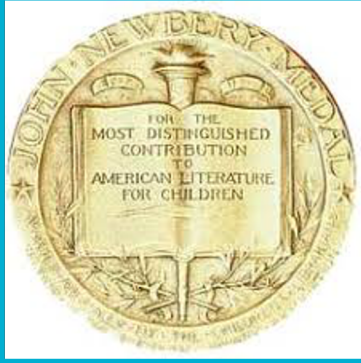
- Writes books that encompass her culture and heritage
- She believes that "Books erase bias, they make the uncommon everyday, and the mundane exotic. A book makes all cultures universal."

“Dress Kit” page 5)



Photo by: Danielle Tait

Awards



Nominations



The Ugly Vegetable

- California Young Reader Children's Choice Award

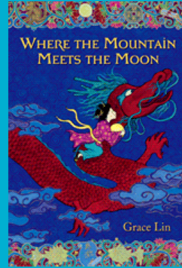
The Year of the Dog

- TX Bluebonnet list



Awards

- *The Ugly Vegetables*
 - Growing Good Kids Book Award CLASSIC
- *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*
 - 2010 Newbery Honor
 - Chosen for Al Roker's Today Show Kid's Book Club
 - NY Times Bestseller
- *Ling & Ting*
 - Theodor Geisel Honor in 2011
- *A Big Mooncake for a Little Star*
 - Caldecott Honor



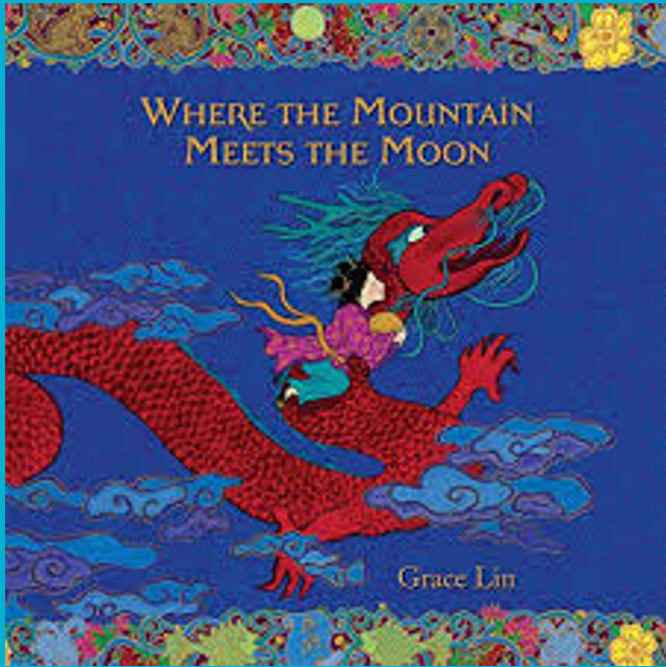
Grace originally dreamed of being a figure skater when she was a child. She drew pictures of herself spinning and skating on the ice. When she looked at these pictures she said:

**"Hey, these drawings are pretty good.
Maybe I'll be an artist."**

("Fun Facts", para. 2)

This led her to pursue her dream and become an illustrator and an author!

A book that has cultural meaning

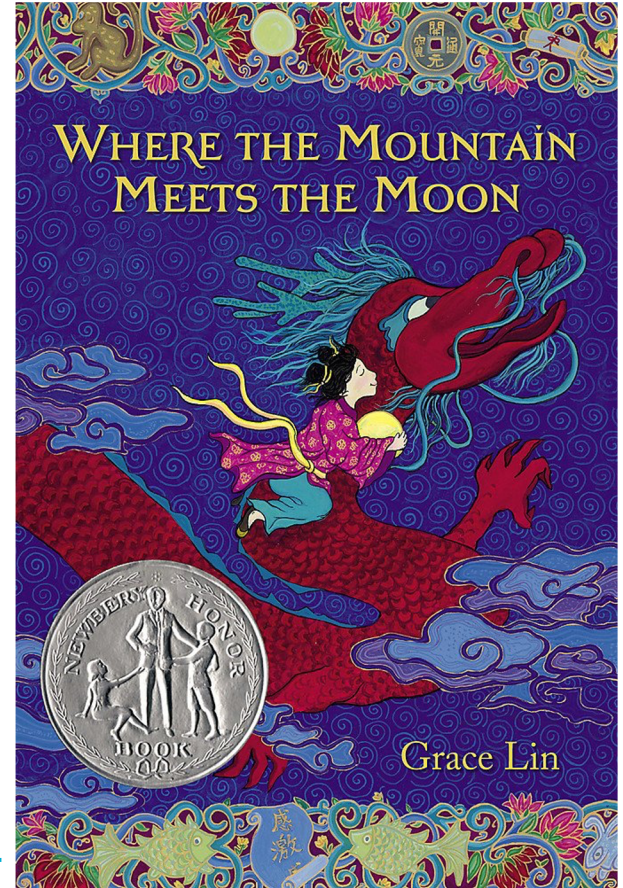


“Where the Mountain Meets the Moon” is incredibly important to the growth in multicultural literature. The book is often compared to the Wizard of Oz which we all know and love. In this book Grace Lin tried to come up with both characters and culture that we do not see often in children's books. This book was published in 2007 and the lack of multicultural literature was even worse than it is today. “Where the Mountain Meets the Moon” was able to introduce kids to characters that were people of color, without making them into a stereotype.

“If you make happy
those that are near,
those that are far
will come.”

-Grace Lin, *Where the Mountain
Meets the moon*

This book tells the story of Minli and
her journey to find the Old Man on
the Moon. She wants to ask him how
she can change her family's fortune.



A Big Mooncake for a Little Star

Published: 2018

Little Star, and her mom make a big mooncake and hang it in the sky to cool. Little Star eats the big mooncake night after night, until all that is left are crumbs in the sky. This is shown with the phases of the moon, as Little Star eats, the moon wanes.



Interview with Grace Lin

“Always write or draw something
that is important to you”



Discussion Questions!

Which book from the presentation stood out to you? Are there any that you would like to read?

How can you relate to Grace Lin's story?

Why is Grace Lin significant in multicultural literature?

Bibliography

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