



The Year of the Baby (An Anna Wang novel)

By Andrea Cheng

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Last year, Anna learned how to be a good friend. Now that her family has adopted a baby girl from China, she wants to learn how to be a good sister. But the new year proves challenging when the doctor warns that the baby isn't thriving. Can Anna and her best friends, Laura and Camille, create a science project that saves the day? In this heartwarming sequel to *The Year of the Book*, readers will be just as moved by Anna's devotion to her new sister as they will be inspired by her loving family and lasting friendships.

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The Year of the Baby (An Anna Wang novel) By Andrea Cheng Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 1-4-In this sequel to *The Year of the Book* (Houghton Harcourt, 2012), Anna Wang's parents have adopted a toddler from China. Kaylee's failure to thrive is being monitored by an unsupportive doctor, and Anna's mother is frantic about the child's low weight and resistance to food. Even Grandma Wang's herbs do not entice her to eat. Meanwhile, Anna cannot think of an original science project that "really matters" until she and her Chinese friend Camille stumble upon something. As Camille sings a Chinese song, Kaylee seems mesmerized and eats more than usual. Anna and her project partners design a controlled experiment that proves their hypothesis: listening to songs, especially those in Chinese, encourages Kaylee to eat. And indeed, she gains nearly a pound. The experiment is entered in the town-wide science fair. Anna learns to appreciate the wisdom of Camille, who struggles academically but possesses a serene emotional intelligence. This book deals deftly with a range of thorny adoption- and ethnic-stereotyping issues, such as the abandonment of female Chinese infants and the assumption that all Asians are gifted students, and it has special meaning for families touched by adoption. The delicate black-and-white drawings scattered throughout the straightforward text help make this a good choice for readers new to chapter books, and it will appeal to fluent readers looking for a compelling story.-Deborah Vose, Highlands Elementary School, Braintree, MA(c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From Booklist

In this follow-up to *The Year of the Book* (2012), the focus of 11-year-old narrator Anna shifts to the new girl in the house, adopted a few months ago from China. Now in fifth grade, Anna exhibits the same understated thoughtfulness she did in the last book. Cheng deftly shows how Anna thinks through a problem, whether it is a science-project topic or the fact that her little sister, Kaylee, hasn't gained enough weight to satisfy the pediatrician. Cheng's tying up of story threads is as tidy as Barton's spot illustrations. To top it off, young cooks get a recipe for bao zi buns. Grades 2-4. --Abby Nolan

Review

"Middle-grade readers will find many ways to connect with Anna and her friends in this warm family and school story."

—*Kirkus*

"This book deals deftly with a range of thorny adoption- and ethnic-stereotyping issues, such as the abandonment of female Chinese infants and the assumption that all Asians are gifted students, and it has special meaning for families touched by adoption."

—*School Library Journal, starred review*

"The science-fair and adoption angles make this useful in a number of settings, and readers who have followed Anna since fourth grade will hope Cheng goes on to keep tabs on her as she reaches sixth grade."

—*Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Mildred McConkey:

What do you concentrate on book? It is just for students since they are still students or the idea for all people in the world, the particular best subject for that? Just simply you can be answered for that issue above. Every person has diverse personality and hobby for each other. Don't to be pushed someone or something that they don't need do that. You must know how great in addition to important the book The Year of the Baby (An Anna Wang novel). All type of book can you see on many resources. You can look for the internet solutions or other social media.

Michael Roberts:

The Year of the Baby (An Anna Wang novel) can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to put every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing The Year of the Baby (An Anna Wang novel) however doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource info that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information may drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial imagining.

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