Lorgnette v.36 no.4 Book Review: YOU ARE HERE: CONNECTING FLIGHTS

Quarterly Review of Children's and Young Adults' Books

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Illustrator

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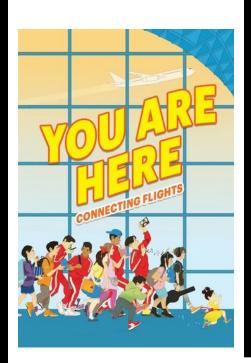
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Grade Level 4-7



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YOU ARE HERE contains 12 short stories written by 12 authors with the common setting of an international airport. The 12 characters experience the ugly truth of racism. In each story, we see the impact of racism on the character's emotions. The characters are scared, intimidated, and unsure of what to do. At the airport, the nerves of the travelers are on edge due to a terrible thunderstorm that is causing delays and cancellations. A preteen traveling by himself must justify owning a guitar because he is Asian American. Another young man tries to understand the unkind words of a fellow traveler belittling the Asian culture and the feelings of a young girl going to her place of birth. She is troubled because she doesn't know the language or customs. Her adoptive parents want her to see and explore the country where she was born. She finally tells them she doesn't want to go. The authors' empathy and possible personal experience in this situation come through in each story.

The authors include Traci Chee, Mike Chen, Meredith Ireland, Mike Jung, Erin Entrada Kelly, Minh Le, Grace Lin, Ellen Oh, Linda Sue Park, Randy Ribay,



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Christina Soontornvat, and Susan Tan. The stories were edited by Ellen Oh.

YOU ARE HERE: CONNECTING FLIGHTS is an excellent selection for your middle school library. This title is also on the 2024-25 Texas Bluebonnet Award List.

