



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73
(Kamloops-Thompson)

SD73 Resource Review



Title	Front Desk
Author / Editor / Publisher	Kelly Yang / Levine Books/Scholastic in Ink
Copyright	2018
ISBN	9781338157826
Recommended Grades	5-7

GENRE / THEME Indicate with an X all that apply.							
	Adventure		Fantasy		LGBTQ / SOGI	X	Realistic Fiction
	Anthology		Graphic Novel	X	Multiculturalism		Science Fiction
	Auto / Biography	X	Historical		Mystery / Suspense		Survival
X	Coming of Age		Humour / Satire		Narrative Poem		Other
	Dystopia		Indigenous		Nonfiction		

DESCRIPTION
<p>Mia Tang has a lot of secrets:</p> <p>Number 1: She lives in a motel, not a big house. Every day, while her immigrant parents clean the rooms, ten-year-old Mia manages the front desk of the Calivista Motel and tends to its guests.</p> <p>Number 2: Her parents hide immigrants. And if the mean motel owner, Mr. Yao, finds out they've been letting them stay in the empty rooms for free, the Tangs will be doomed.</p> <p>Number 3: She wants to be a writer. But how can she when her mom thinks she should stick to math because English is not her first language?</p> <p>It will take all of Mia's courage, kindness, and hard work to get through this year. Will she be able to hold on to her job, help the immigrants and guests, escape Mr. Yao, and go for her dreams?</p>

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important themes of resilience, grit, and empowerment dominate this wonderful novel. • This novel tackles big discussion topics like racism / racial profiling, stereotyping, exploitation of immigrants, the challenges that non-English speakers face when coming to the USA and Canada, and also discusses reasons for immigrating to a new country (China's one-child policy and political unrest, end of British rule).

BC CURRICULUM FIT Indicate with an X all that apply.			
	Applied Design, Skills, and Technology		Languages (Core French, German, Japanese, Spanish, etc.)
	Arts Education		Mathematics
	Career Education		Physical and Health Education
X	English Language Arts		Science
	French Immersion Language Arts	X	Social Studies

CORE COMPETENCY FIT Indicate with an X all that apply.			
X	Communicating	X	Positive Personal and Cultural Identity
X	Collaborating	X	Personal Awareness and Responsibility
X	Creative Thinking	X	Social Awareness and Responsibility
X	Critical and Reflective Thinking		

GENERAL CONTENT To what extent does each apply? Indicate with E, M, S, or N. <u>E</u> xtensively <u>M</u> oderately <u>S</u> lightly <u>N</u> ot at all	
E	Is the content engaging, accurate, and current?
E	Does the text represent different perspectives? (e.g. male, female, LGBTQ, Aboriginal, diverse cultures, BC-context)
E	Does it show insight into the complexity of being human?
E	Does it broaden students' experiences and understandings?
E	Is the content appropriate for the emotional maturity of most students at the intended grade level?
E	Could most students at the intended grade level read this text with high accuracy and understanding?
E	Is the text well-suited to a teacher read aloud?
E	Is the text well-suited to whole-class study?
E	Is the text well-suited to literature circles?
E	Is the text well-suited to independent reading?

DESIGN To what extent does each apply? Indicate with E, M, S, N, or NA. <u>E</u> xtensively <u>M</u> oderately <u>S</u> lightly <u>N</u> ot at all <u>NA</u> pplicable	
E	Is the use of font, text size effective and uniform?
NA	Do the illustrations and/or text features enhance learning?
M	Are extraneous elements helpful? (e.g. preface, footnotes, glossary, extension activities)

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS		
Indicate if the treatment of the consideration is A, U, or NA. <u>A</u> cceptable <u>U</u> nacceptable <u>N</u> ot <u>A</u> pplicable		Comments/ Reasons/ References
A	Age	A young 5th grade girl works in a motel to help support her family and must navigate her non-English speaking parents through the challenges of running a business in a new country.
A	Gender Roles	Strong, young female protagonist
NA	Aboriginal Peoples	
A	Multiculturalism	Immigrants' struggles and sacrifices Unfair treatment of black people
NA	Gender Identity / Sexual Orientation	
A	Ability / Disability	
A	Belief System	Racism - Several characters endure unfair treatment based solely on the stereotypes relating to their race. 'Bad guys' is the euphemism the motel owner uses for black people.
A	Social-Economic	Living in poverty
A	Violence	Main character has a confrontation with an intoxicated adult. Police beat up a suspect. Mother gets beaten up by thieves. Threatening behaviour by adults shown to the main character and her family.
A	Ethical / Legal	Exploitation of immigrants Unfair treatment of people based on stereotypes and race (racial profiling) Loan Sharks
A	Humour	
A	Safety	Unsafe working conditions Robbery and beatings Alcohol abuse
A	Language	Reflects the challenges that come with having English as a second language.
A	Sustainability	

REVIEW COMPLETED

Date April 2021