Stories Matter

The Complexity of Cultural Authenticity in Children's Literature

Edited by

Dana L. Fox Georgia State University

Kathy G. Short University of Arizona

National Council of Teachers of English 1111 W. Kenyon Road, Urbana, Illinois 61801-1096

Contents

Ack	Acknowledgments	
і. Т	The Sociopolitical Contexts of Cultural Authenticity	
1.	The Complexity of Cultural Authenticity in Children's Literature: Why the Debates Really Matter Kathy G. Short and Dana L. Fox	3
2.	Reframing the Debate about Cultural Authenticity Rudine Sims Bishop	25
	The Perspectives of Authors, Illustrators, and Editors on Cultural Authenticity	
3.	Who Can Tell My Story? Jacqueline Woodson	41
4.	"Around My Table" Is Not Always Enough W. Nikola-Lisa	46
5.	Authentic Enough: Am I? Are You? Interpreting Culture for Children's Literature Susan Guevara	50
6.	The Candle and the Mirror: One Author's Journey as an Outsider Judi Moreillon	61
7.	A Mess of Stories Marc Aronson	78
8.	To Stingo with Love: An Author's Perspective on Writing outside One's Culture Kathryn Lasky	84
9.	Multiculturalism Is Not Halloween Thelma Seto	93
III.	Political Correctness and Cultural Authenticity	
10.	Beyond Political Correctness Hazel Rochman	101

11.	The Complexity of Debates about Multicultural Literature and Cultural Authenticity Violet J. Harris	116
12.	"Authenticity," or the Lesson of Little Tree Henry Louis Gates Jr.	135
13.	Multicultural Literature and the Politics of Reaction Joel Taxel	143
IV.	The Perspectives of Educators on Cultural Authenticity	
14.	Can We Fly across Cultural Gaps on the Wings of Imagination? Ethnicity, Experience, and Cultural Authenticity Mingshui Cai	167
15.	Accuracy and Authenticity in American Indian Children's Literature: The Social Responsibility of Authors and Illustrators Elizabeth Noll	182
16.	Accuracy Is Not Enough: The Role of Cultural Values in the Authenticity of Picture Books Weimin Mo and Wenju Shen	198
17.	Artistic Triumph or Multicultural Failure? Multiple Perspectives on a "Multicultural" Award-Winning Book Laura B. Smolkin and Joseph H. Suina	213
18.	Images of West Africa in Children's Books: Replacing Old Stereotypes with New Ones? Vivian Yenika-Agbaw	231
19.	The Use of Spanish in Latino Children's Literature in English: What Makes for Cultural Authenticity? Rosalinda B. Barrera and Ruth E. Quiroa	247
V . (Connecting Cultural Authenticity to the Classroom	
20.	Multiple Definitions of Multicultural Literature: Is the Debate Really Just "Ivory Tower" Bickering? Mingshui Cai	269
21.	The Trivialization and Misuse of Multicultural Literature: Issues of Representation and Communication Zhihui Fang, Danling Fu, and Linda Leonard Lamme	284

"I'm Not from Pakistan": Multicultural Literature and the Problem of Representation	
Curt Dudley-Marling	304
Index	
Editors	
Contributors	