

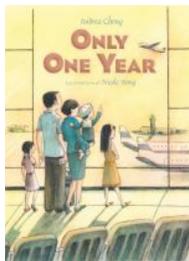


Andrea Cheng

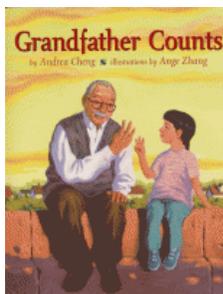
Andrea Cheng's international outlook springs from her life and inspires her writing. The daughter of Hungarian immigrants, she grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio, in a bilingual, three-generation family. She majored in English at Cornell University and went on to earn a Master's Degree in linguistics there. At college, her sense of herself as an outsider spurred her to write. She recalls, "I felt like I could write intimately about a number of worlds from both inside and out." She met her husband, Jim Cheng, the son of Chinese immigrants, at Cornell. The parents of three grown children, Andrea and Jim now live in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Cheng's first book, the text for a picture book, *Grandfather Counts*, a Reading Rainbow Recommended Title, looks inside the Chinese immigrant experience, as do her recent books, *Shanghai Messenger*, a Junior Library Guild Selection, and *Only One Year*. An intimate knowledge of Hungary and Hungarian immigrant life enriches her novels *The Lace Dowry*, *The Bear Makers*, a Smithsonian Notable Children's Book, and *Eclipse*.

Selected Bibliography



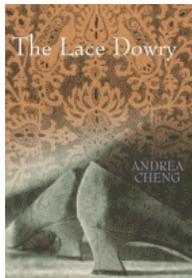
Only One Year (2010). After their hard-working Chinese American parents send their two-year-old brother Di Di to China to be cared for by their grandparents, school-aged sisters Sharon and Mary are bereft.



Grandfather Counts (2000). An English-speaking biracial girl struggles to communicate with her Chinese grandfather, Gong Gong, who has traveled from China to live with her family.



Shanghai Messenger (2005). When May leaves her mixed race family in America to visit relatives in Shanghai, her Chinese grandmother tells her “You are my messenger. Look....Remember.”



The Lace Dowry (2005). Twelve-year-old Julie, living in 1933 Budapest, at first resists her mother's determination to commission a fine linen dowry from a village lace maker, then discovers a startling new world as she connects with the lace maker's daughter.

Links of Interest

- <http://www.andreacheng.com>
Andrea Cheng's official web site.
- http://www.papertigers.org/interviews/archived_interviews/acheng.html
Interview with writer Andrea Cheng.

Andrea Cheng is a member of USBBY. [Why not join her?](#)

