

Level 2: Beginning Writers

Winner: Wendy Garcia
Oceanside Public Library, Oceanside READS

Book: *Hana's Suitcase*

Author: Karen Levine

November 12, 2019

Dear Karen Levine,

I read the book "Hana's Suitcase" because it was an interesting book for me. The book is about how Fumiko Ishioka, a Japanese teacher, found the history of the person who was the owner of a suitcase. Fumiko worked very hard to know the life of Hana because she wants to teach the students a lesson. I want to say thank you because you dedicated a lot of time; I learned a lot from this book.

When I read the book I was affected by the way Fumiko Ishioka worked with passion to find all kinds of things to show her students. Because she wants to have an impact on the students. She worked more than usual and she decided to travel to find many more things about Hana. She went to many places to find Hana's things.

Another thing that impacted me about Hana was that she was a young girl who lost her life to the Nazis during the war. Hana was losing things little by little. I have two girls and I can't imagine if they had to live the same experiences as Hana during the Nazis' power. I feel Hana was a brave girl trying to survive and hoping to be with her family. Unfortunately, she didn't survive and died at a young age. It is terrible to imagine losing my girls and to think about the great life Hana could have had if she had survived.

Another thing that was very bad was the power Hitler obtained to be able to change Hana's family and the Jewish people. Hana had many restrictions in all activities that made her sad and very disappointed but she tried to survive because her brother gave her hope.

In my experience, hope is one of the more important things that I can relate to this story with my life. My childhood was very sad because my mother hated me. I don't know the real reason but I think it was because I was adopted by her and I wasn't her real child. She hit me for many years. The reason I want to live was hoping to grow and be able to take care of myself. That's why for me it is very important to live with hope.

This book is about Fumiko Ishioka's travels around the world collecting things and information about a girl named Hana. The reason she did this was to do a better job teaching her students about the tragic loss of Jewish people's lives to the Nazis during World War II.

Fumiko Ishioka wanted to make a greater impact on students to try to convince them that this should never happen again.

These terrible acts can never happen again.

Thank you,

Wendy Garcia