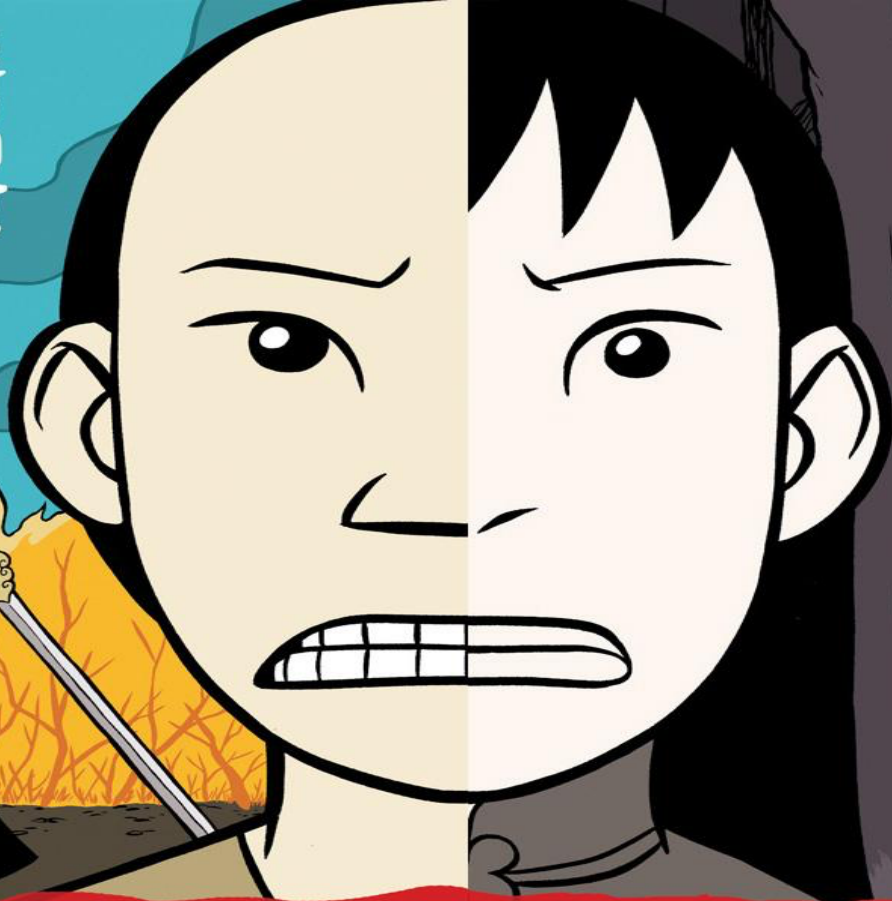


NEW YORK TIMES-BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF  
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BOXERS & SAINTS

# Gene Luen Yang

Been making graphic novels since fifth grade.

“ In 2006, my book [American Born Chinese](#) was published by [First Second Books](#). It became the first graphic novel to be nominated for a National Book Award and the first to win the American Library Association’s Printz Award.”



# *BOXERS & SAINTS*

-Takes place during Boxers Rebellion

**BOXERS:** Bao, spurned by the mistreatment of his village and fellow chinese people, fights to get rid of the foreign devils. But the rebellion he fights for has many trails.

**Saints:** Vibiana, the unwanted fourth child in a family, seeks to find her place in life. After seeing visions of Joan of Arch, she joins the church to hold her place in life. However, to do so is to betray her homeland.

# Boxers: The Vow

“Ta da!...Just like the three Brothers of the Peach Blossom Tree Oath” (*Boxers* 137-138)

The passage has the three brothers make a vow to stay by each other sides to fight for justice, just like the heros of old, giving them more resolve to keep fighting. It is also acts as a symbol of their bond.





# Saints: A Final Prayer

“Hey, let me teach you a Prayer...My name is Vibiana” (*Saints* 159-161)

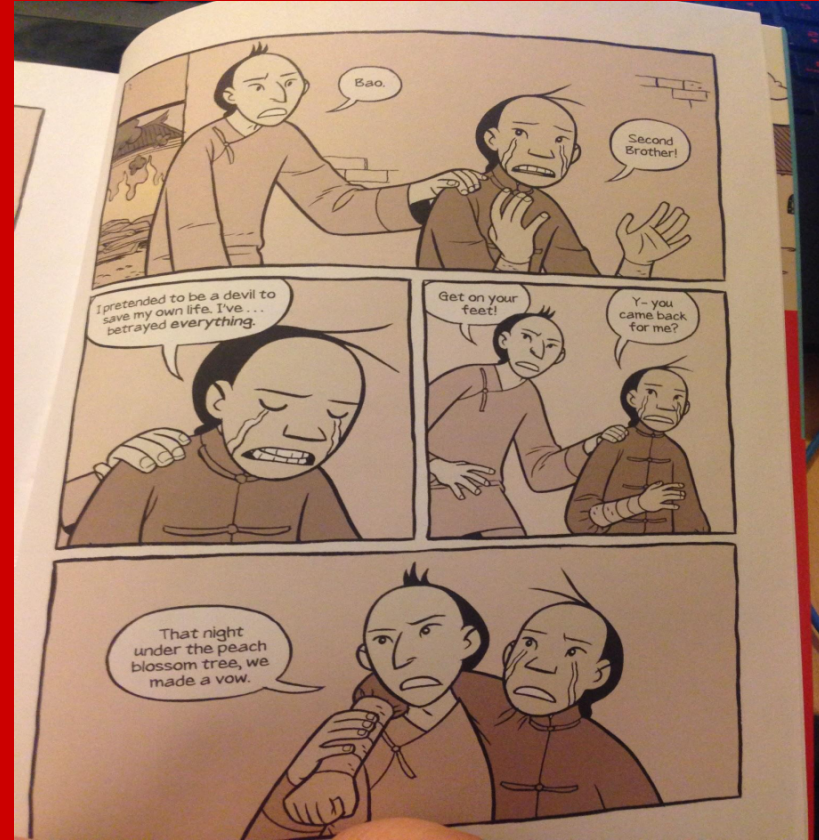
In the passage, Vibiana gives her enemy, Bao, a prayer lesson. Bao, wanting to spare her, tells her to renounce her faith, but Vibiana doesn't. She refuses as it is the faith that gave her a place in life and a real name.



# Epilouge: The Prayer saves the Vow

“Our Father...That night under the peach blossom tree, we made a vow.” (*Saints* 167-169)

Bao, having lost the rebellion and the war, pretends to be a christian in order to save his life. While he feels like he betrayed everything he fought for, His brother Chuan-tai reminds him of the vow they took, to stay by each other's side till death.



# Yang's Style of Writing

Yang's style of writing stories is in graphic novel format. By doing so his stories flow more easily and leaves little to the imagination. This is important as the story is historical fiction and thus much take place in our own world. The stories of Bao and Vibiana give two aspects of how war the young. *Boxers & Saints* offers teens and young adults the opportunity to see how war shapes people's lives and give them resolve to believe in what they want, despite the trials. The best part of it is that Yang has both Bao and Vibiana lose, offering a truly neutral tone to the story.

# Where B&S fits in today's world.

- Historical Fiction

- Teaching about the effects of War on young people

- Other readings



# Text Complexity

According to Yang's Website: Recommended for High Schoolers

ATOS: 2.9-3.0 Middle School.

The text complexity ranges from middle school and high school. I believe that it is best for High school as it deals with the social issues of war and the complexity of one's identity and stand in said war.

# Reference and another Reading by Yang

<http://geneyang.com/>

American Born Chinese- An anthologies of three seperate tales that all linked together. In the book, Yang has the conflict of personal identity in a foreign land as a major plot point.