



Article

Journey of Self-Discovery and Historical Pain reflected through Wiradjuri Culture in Tara June Winch's *The Yield*

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Article Information	Abstract
Received : December 4, 2023 Revised : December 15, 2023 Accepted : December 29, 2023 Published: January 4, 2024	Discrimination and violence against indigenous communities have persisted for decades, with many individuals sacrificing their lives to preserve cultural values and languages. Tara June Winch, in her novel <i>The Yield</i> , artfully captures the love and honor for language, portraying the history of Wiradjuri culture and the indigenous people's enduring struggle for survival. The characters are meticulously crafted, allowing readers to grasp the context and empathize with their emotions. August, the central character, returns after decades for her grandfather's funeral, revealing the stagnation in the community's living conditions. As the narrative unfolds, August's memories, intertwined with her grandfather's dictionary, provide a poignant journey through time, shedding light on the harsh realities faced by the indigenous community. Winch masterfully weaves together elements of love, culture, and resilience, delivering a powerful narrative that resonates with the ongoing battle against discrimination and violence.
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INTRODUCTION

Tara June Winch's *The Yield* showcases the love for culture and nation to a large extent. In every part of the book in every line one's love attraction for the nation has been portrayed beautifully. The story has all the shades, it has brutality, it is love for culture, love for community and more essentially it is the book that talks about the history of Wiradjuri culture. Includes important aspects of native Australians heritage such as the language that should be perceived and the narration comes from the voices. This novel is considered to explore the issue of Aboriginal identity as it is to do with four major aspects connected to Aboriginality that are particularly relevant in the novel: language and culture, history and traditions (Korff, 2021).

Beginning of the story the readers can see that August Goondiwindi is coming home from England after several years to attend her grandfather's funeral (Winch, 2021). As mentioned earlier this book has various narrations and the second merit is Albert who relates his family at the time of working on a dictionary on the Wiradjuri language to maintain the cultural link in the community and Surf for the community and the Heritage of the native Australian people (Boroditsky, 2011). The story is full of Shades something it is heartbreaking and even worse in some scenarios when the author describes the tragic events, cruelty and disrespect to the indigenous inhabitants of the community. It is the story of losing place, families and overall identity. *The Yield* can be seen from several perspectives and from each

perspective the story tells the brutality of a certain time and certain people and the suffering of the native or the Wiradjuri people.

The author Tara June winch has shown the emotion of the native people for their culture and for their history and at the same time it is heartbreaking to see the losses of the native people and the love and sense of belonging for each other. Literature perspective the overall presentation of the story and the representation of each character is unique and it helps the reader to understand the perception of the main characters and their psychology. Each character is extremely well portrayed and one can establish connection with the characters and understand their standpoint on their love towards a culture that is their overall existence.

The story literally begins after the death of Poppy Goondiwindi; his granddaughter comes to attend her funeral after so long a time. Poppy who is dead but eventually brought back to life with the help of the words in the dictionary that he was writing each word that was written in the dictionary and the story of each word is not only heart touching but this helps the reader to witness the history of that particular time (Fry, [2020](#)). The readers can see August's journey and her determination to protect her land from the mining company that shows journey and power of love for home place. August has the right to live behind her pain, her sorrow and the suffering she has seen from her childhood and therefore she was living in England for 10 years.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The Present and the Flashback

At the time of her grandfather's funeral when she came to know about the present scenario of our place she instantaneously determined that this place cannot be ruined by the mining company therefore she decided to fight against the mining company. This time was emotionally challenging for August as after so long of a trauma, she has come to that place where she had so many bad memories. She remembers that she is a survivor of a battle that has Forts each and every day by them as a consequence of some unforgettable event that happened before their birth. She even remembers that she lost her friend, her only sister Jedda who mysteriously disappeared (Wagner, [2021](#)). The childhood trauma and her experiences have made her escape from her native place in order to provide safety. From the overall book it is clear that the characters have a sense of love for their language and here language and culture means more than just a word.

The Yield is about the history of Wiradjuri and for one of the main characters August it is prestige and an honour to take initiative for her community and herself. The dictionary of August's grandfather tells the reader about the history of the Wiradjuri people and their culture and heritage. From the narratives of her grandfather the reader can see that they have had a lot of incidents happen in the past and mysterious letters of German immigrants have been found from the dictionary of August grandfather that has been written for British society geography.

This story reminds of many things as the story talks about Refugee immigrants and moreover a it is the witness of a period it is the weakness of an incident that has happened in the past. It is observed that August is not comfortable and her past memories are continuously haunting her and it is giving rise to the discomfort and eventually settling down. 10 years ago she is kept to provide safety and now she is back in her home place and the situation is worse that she can't even eat and hungry at the same time the author have described the scenario in such a way that "All feelings creep over her body everywhere like wake up comatose nurse of the skin the undead string" (Winch, [2021](#)). June has portrayed her character in such a way that the readers can see many dimensions and shapes that zoom a sense of anxiety that eventually

makes hopelessness oddly comforting. The author has described a scenario in this manner that "All the answering of the phone and the breaking of the news she felt something dark and three dimensional fallout of a body something as solid as a self should become less suddenly" (Fry, [2020](#)). The book is about the history of the past that has already happened but at the same time it is also about what is going to happen next. The characters and the story telling even the overall representation suggest that sometimes absence is not purely loss this can also help an individual to initiate the next move. In simple words absence can even act as a reagent to boost the action.

In the context of the story the action means to August is to order the life of her elder sister Jedda and her grandfather poppy. *The Yield* is one of the most effective books that have a well linguistic representation and this event touches on environmental exfoliation to a large extent. This story tells about the aboriginal incarnation rates, child sexual abuses and the bond within an individual with their Heritage and their ethnic and culture (Connor, [2021](#)). On the other hand, this talks about the hope and undefeated will power of an individual. It can be said that, there is a strong theme of recovery both from the cultural and personal aspects that are weed through the narration of the characters in the book. When poppy Gondiwindi's grandchild; August, came to the frictional helmet of massacre planes for his funeral at that time she expectedly felt kindness and had successfully established a connection with the community (Hazouard, [2022](#)).

The story is inspiring and the overall presentation of the story is nothing less than a must-see that portrays all the shades of emotions and psychic expression of an individual to a large extent. The author has utilised her skills and it is reflected throughout the novel. She has successfully portrayed all the emotions and the way she has represented the scenario and has developed all the characters that helps leaders to establish a connection with the character and at same time understand the circumstances of the history that have been decades ago.

Poppy Goondiwindi was born in the middle of peace of war right between the thought at the beginning of the act and shadows that came after. He played the role of a guide and a mentor on the overall journey of August. The character of Poppy Goondiwindi is well structured and loves his culture and language Portrait throughout the novel to a large extent As the story begins with his funeral therefore in the entire study poppy have communicated with the leaders so his dictionary. The readers came to know about some events and the memory of Poppy Goondiwindi who is a dictionary and from there his love and responsibilities towards his community and country is reflected. From this story the author portrays once love and respect towards your culture and language to a large extent this eventually helps the reader to establish a relation with the character and understand their point of view and their emotions. In one of the parts Poppy Gondiwindi has mentioned "I think I take the words where I want them to go, my ancestors ' stories and the Bible too" (Winch, [2021](#)). The dictionary of Poppy Goondiwindi tells the story of a generation and this also helps readers to witness a period drama and a tragic history of native of Wiradjuri (Fry, [2020](#)).

The dictionary is about respect for yindyamarra- and deep time acknowledgement and validates the recollection that is poppy's gift to his only family and for his community. This novel is a witness to Wiradjuri language and this also portrayed the unique style of Tara June Winch. The author's traits always corral the rich and wider context of culture and ethnicity, such as the innovation of her souffle of nineties pop culture of Jedda and August's childhood. The character that has been portrayed in the novel showcases all the rich culture and communal essence to a large extent. The novel is about the "elementary miracles of rediscovering oneself on findings, in the neon-lit recess of lives and historical pain- a home" (Wagner, [2021](#)). It can

be stated that, *The Yield* is a story of the history of a Wiradjuri culture and the circumstances that are faced by the local habitat and the characters. It is battle, a battle of existence, survival and pride for the culture and community.

Context

The Yield talks about the history and the life experience of Wiradjuri people and the experience of August and her grandfather Albert poppy Goondiwindi and the 19th century missionary Reverend Greenleaf. This book is one of the books that have portrayed aboriginal culture and moreover the identity of the characters in wider audiences. The author showcases the shades of the characters beautifully and that has helped the readers to establish a connection with the time period and with the emotions of the characters. Tara June Winch is Wiradjuri author and she was born in Australia in the year 1983 and based in France. *The Yield* is her second novel and in this novel her sentiment towards her culture and origin is clearly noticeable. After the publication of the book Winch won the Miles Franklin award which is one of the most prestigious awards in Australia in literature (Wagner, [2021](#)). Through the novel Poppy's dictionary runs through with English words that is given to their Wiradjuri translation and each has a short glimpse by stating its connection to family, land and to the overall story. Tying up into a rich and comprehensive catalogue of words and each provides a short brief of civilization that the colonists of the native worked to eliminate are the two other narratives. In the novel the readers can see that one of the main characters August is introduced as the granddaughter of Poppy who has come back from England after a decade.

When August came to her home place to attend her grandfather's funeral and at the same time she came to know that her community was in danger. One of the companies was planning to build a tin mine, two kilometres wide and 300 feet deep that is another scar on the hometown of August (Wagner, [2021](#)). August and Poppy's native place is called massacre plains and it is named for Revenge against indigenous people who try to protect their land. One of the options to stop mining companies is to prove the current residents' cultural connection to the local Habitat or country as indigenous Australians say. In this context Poppy's dictionary holds the key and August has dropped into the local residence and is experiencing a growing sense of reconnection to the native in which she grew up and lived her childhood. After the story begins the readers can see the narrative is provided by a letter written by Reverend Ferdinand Greenleaf in the year 1915 to a doctor of British society (2). Green leaf was machinery who was working among the people of massacre plains that observed that his presence was not warm hearted. Greenleaf have the right to improve the conditions for the circumstances of the native tribes and have laboured for 3 decades. He came to receive the government policy to remove native language to separate children from the parents and even worse. He visited evil on the people he came as he even believed to serve. Green leaf determines that to tell how wrong becomes accepted as right at the end of his life.

By looking into Poppers dictionary the readers can see a detailed history of time that showcases the culture of Wiradjuri. By continuing reading the novel readers can see that August has an elder sister named Jedda who is present in the novel but her presence and the way the author has portrayed her gives goose bumps to the readers. When August was only 9 years old Jedda disappeared suddenly and no stress of her even found (Connor, [2021](#)). The mystery was unresolved throughout the years but the disappearance of Jedda signifies the price the native people of massacre plains still pay for the history infected on them. This also signifies as another silencing, an echo of the way by which the native of Wiradjuri is Losing their language. Joy and happiness eventually feeds away and all the religion and festivity of the full house become mute rooms. This part showcases the brutality of some people towards

other races, cultures and beliefs. In Wiradjuri words "Yield" is Baayanha however as the reader's progresses through the book translation is way fire from simple. "Yield" in English literature is the reaping the materialistic things that an individual can take from the land the thing one can wait for n get to claim. From the historical and literature perspective the book is much more impactful and effective as distorts a history of a certain period of time of a place and the suffering of the battle of the habitat. Apart from that, the other perspective showcases the Wiradjuri culture, their language and the love for the native fee people and the sense of belonging for their land.

The story showcases a true love, connection and compassion of an individual for his or her native people and native land. The dedication of Poppy portrays his love for his motherland and forest community to a large extent and that signifies the importance of culture and language. In Wiradjuri the true meaning of yield is the things that are given by an individual to the movement of the space between the things (Labora, 2021). As mentioned earlier the story has many shades and there are realities in each part of the story. Jeeda and August love separated from each other when they were very young and that skirt has haunted August throughout her life to a large extent. The story also portrays a barbaric cycle of tenses that have been faced by the native of Wiradjuri and that scar is with everyone. Riddles can see this when August visits the museum with her aunt Messy. She said "they should work out how many of us were murdered and have a museum of tanks of blood" (Winch, 2021). The film tells the story of a young lady who has dealt with sorrow violence that has seen much brutality at a very young age. Therefore that little girl named August decided to leave that place to provide herself the sense of safety and ensure food. When the story talks about the present when August came back for her grandfather's funeral she observed that the community is in danger and nothing has changed for the community. Communal issues are everywhere. It is not new but the stories and the lifestyle that is dealt by the individual in the massacre plane is heartbreaking and give Goosebumps to everyone.

Racism cultural differences are found in every level of society and it is true for all around the world of people showcases hatred for a particular race and cross all the limit of torture in order to gain self-satisfaction and the and take away one's cultural believe and glory for own entertainment and satisfaction. The line said by the aunt Missy has all the power to give Goosebumps to the readers. The author has constructed each sentence carefully and beautifully and has portrayed the pain of the native of Wiradjuri people and their suffering throughout their life and from generation to generation (Labora, 2021). The author has used all her experience and sense of belonging towards the culture portrayed in the novel. Tara June Winch is one of the most talented writers who have been mentored by Nobel Prize winner Wole Soyinka as a part of the prestigious and glorious Rolex mentor and arts initiative. Her first novel "Swallow the Air" got the appreciation of the critics (Writes, 2020). After her success she was named as a 'Sydney Morning Herald best young Australian novelist' and has eventually got several literary awards for her book "swallow the air". In the novel *The Yield* the leaders can see these the skill of winch and her ability to live history. It is evident that the story has all the essence and dimensions that is required to ensure a successful book to a large extent. The book portrays love, sacrifice and the power of connection for community and language.

Compulsive Recall of August the Granddaughter of Albert Poppy Goondiwindi

August the granddaughter of Albert Poppy Goondiwindi came to her land after a decade to attend her grandfather poppy Gondiwindi's funeral. At the time she came to know that her community is in danger and trying their best to survive. As soon as August came to massacre planes at her native place she started recalling the memories she has with that place. To

remember that she is a survivor of a thousand battles that has been fought each and every day has the people forgetting something that happened in the past before they were even born (Connor, 2021). When August was recalling her memory many incidents were clear in her head and she instantaneously remembered that drama that her family had undergone in the past. The author beautifully expressed the feelings of August when she was trying to recall her childhood and showed a dark chapter, a dark history of that place. When August remembered that once her elder sister Jada was missing for several days and it created a mystery in the community later it came out that it was the price that the community had to pay for not keeping their mouth shut. This face not only gave Goosebumps to the readers but this horrific incident gave the reality check about the brutality of mankind.

The author beautifully portrays the history and the cultural value of a community to the wider audience. This novel The author has portrayed the suffering of aboriginal people to a large extent and in this context she has also added a story of a family that have faced brutality to its core. A story progresses The readers come to know that Albert Poppy Goondiwindi was working on his dictionary and when August came she found out many hidden things from her grandfather's dictionary. She came to know about a letter that had been written in 1916 by Reverend Ferdinand Greenleaf to the doctor George Cross of the British Society of ethnography. From that letter August understood that green leaf was a missionary who was working with the people of massacre planes (Charon, 2022). Three decades he has Leopard to improve the conditions of the indigenous tribe he came to recognise that government policy to remove native language or separate children from their parents and worst even visits Evil on the people he came as he believes to serve. By looking into the dictionary of her grandfather August understood that the community is facing several issues and fighting to survive for many decades. Apart from that she also understood that the community he didn't the path to extinct sooner. She remembered how she and her sister were separated from each other when August was only 9 years old and no dress of hers had ever been found. This barbaric incident reminds it her brutality of the Government and the Torture that has been face by the community throughout the years.

People were often subject to injustice and mass killing or disappearance was a normal thing and more over that was a part of everyday life to a large extent. The author has portrayed a dark chapter of the history of Australian natives in her book *The Yield* and have showcased the brutality, the mental trauma that have been faced by indigenous people for quite a long time. This book has a strong historical background and this is one of the fronts of the book. The plot of the story started with the dark history of Australia and between the time period several uncountable indigenous people died (Charon, 2022). In this context the author has added a story of a family that has faced the brutality of the government and each and every character or the family member has tried to survive the condition in their own way. Tara June Winch represented history in an innovative way so that the readers cannot only understand the pain of the native what is the same time understand the psychology of the characters that have been portrayed in the novel. In a point the readers came to know that August comes from a strong material family at which her grandmother Elsie what's in in charge of their household. Since childhood she has seen the survival Battle of a family and the barbaric mentality of the government towards indigenous people. August has carried out the sky since her childhood as she has lost her sister and was forced to leave her place and move to England to provide herself the sense of safety and ensure food when she is hungry.

As the story progresses the standard of living of the massacre planes has become clear to the readers with the help of beautiful representation of the author. It has become clearer more and more that the aboriginal people are suffering since they are kids and are struggling to

provide their family the basic needs. The 500 acres of the setting of the mission the massacre planes are a storage or bank of domestic memory and a substitute for continent and its histories and families moreover its languages (Connor, [2021](#)). August has also recalled about her ancestors and their journey over their way of living. The indigenous people has to go to war for the government and have to risk their life. She remembered that Odysseus and the ten years journey home after the war ‘ the Trojan war’; “Dante’s threatful stroll in Purgatorio, Kendrick Lamar”’s hone coming to compton the compton with the aim to some ‘soul findings in his 2015 album ‘To Pimp A Butterfly’ (Fry, [2020](#)). That repeatedly signifies the discomfort of August and that is eventually rising up and has eventually sediment. To return reflects the acknowledgement of the events of the intervening years and their impact for the weight. *The Yield* is about what has happened in the past and at the same time it is also about what is going to happen and what is going to come in the next step. This suggests that absence is not at all purely less but it can also act as the powerful strength to act in accordance with the absence.

August is deeply rooted with her culture and she has not forgotten her sister Jeeda and for August it means ordering the life of elder sister Jeeda and her grandfather Albert Poppy Goondiwindi. And as the story progresses the readers can see there is a stress of Milosz and she acted as wandered and decided not to express her sorrow. Throughout her journey she have tried her best to fulfil her role in guardianship and managing the scattered elements of a family and make time at which time was lost. This part portrays the characteristics and the psychology of August to a large extent and the author Tara June winch has used her deeply rooted sentiment with the Wiradjuri culture to express the feelings of August (Webb, [2020](#)). Afterwards The Story goes to the past and the readers come to know that August's grandfather Albert Poppy Goondiwindi born in "the middle of peace and war writes between the thought before the act and the shadow that came after". Play the role of guides and most essentially a mentor on her journey to a great extent. Throughout the novel the voice of Poppy is an organising architectural voice and from that the readers can understand he is King's interest and love for his language and her culture. Throughout the novel, Poppy Goondiwindi has communicated with the readers through his dictionary and helped the readers to understand the psychic behaviour of the individuals at that time period and what mental trauma one has experienced during the events of massacre planes.

The readers can understand that Poppy loves his culture and he is extremely proud of his language and being deeply rooted with his culture and ethnicity he loves to spread the awareness about the cultural beauty of Wiradjuri people. For August language means more than an award, this refers to a mission for her and she herself wants to establish her culture and her language in front of the community and wants to show the world that she is proud of a culture. Being a kid August has seen brutality and she will lose her elder sister Jeeda who was just a school going kid and that time August was only 9 years old. The disappearance of Jeeda has made August feel scared and that memory has haunted her throughout the life and being as a kid it was the most horrific life experience.

As stories progressed the audience came to know that a mining company wanted to develop a team mind in that area and that was an issue for the local community of Wiradjuri people. August realises nothing has changed during these years when she was away from her hometown and she understood that suffering is still with the community. Albert dictionary has helped the readers to understand the coherence in the novel and has helped the audience to understand the value of language and community and the connection within the Wiradjuri people. The author has portrayed all the shades in each and every part of the story and this tells about the traits of each and every character of the novel. One of the most heartbreaking parts and the most cinematic graphically represented part when August and her aunt Messy go to

visit the museum. The visit was impactful and when they both were visiting the exhibition of aboriginal art crafts she told August "they should work out how many of us they murdered and have a museum of thanks for blood" (Winch, 2021). The statements were shocking and this showcase is the brutality that has been faced by the community for decades. As a consequence, some help understood that in order to survive either one had to die or had to obey the orders of the government.

The novel can be judged in many perspectives, for instance from the historical point of view this novel portrays the barbaric history and the trauma of the native aboriginal people. On the other hand she has beautifully expressed all the emotions of the main characters of this novel and from the literary perspective this is one of the strongest and impactful novels in contemporary years. Brutality and racism is not new and there is much literature that has focused on these two aspects. In addition, the historical point of view on racism and discrimination has also been imported in many novels. It has a special corner in all the genre and it is one of the most successful and impact full novel that have portrait all the element that have includes history of Wiradjuri people their battle of survival and have used the power the strength of literature to express each and every character and have bring them alive through her beautiful skill. Apart from that the author has also expressed connection to the Wiradjuri language and culture and that has been highlighted in every part of the novel. This novel has helped the audience to understand the value of their own culture and language and why it is important to maintain the legacy of the culture.

The author beautifully expresses a granddaughter's love towards her grandfather and also has showcase once deep rooted connection with their culture and community. Tara June winch has not only portrayed the history of Wiradjuri culture and their suffering but she has tried to draw a story in that context to portray the value of ethnicity moreover the pride of one's own language. The background of the novel is robust and impactful and has successfully established an emotional connection of the audience and this aspect is one of the most essential and effective sides of the story. The love, the sacrifice and the determination that have been portrayed by all the characters of the novel showcases the importance and the true value of culture and origin

CONCLUSION

The Yield tells the audience about the history of Wiradjuri and the events that have taken place in the past. The natives of Wiradjuri are connected with their culture and have faced several years of hatred because of their race. The community has faced brutality to its core and many of the native are murdered in order to keep their mouth shut and take silent or else their life will be taken away by the supreme authority.

August who had elder sister she was also involved in this city as one day she suddenly disappeared and everyone was unable to find her as she have vanished This incident was to tell the native people of Wiradjuri to keep calm and stay silent and all the religion and facilities of the house become mute room. This part of the story is extremely dark as it showcases the hatred for indigenous people and the Supremacy of the government to a large extent. Cultural hatred and discrimination can go extreme and the story is the exact example of this as it showcases not only hatred or bullying but also portrays the Barbaric mentality of the government towards the indigenous and native people of Wiradjuri. Through the Poppy's dictionary The Reader comes to know that once poppy and his sister were separated and was forced to live in institutions that were designed to serve them for their culture. And the same story repeated itself when August and Jeeda were separated from each other and had to pay the price in order

to protect their land from the government. This story showcases the dark history and the cultural abuses by the government to the Wiradjuri people. When August came to attend his grandfather's funeral she got to know many things about the present circumstances of her hometown. She came to know that the circumstances have not changed. It is the same and even words that she has seen in her childhood. Most of the people don't have a job and very few have a job where the language that is used by Wiradjuri people is not allowed.

A conversation of August with her aunt Nicki helps the readers to understand the circumstances of indigenous people of the massacre planes. Aunt Nikki told her that the language has faded away and she is not allowed to speak the language. August Wanted to stop and tell her that's not the truth as she and her grandfather have never believed that. From the cultural perspective the story is extremely impactful as this told the sacrifice, the love and the battle one has to deal with their entire life for the language and culture. In this 21st century each and every language and the cultures are vanishing speedily because of globalisation. In this context the story tells the readers the value of their own culture and language and the necessity of being proud of someone's language and culture. It is easy to follow someone else's language or culture but it is extremely difficult to fight for your own rights to speak in your own language as this not only showcases the love for someone's language but at the same time shows the love for the nation and the community to a large extent. The author beautifully portrays the history of wiradjuri culture as her soul is deeply rooted to the culture and that has been beautifully portrayed throughout the novel. In this novel Tara June winch have showed the emotional journey of August in such a man that has helped the readers to establish a connection with her and at a same time the journey the flashback Story when she came to know about the dictionary of her grandfather is mesmerising and at the same time give Goosebumps to the readers.

The story has all the shades, it has emotion, it has drama, it has the story of brutality, it has the bond within the community and so on. All the characters have portraits beautifully and this eventually showcases every element and the characteristics that are found in a community on every level. The conversation of August and her aunt Nikki showcase that her aunt has understood that she has to obey the rules in order to survive. She doesn't have a friend to fight against the government. That showcases her fear and the sky that she had in her childhood. The psychology behind the statement gives Goosebumps to the readers as this signifies that she is unveiling to fight against the government or the Supremacy. In contrast August is not wheeling to leave the battlefield anymore and she wanted to stop her aunt by saying that the language is dead. She is unveiling to forget about her culture and the glory of cultural bond with the community. *The Yield* has all the elements and the sentiments related to the Wiradjuri language the author has included Innovation and all the characterization that she has portrayed on a cultural contact has touched the hearts of the readers.

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