

## CHAPTER THREE

### CONCLUSION

Having analyzed Laurence Yep's novel, Child of the Owl, I conclude that the author is successful in presenting the theme. The theme is clearly revealed through the major female characters. I come to the opinion that the theme of the novel is **one who wants to attain a harmonious relationship has to prioritize love in one's relation**. By presenting such a theme, the author means to make the readers realize that love is a basic foundation in one relationship.

In Child of the Owl, Laurence Yep explores the relationship between a grandmother and her grandchildren, Paw-Paw and Casey. Casey, a twelve years old young girl who was born as a Chinese- American, moves to live with Paw-Paw, her maternal grandmother in San Francisco's Chinatown for a while. Living in Chinatown, Casey feels like a stranger because she knows nothing about Chinese culture. In this novel, the readers can see how hard it is for Casey to adapt herself in her new environment. She tries to make a harmonious relationship with her grandmother she has never known before, her gambler father and with the people around her. It is not easy for Casey to live in such condition but because

she is a kind hearted and loving girl she can easily understand and is willing to help others. It is also because of love that she learns how to forgive someone's mistake. Because of the love she has, she survives in her new life in Chinatown.

In this novel, the readers can see that Paw-Paw is portrayed as a sample of a good grandmother. Luckily for Casey, she has a very kind and helpful grandmother. Paw-Paw always gives her assistance sincerely. She not only helps Casey in adaptation in her new environment but also teaches Casey about Chinese culture and many new things that she does not understand before. Paw-Paw also shows her love to all the members in her family. Moreover, I can see that Paw-Paw is a typical kind of kind hearted and thoughtful grandmother. She shows her kindness when Barney has a difficulty to pay his gambling debt. She is not angry when Barney robs her precious owl charm and hurts her; as a matter of fact she even helps Barney after what has happened. She not only understands Barney's bad habit and forgives him but also pays for Barney's debt at the end.

After reading the novel, I see that all of Casey and Paw-Paw's action are based on love. I conclude that the most important key which makes the relationship between Casey and Paw-Paw becomes harmonious is love. With love as their motivation they understand each other, are kind to everyone, show their attention to everyone and with all sincerity help everyone who need their assistance. Forgiving someone's mistake is a very difficult thing, but it will be very easy with love as the reason because love can open one's heart and also forgives. I am of the opinion that these things one can do out of love can tighten every relationship.

Having analyzed the theme through the two major female characters in this novel, I find that the author is successful in presenting the theme through Casey and Paw-Paw. The author's description about each character and what they do in every situation that they have to face is very plausible and obvious, although I find that the character of Paw-Paw is too good to be true. But Yep's description makes the readers easy to relate to the characters and this helps to lead the readers to a better understanding of the characters and thus discover the very theme of the novel.

Furthermore, I believe that the message of love which is conveyed through the two major female characters in this novel is a universal thing in this world because basically love is the basic foundation in every relationship. One's relationship never becomes harmonious if love does not take part in that relationship. Wherever one is, whoever one is, the relationship one builds needs love.