

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

Every person has an identity to uphold. Cultural identity relates to the feeling of belonging that supports a nationality, ethnicity, religion, or social class. Identity is unique because it is different from one person to another (Hill, 2012). When someone has to migrate to another country for a long time or maybe for good they will experience the process of cultural adjustments. During this process, an immigrant will also experience an identity shifting.

In the series of Yoon picturebooks, I found that the cultural adjustment phases experienced by Yoon are in line with the U-curve theory created by Lysgaard and Oberg (1960). Yoon experiences her cultural adjustment phases in different orders. First, Yoon experiences her cultural shock phase. Then, after she feels that she is able to cope with her new environment, she shows her interest on new things in her new environment. Second, she gets into a honeymoon phase. Third, after experiencing her honeymoon phase she Fourth, after dealing with the adjustment stage, she then perceives America as her second home. By doing so, she is able to get into her Mastery stage.

Yoon shifts her cultural identity from a Korean girl to a Korean-American girl. It affects her cultural adjustment stage a lot. When she defines herself as a Korean girl, she is able to resist and avoid doing the American ways. However, after shifting identity into a Korean-American

girl, she becomes excited to learn and try doing everything about being an American. Yoon has finally known when to use her Korean identity and when to use her Korean-American identity. Her success in cultural adjustment has made her become a whole new happy person.

