**Book:** Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet

**Reviewed by:** Marisa Masatsugu

**Level of Difficulty:** Difficult

**My thoughts about the book and its suitability for my group:**

I loved teaching this book because I could bring in much American history and culture. The book is about a friendship between a Chinese boy and a Japanese girl during the time of World War II, and the relocation camps in California. My class had many good and in-depth discussions dealing with the themes of racial prejudice, parent-child relationships, and resiliency in life. There are strong character developments in this book, and my students enjoyed discussing how the characters change throughout the course of the book.

**Students' reactions to the book:**

They loved it! Although some of the vocabulary was difficult for them they persevered, and at the end were very satisfied with reading a "good" book. They told me it was one of the best that we have done.

**Tips for other tutors who may want to use this book:**

This is a difficult book for higher level students. The vocabulary and reading level is challenging. However, in reading the book I was able to bring in a lot of American history and culture which my class enjoyed talking and learning about. I needed two sessions to finish this book, but in the end the students said it was worth the time and effort.