

Narratives of Transnational Adoption —The Case of *The Language of Blood*

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Abstract

This paper attempts to examine the narrative of transnational/transracial adoption via a case study of *The Language of Blood: A Memoir* by the Korean American author Jane Jeong Trenka. The first part of the paper tries to contextualize Korean adoption narrative with various socio-historical documents and first-person narratives so that the possibility and limitation of the problematic “remapping of kinship” through the act of adoption can be explored. The second part presents a close reading of *The Language of Blood* to investigate the bodily imagination and representation of the memoirist and the re-configuration of relational networks within the context of adoption narrative.

Key Words: Jane Jeong Trenka, *The Language of Blood*, transnational/transracial adoption, Asian American studies, life writing