Han Yong Wunrow ([00:00:00](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=USuUbHYj2l7AX6ZAEYDKzJCSpuqioOb0cSkfZdo9l5NlwV7E10svkYw51LyOK5xhUiCdELlZZCl7FFcxBRSaLftMVUE&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=0.3)):

Well, hello. My name is Han Yong Wunrow. I'm 27 years old, currently am in New York city for graduate school, but I grew up in St. Paul, Minnesota

Adapted Podcast ([00:00:11](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=1vdKqRFSrNy0iXnEQjON_Ueq5Q5gtxcKbtHGwfvQGQu5knHIv8jJ2gctEaUGgS5iAhatQPR5U0oUL4_5DB6EWQL9bK0&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=11.61)):

Han Yong, what are you studying?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:00:14](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=wCvggHDqeLMZnkbFFh1u3hgONW0k9KM4ww0UFp4YE8kLF1eERcX8kfnBfQe3D31qsup9l8UQY3rJKrvbZdJcSX7tIBI&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=14.53)):

I'm studying I'm in my first year for applied math in a PhD program.

Adapted Podcast ([00:00:19](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Ge_PD5qPhSsQFkuyUjqt-FS-Wa_gPyE6gWPHu-9VP0Rpqx_TUkFcV2_fpI40BAziyndIFfLtARsF68cFoAyw9IX-UNE&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=19.6)):

Wow. Okay. And why did you wanna go into, what are your hopes for your <laugh>? Well

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:00:26](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=1ZZ9c5KWeXlWolzWa11PBSDqKqviL3UGPoh8y3Hw3tZTL1qmQVaoDUpAkRUaoeW8P427mav_VeHk1jVgn_azWzflb8o&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=26.12)):

The goal right now is to eventually become a professor, but we'll see what the, the job market looks like in five years from now. But yeah, I think I, I studied math in undergrad. I did a master's the name of my high school was math and science academy. So I've had a deep blow for math for, for quite a few years. And it, I haven't been sick of it these past, like 10 or so years, so I think I'm on the right path. <Laugh>

Adapted Podcast ([00:00:55](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=M4NxVmJAC5Rx4E9KTgFZ9H6ThrAUTIbMe1WQAYBHjDNTPeOLlNavu6vlnSVnp8Us9eWj3aR7cMB50IP6nHODaAkFaPY&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=55.59)):

Did you ever feel like I mean, you went to a specific subject matter high school, but did you ever feel like that that stereotype of being the Asian and then the, the nerdy kid that is too smart? Yeah,

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:01:09](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=LeMj1kgcIBnLEFmbCi28_EbKoOoX768wdp2THzp11PTt13nf2UtQ30FKntbOWEdGgZ8ae7zY7JAqhC4gLXU64zycDs8&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=69.73)):

Definitely. In like first grade I went to like this Lutheran elementary school and I was like one of, very like the only Asian east Asian person in my grade. And they have all those like standardized tests throughout middle school and I guess, like I scored well and they just put me in a what they called the, the advanced math class, but it was literally just like this outdated old, like algebra textbook that they just gave me to study in a room by myself <laugh> for like, while everyone else was doing their math class. So I felt at that age, very ostracized and yeah kind of a little bit ashamed about that, but I think later on my, my high school was like middle school and high school combined. But that, that school had a pretty good culture of embracing the nerdiness and not being ashamed <laugh> for liking math and science. So I think that really helped and helped me decide in college and now in graduate school to continue studying it.

Adapted Podcast ([00:02:26](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=YNJ1QuVtfTOfYWBXp_ivZ0cXcePlwYlFrS9E2A8lRSztMQRrQksL8QdmDq2NokFzl_4UrxgmAEKpWB9atY_UianvNzU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=146.86)):

And when you talk about any stigmas that you might have encountered were any, did, were there any that you interpreted were because of your race?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:02:37](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Zo7ojn20hhN6ZI3irLxHPLINy0UxW-9c4VbTtcu0NagjYaDbJmSA16k-rjJMMn4bGk5-98QexDsoPEWXBWB3EuVQlsw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=157.419)):

Yeah. especially with, and I, I think I like at like a younger age to like attributed my like, oh, I'm good at math because I'm Asian. But that's like, definitely not true. Like I think I just, I don't know, appreciate math because like, it's something that came as easy to me and I enjoy it and like at an individual level and not, not because of my race, but yeah, I did, I did struggle with that idea for a bit even in, in like high school. But I think like like my, my close friends at that age were also like like south Asian or east Asian because we were in like the, the math group <laugh> but I, I think that sense of community also kind of helped a little bit. So like, even though, like I falsely assumed like, oh, we're okay at math cuz we're Asian, but which isn't true again. But having that kind of close-knit group of other people who looked kind of similar with me and had similar interests was, was definitely useful growing up,

Adapted Podcast ([00:03:54](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=gAzvmvjgNrYYXeQaZkgj46Lb0YGQvIS2YLzH8m0ui4b3kkXRNsfG-iIm2Lm0NbE-D2fenX5Bh5XEMXaV4ZcfafZ5yPM&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=234.3)):

You know, even now when I'm in groups of Asian Americans, not adoptees or maybe second gen or even 1.5 gen or, and that they talk about their immigrant parents and that, oh, you know, the parents like really PO, you know, drilling down on us about the education and it was super important. And, and I wondered if you, if you, when you talked about that your other Asian classmates, if that was ever like, well, my parents are white, you know, but I stay here.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:04:28](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=4XRX_echhBmG6QbCuPWvt2HUdq2lQFVa3NWOXbmahTvuAfyVa5jti3A1nMCsh8JkoYTC6_RNJwE7VRZ-N_G2shy1NyQ&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=268.56)):

Yeah. That's interesting. You bring that up cuz yeah, like a lot of my friends were either like first or second generation and their, their parents had immigrated over and they did I'm not sure if you're familiar, but there's this center called Kumon, which is like a learning like math and reading center that they all went to. And they, they got me a job there later in high school. But yeah, I think like even like I guess as adoptees, we have like a different narrative than a lot of other immigrants in, in America, but I think I shared some of that mentality a little bit. I think I put a lot of time into school. Like I, I, I kind of often thought of trying to make the most out of like this opportunity that adoption gave me. And I know it's like a something that like I kind of have struggled with throughout, but I guess going back to the, the idea of trying to make your, your parents proud and specifically like my birth parents and even though like I didn't personally know them just thinking like, oh, if I did well in school, they'd, they'd be happy.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:05:43](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=MKfdy-seKKIAFx2oebaN7D-I47vq-hny6Xeppj3PDqJm-35xtOQoMrnr2_ceMIebVykJLgvHW84Qf4o3tPS6_VXckUU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=343.06)):

And I think that's, that's one reason why I put a lot of time into studying math. <Laugh>

Adapted Podcast ([00:05:52](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=s0-cYZqDi7vYkpkP61XZaVoHOz20OeBWvAyb3LvXKoolttuJk2LdIc-Z-fhUTLXdZ5LIFLK_f3fTzM0sxtH2ErdoziU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=352.37)):

You actually, you actually thought about that as a kid that if that I wanna do well because of this if you call it an opportunity of that adoption gave you.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:06:04](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=tXBWB27MFM1UjiNluuGyLFtVzvA_A7Egj9wgnbu8ctIxrgOTctkBD5mNysOgvVTplB6CJgcDS-jjVs_YSHyn9qn9r5I&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=364.51)):

Yeah. And Yeah, I think that Maybe have had stemmed a little bit from like, because in first grade I was put in this <laugh> random room to study math and I think that slowly built up with like, oh, this is like maybe one of my talents and I, and something like I enjoyed wasn't like I was kind of forcing myself to do it. But yeah, I did, I did often think about my, my birth parents kind of along with my, my studies as well, even from a young age.

Adapted Podcast ([00:06:44](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=oi_oRc30ASRAan75v6qpJpOMmZuku6gfUl7UCqhAs6CuGMRd8XGbh6gj67K0CSD7cgLWYM0IkoM3ZFUZ5BrckBcGUhE&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=404.44)):

So let's, let's go back <laugh> tell us about your origin story and, and what you knew at the time.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:06:53](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=iHEwi9sXCOliBIq1dR9nMUtsAyTIi-Obm9jWd5X-uZa2XRM4fx-VIv39L0CcqoZwbYkc8EuRqP2dSAOoMeMyIwQ9LOk&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=413.36)):

Yeah, so my, my parents who I know, you know they, they published this newspaper Korean Quarterly for Korean Americans and adoptees I guess oh, quick sign out actually their, their last paper issue is this next common issue. So it's a very kind of end of an error almost.

Adapted Podcast ([00:07:18](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=6lq2atiYmULIoqSiP8KLedJXoW0Fa_93Dz-9NLe98d7_TxP8FfwOY4wlo_I6c6CyO_XIsAO4wMnCWrmzLJlSBW7uQ_0&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=438.42)):

Oh, are they going just, they're going just digital.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:07:20](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=4LAtZoWe7W8FWUvcf7qywXHxeUYZZioQd9yzDPiOEr4_LTxr367w-lTPrVxUpkFIiHA_c6A6zllW8VppaUOr7Uc9CWM&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=440.55)):

Yeah, they're going just digital just on the website which is kind of sad to see like paper media kind of so slowly dying, even though I think, I think it's supported, but yeah, I think this weekend they have a big Carra or something I'm not sure. But yeah, back to back to the origin story I was adopted from Korea. My, I was born in Seoul, like many other adoptees and was adopted around like two, three months old and yeah. Yeah. So I have a very peculiar situation where my dad, who is is a photojournalist. He was in Korea taking photos of birth mothers for a book he was doing with Brian Boyd. I'm not sure if you know him but he had one of the birth mothers he's taking photos for, for this book on single mothers in Korea was my birth mother who was pregnant at the time with me.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:08:24](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=jlGRnuhj0pzh1j-z1vnJ71ChHJzUHrwVvWscUMAWkgB1WXm6sVWKQZkxAqGw-INOh4_1vNJmelTP_DXYXLb3HhXp-uE&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=504.59)):

And she had kind of wanted to find like a good family for her child obviously, and kind of saw my father who they were also kind of thinking about adopting another, another kid and they had kind of made an agreement so that I would be adopted to my adopted father. So I, I surprisingly knew who my birth mother was from the beginning which is kind of a like something that, that wasn't really heard of at the time and was just like a very fortunate thing to happen. And yeah, it was, it wasn't like a, I would call like an open adoption, but I, I didn't have to go through the, that process of searching for my specifically my birth mother, just cuz I knew who she was and there was like a few letters back and forth throughout childhood. And we met once when I was in elementary school and, and we reconnected a little bit later when I became an adult.

Adapted Podcast ([00:09:34](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=PlJRTFQWhmnxKN2eYNOC9lwYyhzgFW0DJ8XWoY42Ojchmykb4Iwag-2evvV9qpUebCFQAhLJlB8rz4Si67mA4pBVJv4&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=574.37)):

Wow. And so it was like a private adoption.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:09:37](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=klGJSq1VpxL8zY_0F5B8-Mp-wQD5gR7SY-R-AgLARPK65zd7ArfdkynMO5-mI1ZkAD4ksScabQdEa6FnqXSlHK0BVmU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=577.78)):

Yeah. Yeah. I don't know the specifics, but through the adoption agency in Korean and in the us side, there's some agreement made and yeah, yeah. I think it was yeah, something very special and something that I'm very like grateful that that took place,

Adapted Podcast ([00:09:59](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=f0LyhCz1AIFL516eqCAlkpwSqfypNEwLdxUnE3BAKiWOfmHgAR9XEPTIaT5iPIGd_STbaiypVKpUfjw5_GjDyNKlHIA&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=599.46)):

You know, that is so interesting. And I'm really looking forward to delving into your story. You know, I think a lot of adoptees kind of wonder what if the process could have been more open where yeah. It, it, it wasn't a severing all ties and that, you know, the, the birth records are, you know, the information is the identifiable information is sealed from the adoptee in your case. Yeah. It was like an open adoption. It sounds like.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:10:31](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=zYdbbe-9xqFwUxRbCZGxsLKS_D8m35TQs1WtNejUs9P2MFOi-aubkPykqqVZfDX_KnxA9Fao9oKBBmkXxN8GNtCpx1A&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=631.95)):

Yeah. I, I like I even went back to my adoption agency in Korea just to like look at my files and fortunately they were still there, but there were all these redactions and like things they clearly weren't telling me, like when I was trying to talk to them. And yeah, I know there's, there's laws and things are changing, but I think like, even though I, I did know my, my birth mother, there's definitely kind of this like unknown loss that a lot of adoptees go through of just yeah, yeah. Constantly wishing like, oh, what, what would it be like if I had Sree and who my parents would be? So I, I hope that adopts <affirmative> adoptions, like mine become a little bit more common or or that people aren't put into the situation where they have to think about adoption to begin with with, I guess, more support for single mothers, but yeah. Yeah. it, it was something where I haven't really met any other Korean adoptee with a, with a situation like mine.

Adapted Podcast ([00:11:51](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=lOeF7qB7GH8mGFD4o8yAfZ2cV0wB8QNyURG6hLNNGhuUkbUtMtOly37DzUjjYw6mQKi1eG9KGqzIGFlu6p5hJjj55-I&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=711.22)):

Are you able to tell us what your mother's situation was at the time?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:11:56](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=kyquG1AVr7264F8mAi37ggl8tdCX9ut6EtV7vtPQG8eQ1xowQqCog_tVd5wgmnn3ylGuVqeT7_rdPJWO7OXFbBd78ts&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=716.63)):

Yeah, I had actually so I I'm in like we're friends on Kakao Talk. So I talked to her a little bit of like mentioned like, oh, I'm doing this podcast. And,uI think I I'll make a little bit of her story a little bit more private, but,ujust in general,ulike she was not married to my birth father and,ushe was very young at the time and,ujust wasn't able to support me and yeah. Yeah. I think, I think I'll, I won't, I won't give too many details just, just out of respect for her,

Adapted Podcast ([00:12:31](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=qVB0U-NU8hzVVVaIWd2lw7pjfaZXXmPR8UHEUwmu16CxYrPtnbQqwf5QzZ3JRSNOfYL-br9IXxv44q6ySe4sOU-Idrc&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=751.08)):

But sort of the, maybe not kind of the common narrative, right. Where yeah, yeah. The mother and yeah. So growing up, I mean, you know, you probably, you know, you obviously don't know what any other way, but how extraordinary that your parents or your father had met your mother mm-hmm, <affirmative> had, had known her growing up, what was it like knowing, knowing about her or did she still feel kind of like a ghost?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:13:02](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=a_X_opcPa57dn4tEt1F16_ROYYBysgFxjveO0f2zYSwBWGP21N3ssziLzFS8lDvSlukBwZq0F8EamPldtz1Lym5kI0g&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=782.76)):

Yeah. there was like a little like I don't wanna call it trying, but like, there's like a shoebox with like photos of my birth mother and, and a few letters and like some other Korean related things. And yeah, I think there were times when yeah, she did kind of feel like a, a ghost of like someone who I, I didn't know, but it was a little different because I knew what she looked like and we looked very similar. So I think, yeah, even, even though we have like reconnected at, I, I lived in Korea for, for a year and was able to re reconnect with her dad, but she still kind of feels like a, a ghost even to this day, just cuz there's a, a difference of having a parent who you grew up with and who like took care of you versus someone you still feels almost like a stranger to this say and this kind of like language and a few other cultural things that make it diff difficult to reconnect. But I wouldn't say that, like I constantly thought about my, my birth parents growing up, but yeah, having that like random shoe boxing, like my sock show or something was something special to kind of remind me of growing up.

Adapted Podcast ([00:14:18](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=NtsQcUFs8KzNVkVCPG3hhKYNJ6OlfFy1X0_rPtlKVdE-G_UA-SQ76y73cO3PUhV-QD8rJlyvhIPu_YpIBy2MxL5tOV8&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=858.309)):

And can, if the listeners don't know can you tell us who your, your, your folks are?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:14:24](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=8ROYNiBE_6DomAKa3suz5wo_XpKQ4wrzufDKi6dT57EoyYuADyWHiuSLZQSIaRay_3Bt1pbHdfHKe0R5VWdK3FfyK7Y&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=864.87)):

Yeah, for sure. So their names are Stephen Wunrow, Martha Vickery. They published a newspaper called Korean Quarterly since like 90, 95, 96, somewhere around there. But the newspapers for I guess Korean adoptees and Americans and they kind of publish stories on current events or I guess various stories relating to Korean Americans. And also like even back in Korea. So like sort some Olympics that just happened in 2018 and yeah, yeah. I think they they're very well connected in the, the Korean Amer adopted community. And there's like many times where I've met other Korean adoptees. And then I mention like, oh, my last name is like, oh, you're Steven's kid or something, even though I don't remember meeting this person or something like that, but yeah, I think it was also another, I guess, blessing to have parents who were so in tune with Korean culture and exposing me, my, my older sisters also adopted from Korea and at times growing up, I did feel like, oh, it's like too much Korea <laugh> all the time, but yeah, looking back, I think I'm very glad that they, that they did kind of expose me to all these things career related.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:15:48](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Ou3iFm1wtMyFTQpJEUQRufVNvufSZ-OytW3KWIHayOJqZk1CWRA5WpXt04ZVri70Npju-TntbfOyt1tYqBoOwdcJuEw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=948.21)):

And

Adapted Podcast ([00:15:49](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=dgZ7V9A_noVBvmbGt956nbzLndo330RNRvV3GqsMEtsL4uBwUe5lx7ySOPQqaqYWGCJrwDv4A_okLAvFi8isD6tu7hg&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=949.31)):

Did you call, did you call your white dad APA?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:15:52](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=bdR_S2hwVZoTfwDuyphLOg_LK2INolGzEP3FhOFuNtLdTyP8RTcddMcMYD3fmNjM86-FGb6vxaub2m7cUlK-GCwhxf0&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=952.32)):

Yeah, I did call my dad appa. I just called my, my mom mom. And I don't know how that started. I think probably like one of we were babies were like, oh, call me APA. And it just stuck. <Laugh>

Adapted Podcast ([00:16:07](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=PLpyWwHlVFc52h3D9trxFNoxCp5786LGYWE-2ZrTSCqCBoCzdz1G3xGnWSNAZnMiCjin4BS7EWDtSpmUh1L7lCE6mOw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=967.15)):

Yeah, that's interesting. I was going to, you know, it's kind of like the elephant in the room, but you know, you have these white adoptive parents yeah. Who are very connected with, you know, Korean, diaspora community. They do this, you know, they publish this newspaper for very, you know, well versed or interested in Korean culture. Yeah. And like a lot of us growing up with like, let's say, white parents who maybe had no interest in Korea, you had mm-hmm, <affirmative> the exact opposite where your parents were fully, like you just said, sometimes it felt like too much Korea.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:16:44](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=OwJKfBtpFqAPTYe5eRp0JSAJHT62_kqd0ZE17tX-dEjnJgmaa4gPDwUdnGJFxxjmE4sqgPQ9a4ysH52grMLLxnUtwTg&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1004.57)):

Yeah.

Adapted Podcast ([00:16:46](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=oTWpmsF5tVEzwkKIONgFP3haFA4VsLO2zeA9_WzHcMFm5LHlta43uP9o3FhWzZ8rtseYT6_F9Lqmc8n2FuBMbYSac0Q&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1006.4)):

How did you navigate that as a kid? Because I, you know, like, for example, for me growing up, I really wanted to distance myself from anything Korea. Did you have that period where you kind of did as well?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:17:01](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=b0gray3kAJUXxumAtDADEDMh1sgOEB63p3yg-dVX8S-PIJDHaHie0y5iPuVDMtgv-p3ywe3W-HLFiOKQPcXfztqUmHY&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1021.84)):

Yeah. There is some, some push and pull like surprisingly like a lot of other I guess Asian Americans have like these lunchbox moments where they bring like, kind of like quote unquote stinky food or weird food. And like there were times where I brought like kimchi for lunch, cuz like, I, I don't know. My, my, my parents like made Korean food every so often and just like leftovers. And yeah, I remember a few moments where like kids would like smell my food and be like, what is that so weird. And yeah, there <affirmative> and yeah, there, there are times where I felt I did feel embarrassed about being Korean and kind of wanting to hide it. And I felt embarrassed like <laugh> like my parents, we started this Korean drumming group Chiam and yeah, it was kind of fun.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:17:57](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=nfB-tB5t6ATOcGx16EOXPVYeAX57Ht_34NYJQXKfFFlEhfhI456W4CU7SkHyckopKOVX4b3UPWQUtmAPE7zscxh6TY8&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1077.32)):

It was like a little family band type thing where like <laugh>, it was my parents and then me and my sisters and other people in Minnesota. And at times, yeah, I did feel kind of like, oh, this is weird. Like I don't wanna be in a band with my parents. It's like embarrassing. But I think later on I, I came more to terms of like, oh, like being proud that I'm creating not to be ashamed, but yeah. Yeah. I think part of it was like the standard, like kid being embarrassed of your parents type growing up. But yeah, sometimes I wanted to kind of keep that Korean side a little separate from like my school life almost sometimes just cuz like I just didn't want people to know that about me, but now I'm kind of more comfortable in letting people know I played Korean traditional drums or something like that and not feeling ashamed or anything like that.

Adapted Podcast ([00:18:59](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=mQ7OT9Ex99OZpA23kVvlMeSa1d_KBzV7pNlwA4xGC2SA0F_ZLrUJr66SSE_jQ8bu5GZ88WiQA0NYkTRDRjq5c3VRm9Y&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1139.94)):

And how did you navigate like also many adoptees I talk to they, they, they talk about, and maybe this is a lot of older adoptees, although maybe not specific to just the older generations, but at some adoptive parents get really threatened by the fact of, you know, if an adoptee expresses any interest in Korea or knowing about their origins or, you know, wanting to even go back to Korea. And I wondered in your case.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:19:31](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=mEZToZgj4RI7AQRLH1BES66F-8PXyf2A9LSvqn1JCmJVkexoiJzq8qVrG-JwhfjVmKJBmrhWM9U10eqa3AChr2QEu4o&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1171.3)):

Oh, I see.

Adapted Podcast ([00:19:31](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=SPB89t_TGboBp4naIgkZ015eGQASG6rE3k8XtbFvijWnaWfK-LIaVghV5gAZjvKTJm_xfMlS2-s3-WsuUCEtIFOeHnw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1171.619)):

Yeah. What was that like?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:19:33](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=6qj7duAc7GUiD1ua2MSZwnBJCVTYGcyRyDxVx8GUYDXUaYGLWTvgmWj-QqaC2haxQv3IzLSN8xs9EkGbtZlw6fxAAAc&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1173.85)):

Like in, in my case, fortunately like my parents never, like, they, they like actively encouraged me to like explore like my Korean culture and identity and I think that's like, I like, I'm not a parent, I can't speak on behalf of old parents, but I would kind of strongly encourage adoptee parents to I guess not, not force your kids to, to do these, but kind of make those opportunities available. And sometimes kids kind of need a little bit of a nudge to, to become more open to that. But yeah, fortunate, like I, I was able to like study abroad in Korea and lived there for a year after graduating college and my parents were very supportive of that, but yeah, I would say actually for me, it's a little bit of the opposite where sometimes I'm a little bit more protective of my, my Korean identity from my adoptive parents, if that makes sense.

Adapted Podcast ([00:20:40](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=jVyLsl2QED4rajCr7xuddTwxLoCJONDEnnG5XVzAGT_6dmhFtkulwco8SRHIQLk4TRvYkDqMKIqtUDzweVQcZO5O95k&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1240.55)):

Let's explore that. Let's explore that more. What, what does that mean?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:20:45](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=feXBGdLrH_jMflyQFl2GdKchkDE1z9LkGAyrEuZKH5__S5rGvS2-HWJO-RbLgAR92kvWwLTO0US2kZQSP70U7WADQZ0&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1245.5)):

Like my, my parents are very like kinda, they wanna know like how my birth mother's doing obviously and like what she's like, but sometimes I kind of like to keep that part of my life separate. Just because it, it feels very selfish at times actually because like they're, they're all my family, but not totally sure how to articulate this super well, but just, I guess having ownership a little bit more ownership over like my identity as a Korean, just because like my, my parents have a strong attachment to Korea through all these years, but I don't want my soul connection to Korea to be through them, if that makes sense, but more like, like this is my tie to Korea and it's like, no, one's else's is just so I think that's why I'm a little hesitant to like kind of share all the details about my, my birth mother with, with anyone else almost actually.

Adapted Podcast ([00:21:49](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=EJNh02Ir1o8B742HE9zykWVk-vfR9S8ib7af-8hFeY7GleDMneRAgRWBfwcN0ART6typUTyMojnb9KYeY1OHkEVN5h8&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1309.67)):

So you never really growing up, you didn't feel in a position as an adoptee to you had to choose mothers or mm-hmm <affirmative> that you had to <affirmative> express you know, that you had been, you know, grateful for being saved from a worse, a worse outcome or something?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:22:10](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=7sHi2EsxxzlDOV2tB404sBuruD3AtbluQS3riWlp5P_5WFGEtAZ11iwgUvmm3NJJ6aZjBsKceq7R5snfhHOqMyEvnz0&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1330.84)):

Yeah, unfortunately I never like, or maybe there were like some times where that, that had hit me, but no, I never felt like I had to be, there were actually a few moments in growing up where I just remember some of my classmates sometimes would like say like these micro-aggression comments or like, I remember one kid said like, oh, you should be thankful. Your parents adopted you. And that's just such a weird concept to have as a kid. That's not normal nor any kid should like feel indebted to their parents for saving them. Yeah, I'm, I'm glad that my parents are fairly like woke and don't have this white savior complex of are like that. Wasn't their rationale behind adoption. And a lot of my friends who are adopted from Korea like of course they like love their parents, but they have this like kind of like disconnected relationship with their parents, unfortunately, just because of that like really weird concept of feeling indebted to your parents and yeah. Yeah. Fortunately yeah, I never had to, to go through that and because of that, I think I I've been able to be closer with my parents a little bit more.

Adapted Podcast ([00:23:29](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=5rCj2lC9zrAyCBZw39TQADwaDwWjaLvTSHT1FejkY90lpygoSRnXV4h13JcVD9El4n9oNu-siYlBtgqa8vMMh0NA1Fc&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1409.14)):

And so I, I, I imagine you grew up with having other adoptees in your life from a young age.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:23:34](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=NlXbSKz4v0JX141eUGjmtd_hI40qlsYWdu3pD5nInULbYX_wkxQuguXV-yIE7FQoXgUhCJcdeAONqOYoMqVQ-2Hb5C8&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1414.9)):

Yeah. so I went to like a couple or like there's Kim school, like this kind of like Sunday school that I went to on the weekends. And there's also a couple summer camps that I went to like camp Chosun. And specifically there's this one immersion language one Sup sogŭi Hosu through like Concordia language villages. Okay. and like at the time, like most of the summer campers who went were Korean adoptees. Yeah. I'm, I'm sure. Maybe you've heard like other stories of people sharing their experiences with that camp, but it, it was like a very special place <laugh> kind of like, like a, it felt like kind of like our own Korea away from our parents and its really weird or not weird, but there's like the ending ceremony of the camp when everyone goes back home and I just remember we'd sing like these Korean songs, but then everyone would be like just crying.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:24:38](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=so0nk-qOGqiPZJLrasblJKoNfQlds1XYsX_uNoLrgVDFWl_LAi9ON9NvL9SMQOTSjhZOOTx3RQsjh8Dv6hd15W9IF_c&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1478.29)):

Like every single kid would just be BA and it wasn't just because like we were all friends, but it was, it was definitely, there's like some deeper stuff that was going on. And yeah, I just remember these, these scenes where I was crying with all these other people and then all the families were just in the like these seats, like staring at their kids crying, just like <laugh>, it's a very surreal yeah. Experience. But Minnesota, as you know, is home to quite a few Korean adoptees. I don't know the numbers, but it seems like there's ever a group of Korean adoptee that this one person was from Minnesota and yeah. So growing up, I, I like some of my close friends were adopted from Korea and yeah, I'm, I'm very, again, fortunate that I didn't have to grow up in a, in a, like a small rural city where there weren't any other Asian people, but yeah, St Paul also has like a really large as you know, like Southeast Asian community. And I think being around a more diverse population, I don't know, was helpful for my upbringing.

Adapted Podcast ([00:25:44](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=GBegi3GLn4WpwzhcU3GK_t9EG-Wambj01ASYtcEwg74UxxHiYKmhc0MJfubEf4CvpwN4g34BxlzsLYIqUumpfgw5n-k&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1544.81)):

When you shared stories with other kids you were meeting, were there things that made you think that your adoptive family experience was different than others?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:25:57](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=LSFFTTrHz90Rj4pLG9NbqhHx68mE9bisBBcuMTD73OHFf0_xPgHS6w8HytDhoRvFkLHrYvujsFjDFsnvBgDD7GE057w&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1557.52)):

Yeah, definitely at, at times, like especially like with like <laugh> like interacting with my adopted parents, like parents, like I could kind of tell like, oh, you don't know like what kimchi or like they kimchi is, but like these like random Korean things that like my parents did, which I, yeah, I could, I could kind of tell earlier on like, yeah, my parents are doing a lot of Korean stuff. Yeah. To the point actually where so my, I have two older sisters and the oldest one is, is adopted from Korea and the middle child, their my parents' birth child. And she felt like <laugh>, there's this home video where she she realizes that her hair isn't black like us. And like, she felt very like distraught that she wasn't Asian. Yeah. Yeah. Like I think it was almost kind of like the opposite growing up.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:26:55](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Q1nmXm_5ZtmIqcoH-TQ4LQFla9rO9DRuIWM4VMiqqBBUBq50P2ezn-V_jetJF3-zIM0zV75n-_bH86ijd7uVGflxdOM&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1615.8)):

Like we never felt super ostracized, but the, my Caucasian sister felt <laugh> kind of out of the loop of not being Korean when she was like just a little kid, but because I noticed that my experience was different from other adoptees, I kind of didn't wanna share a lot about my adoptee experience sometimes just, I don't know. It just felt like boastful almost, or like just not right to share this and especially the, the part about MIMO and my, my birth mother, like through this kind of pseudo open adoption. I think that's something I don't always, or didn't really share with my adoptee friends. Yeah. And, and actually we kind of just, we're, we're friends outside of the fact of being adoptees, obviously. Like we kind of just, I don't know, played Pokemon and whatnot <laugh> as kids, but

Adapted Podcast ([00:27:51](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=yHoNkbBOeRYIeHi7LDq5oVFP20nvZ_vw27WyIZVPcbIrGFAAXyX6OK5jDTwfplxT4uVP8g-pxmDthZ4iFaLHGoyANpA&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1671.44)):

Yeah, because I mean, with your, when you get together with your adoptee friends, you're not just talking about your adoption.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:27:56](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=cKLX4CUxzZPJi6lCBl89zVX4aUkjBu5mgZPW9hSTQOKV6Emx3_m9Ae06UqTMMwMq-Xylp5vq8w-YpJHShl2oM2dOhEU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1676.72)):

Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. <Laugh>, that's not the, the conversation of go to conversation. Yeah. yeah.

Adapted Podcast ([00:28:05](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=rcIQ7BOQ77wFv4wv_NWShJ5O6Z1PXy8kGDAPoQj5aX5QqTbh7IFhlkh2AujCvBUnO86u35F419YHGC2Fu2_uwL-k0g8&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1685.42)):

And I know this is delicate because, you know, on the one hand you've got your, you know, your parents, Martha, Steve I'm just, I'm just thinking, you know, and I hope it's okay to just say it, like, you know, what sometimes did you think, like, it's so weird that my par, you know, white parents are so into Korean culture and, and, and then you said also this kind of tension sometimes of like, you want your relation, your experience relation with Korea to be for you, but you were also sharing it in a way with your parents or they mm-hmm, <affirmative> also were taking it on as, I don't know if they're taking it as part of their identity, but it certainly, you know, their work identity and they were very much, I mean, I would see them in a lot of adoptee events and yeah. Things too. And they were very much part of, I don't know if it was part of their identity too, but very much a part of their lives.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:29:00](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=7WNlWxu1ZGjIWXeiAFqMr0xYi4y2APPmu_HwOac15WpeF3ag3LJvvyT4TiZpD9Fb1IcsMA0ew5_i3Y3aCxrY1WGx7xE&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1740.44)):

Yeah, no, definitely. Yeah, like I'll preface this all with like, of course I love my parents and but yeah, I will admit, like, I think this is maybe not the correct term, but like at times it felt like cultural appropriation almost like there, you're not Korean, you're white. Like, why are you doing all these CR stuff? This is me not you. And yeah. I like selfishly, I don't know if selfishly, but like, as a kid was like, oh, like, I wish you just like, didn't care about Korea and it could just be mine. And like, like like we just, like, that would be the <laugh> the, the wall kind of like defining the limits of what, what you can and can't do. But yeah, I, I, like, I don't think it would, like now I kind of like, don't think it's fair for me to tell them like, oh, stop doing Korean stuff, because like you said, it's their, it's their, it's their job.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:30:07](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=CLPyf1Au2CoINJNECNwgQyfwgd53-kKRSyQ4K9_JfZ5wj96PIAWersHaWyadr4XgIS2KZhqwe_geRpU1F6g6Xcn7_WA&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1807.97)):

And I think Korea is also like an important part of their lives. Like they have two children, often Korea, and, but also kind of realized that they're connect, realize that their connection with Korea is, is different for mine. And it's okay for people who aren't Korean to be interested in part of like the Korean community. So I don't want to be like a, a gatekeeper of <laugh> of all of things, Korean cuz that's not okay or I think good for the world. So, but yeah, yeah. I think growing up, I did, I did feel like like stop being so Korean mom and dad. But through conversations with other adoptees, I think, I think I I've come to this better realization.

Adapted Podcast ([00:30:56](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=jiKs6KD0rJGyu5fRwe7pHX9kM9gs82WDnyNrwH336pkH3KtnqTpzYekVk4Bs7eAVHEvEuiOO7nYfqVrzP-xDuNluClQ&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1856.39)):

Yeah. I mean, cuz you know, you maybe heard from other adoptee that they wish their parents would've been more interested in Korea mm-hmm <affirmative> or even I mean I, I never ate a meal. My parents never took me to a Korean restaurant. I think I was 19 or 20 before I had Korean food for the first time. So like, you know, you hear these kinds of stories and you know, it's, it's, it's it's probably a good way to kind of reflect too.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:31:26](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=0xJNAJ3f-hGxev64UIZjj7zGE5vWr8y4KIrOx22_J3BDLM7Bua2tklUHNn5yBtAjkgAe5FIn0fjGGNrimaT5IcaR2p0&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1886.02)):

Yeah, definitely. And yeah, I, I that's like, I think bringing up the other comment we talked about where I kind of didn't wanna always share these thoughts of even like saying like, oh, I wish my parents were less Korean because like some of my friends, like weren't put in that or like wish they had had kimchi their lunch boxes growing up. And yeah, I think because of that, I like, I was never like forced again to like be thankful for my parents. But just that, that I am thankful that I, I was able to have these experiences,

Adapted Podcast ([00:32:02](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=-DLcYDg69_mtydACz8j_yqzIAlL2JqPOVWtBuj-JMNvD3H7njK_RjnWkqQrj2nU8mTfpcwmuBE7O75Iba_HC3_dvKTU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1922.16)):

But at the same time, you know, you're a kid growing up and you, yeah. You're allowed to have angst too about yeah, yeah, yeah. <Laugh> and so it's kinda like, I, I can see it on the one hand you don't wanna be like complaining too much about, you know, things that make you feel uncomfortable because you know, other people might say, well, Hey, I wish my parents were more like that. So

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:32:22](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=rlSIpOj0NYHkvbtCUjQmptD2UykzOgDfym3B4YOWfwMbMRVJ9-EKK2Lm0bV2FdPFHmCLtwuVDnEHSNsz-SxFp_L-A8Q&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1942.7)):

Yeah. Yeah, no, definitely every, every kid goes through puberty

Adapted Podcast ([00:32:27](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=zJ4hun2SVSSK7VYaTD3f2Y6-yrdENz7OXM7RG3uaEtgiUW1qsNrKPWXh0FOSjrRDS-40bW5Vr1OokHSZ7r5-Hsj5YCE&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1947.34)):

<Laugh> what did, I mean, you said that your, your dad was like a, a news photographer and that he had been to spent time in Korea, I guess maybe mm-hmm <affirmative> but did your parents ever tell you why they did become so interested in Korea or they made, they wanted to make it part of their lives so, so much.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:32:48](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=ptCLDEqyFRUrAYu8IM8ji_JLo5HbWIJ5vgYBK2aCW4edMd4m8zwuIelrbgYc0iBbMQq98NfDEOvC6ZZY16e_ZLdOF0M&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1968.19)):

Yeah. we have had this conversation and <laugh>, I don't know why maybe I just blocked it in my mind of, I don't, I don't know, actually the specifics specifically why Korea? I knew partly they kind of had some friends and like neighbors who originally kind of suggested to my parents about adopting from Korea for my, my older sister. And I think slowly from that, they, they were already like, like my dad shot for one of the local newspapers and so they were already like journalists. And yeah, I can't quite remember what sparked the idea behind like Korean quarterly, but that kind of began the big exploration of all these things Korean and yeah, I think we, we went back a couple times as a family to Korea for like vacation and yeah, I think my parents would just kind of buy a lot of books and they bought these, like these Korean traditional drums and slowly accumulated them to the point where they were like, oh, we should probably learn how to play them and began along like this exploration of many things, Korean.

Adapted Podcast ([00:34:04](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=qRddn8_squtk3By3-a7GvLzu7cBUpUP9dcDYVrJ-qDOhqGTcz6Y5VVwgMKybmeV9HT5JyQKNw2TlU9XPNxc9c4axaZY&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2044.68)):

Oh, did you get into drumming?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:34:07](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=LuF5tPpCOHTuIM74d1gGBG6Xp-U1e8YHMusZ7WLLbnaLNNqpaL2fynMjTZ-m1k6C1o-vJxnqzotDWzagg1TDqFJc5ws&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2047.99)):

Yeah, yeah. Yeah. So I, I did Shinparam like at like middle school, high school and yeah, we like one of the trips back to Korea was for this Korean traditional drumming festival. There's this kind of like Korean drum guru Kim Tak Su that like, I don't know all of the like 60 year olds, like know, and that they're their, his they're rock stars or whatever. But yeah, we went there and were just like randomly invited as like this like small group that wasn't very good from Minnesota. And yeah, that was, that was a really cool experience. Just because it wasn't just like groups from America, but there were these groups from Russia and like Switzerland and these like Germans playing Korean drums and all these other people, like having different connections to Korea. So like, there's like a large group of like biracial Koreans from Mexico who we got to meet. And yeah, I continued to play in, in university. There's like a small, I guess student group called Choong at the, at the university of Minnesota. That was a part of too.

Adapted Podcast ([00:35:40](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=GAlwo-JuF72EFQZJR-pu2S6ZaMCdQHSdBcxsXRjUi4rkXV1XLJe6dDjmPOz6Bkabr8jZQg0OzXZr4NxNFWTYkTjdkyY&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2140.07)):

What about drumming? Did you enjoy and did you feel like it helped you to create kind of a, a connection to Korea?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:35:50](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=R6LPmHQ_ak814BwR_bZ6XUrFroK_3ACYNndsZvAbSzTXA-l5jiUT5cC2yn2qw_o9bixeYu_Q4GLye7OacIKl-8OFLq8&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2150.39)):

Yeah. so I did, I did like band in middle school. I was never very good, but yeah, I think that was like my <laugh> my instruments of choice. And I think having that, like, we would have like weekly practice of Shinparam and yeah, having kind of like a, like a scheduled reserve time to connect with careers or drumming, I think was really helpful. But I actually, I think my my strongest connection to Korea growing up was maybe food. I think that's something I was like very into <laugh> as a kid. So I just like learned how to cook and I don't know, there's this YouTuber called Maanchi who like kind of posts these recipes and whenever the YouTube became a thing, I discovered that and yeah, like having, having this knowledge of Korean food, I think was my, my, my, my real special tied to Korea that I was proud of.

Adapted Podcast ([00:36:51](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=5_tCR8LnayMHJ-tls9-iHFTB2CABY8CpRQMEeE6i4kMZM-z_HJ7XxXHUBuF6rBbyRZjwKQaW7SelSZkZhHiD8X9Ax4o&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2211.15)):

So you would, as a high school kid, you would, you would watch the videos and try to make things on your own.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:36:56](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=DKvcjZ6Yi22XM8m2hYaUVHqPvRVRtTRrjM4VygEF4T-3Mj8bzs7zxi7GB1ZQh_exNZEFfcYh3PdFd7EydCk70kt4ZeE&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2216.63)):

Yeah. Yeah. I was very into Soondubu like the soft tofu stew. And yeah, I, I don't know. I wasn't really good at cooking, but I would like try and they were, I guess a couple like Korean grocery stores, like Ang and Kim's market. And like, usually on the weekend we would kind of pick up Korean groceries and we always got to pick a snack or whatever, and as kids and yeah, yeah. I I have a close, like, I don't know, place in my heart for like Korean grocery source and like H Mart and whatnot. <Laugh> I definitely pick people's brains of like, oh, what's the best kimchi or what's the best like snack and yeah. Yeah, I think cuz like, like I don't know my parents like, or like my mom, she does cook Korean food, but like, I think that's different from living in Korea having this innate knowledge of, of, of the groceries and what to pick.

Adapted Podcast ([00:37:55](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=3pIdc-mmX6L4mCO9mg24esVuqqnZknrpb3aQF-D2_EAwKER1hcfplF7e9sTPdQhZiXoQ2gyEtgmL7ZMj8ph54E_v-KQ&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2275.79)):

So when did you decide to go to Korea to live?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:37:59](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=2pt9OfOaLRZhEFuoa4Bg4KrBSqdaqB1i1LJSkpV6tN_4NPy5y1FWDknYJuzy00q5GaKIkW4uFe8lnc8s4Zm24AjxIPE&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2279.27)):

Oh yeah. So I guess I graduated university 2017 and I managed to get a teach in Fulbright to live in South Korea for a year. And yeah, I think I, I always knew I wanted to live in Korea and like Lifewise, it seemed to make sense to live in Korea, like at this age versus like maybe later down I have a job and it's hard to travel or something. And yeah, I'm, I'm really glad that I did it because I guess it's just a couple years before the pandemic, so yeah. I was also thinking like, oh, maybe it'll wait a couple years, but like I think it's, or I, I did hear actually the quarantine is maybe I think gone now maybe. But yeah, it's still difficult to travel these last couple years. Yeah, yeah.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:38:55](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=EwPukntnlbIW15-p6llMkwn9CTFy0aWitjQZsv_JlHYF2Ns-jcP_DCIH37z7zjxhcJXO7DWDKaHOQr3YHJwC0Uz3Vdg&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2335.66)):

Yeah, I was actually there so 2017 to 2018, which was the year of the Olympics. So that was also a really cool thing to experience while I was there. And so yeah, I taught at a, an old boys high school in Iksang, which is right next to Jeonju which is like the, the birthplace of bibimbap apparently. Which is also where my, my birth mother is from. So I kind of finagle to try to get a city placement that was close to Jeonju, but yeah, I lived with a host family who I still get to talk to and it was a very intense experience for language specifically, cuz my birth or my my host family, the parents didn't really speak English very well <laugh> but yeah, yeah, I think or no, go ahead.

Adapted Podcast ([00:39:46](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=BRLN99jNuWWYh8PYX4ShaLL_u2Ud1kufHmCCSpMRkilRnH-o3YWqMXuJY1fCpMjJJ10uDwuTSRhMfcNYkgYuTRZ9z7I&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2386.67)):

How was your Korean

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:39:48](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=euh5jYqM0y5jzLduAyDoVlVpP3zneZ_0M9O0bjsJRmgAMPb041ctHk8N6Ml6Xyc2pLqUmEJYEXvPQOuUqYWBANiqfx0&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2388.92)):

It's, it's deteriorated quite a bit <laugh> since I've been there. I can maybe have a conversation about the, the weather and tell a taxi where to go in order from a restaurant but politics or anything. No, like it's too much <laugh>

Adapted Podcast ([00:40:04](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=oLqUVnaSbT7DiX2vD6NidkWWJDrhUh3RjvZ5gRUv4wn-cGVmjjeP4wGHvIE9SmqWW7ObUd-_sAZxonDIRWZ1G4O_vsA&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2404.34)):

So when you were, you were there for two years?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:40:09](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=cskBmet75LDNpUxoN3GtnvloMcc2kz-9Y4MlbHHggyDBAYZZye9_iDC1xWnwHm700T1zotWvXFC5Cvd9FsG9IPfCi3Q&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2409.551)):

No, just just one year. And I guess I, I did study for a semester during undergrad in in Pohang, which is on kind of close to Pusan area. But yeah, yeah. I, I I really kind of look fondly on my year that I lived in Korea and, and miss a lot of things about it.

Adapted Podcast ([00:40:31](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=CP_glG0NCFAM3FUthIBjC5LX6jQCWibhhsg4vvId15Xi37Vs_YGHJks59B5KD1pqfVsOGuuUoRZAq6YtwkazO8YjQXE&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2431.59)):

Were you glad that you weren't in se

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:40:36](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=EMO6QCBL9nGVjsHPHRLptCn8AD4jY2O4fhUO-0IzvGooIlAl27epd4uTRBHXpha16-WgPwMfCFY8m1Ad1qwPkqTsQrM&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2436.44)):

Kind of, yeah. I will admit that I did travel back to se quite a bit, cuz it's so easy with the trains and it's like relatively inexpensive. But yeah, because of that, I'd like just naturally spent more time with my, my host family. Like we would do this oh this is really great. Kongnamul-Gukbap this beans sprout rice soup that we would get every Sunday, which was like their family or something that yeah, that's one of the things I miss the most, actually this, this one tiny little restaurant that we went to and yeah, so if I were in soul, I'd probably like go off and see friends or like all the many things that are going on in soul, but yeah, the tin town was nice too.

Adapted Podcast ([00:41:22](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=_GLG-l6wbxksFUHii7JmnfUhFHWhUZkHjyhSFzmC8xM2dQguhvisnOL2cmlHKVrTpC0ZDccG0JFxWjTYP9eoXB7zjME&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2482.81)):

<Laugh> so that's really interesting that you had that experience of, you know, having a, a ho a Korean host family. And so you were a part of this, this Korean family mm-hmm <affirmative> mm-hmm <affirmative> did it, what kinds of feelings did that bring up for you?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:41:40](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=VtrbzdsXb61g1JIMvZHD0ogjgRHqUUPHcF4OvIxEsyS99xdx8hQNhDWKNAl2pEM7cNjFmKJ3RhiA5H8BVmNXxaw8yAM&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2500.54)):

Oh yeah, it was like, there's this one? So my, my, my adopted parents, Steven, Martha, they they came to creative me. They're, they're actually like doing some stories for the Olympics, so they that's one reason why they came, but also to see me and they obviously met my, my host family and yeah, I just remember like we were driving to some restaurant or something and me, my host mom were like, we're conversing in Korean cuz she can only really speak Korean. And I would just kind of immediately like translate for my, my parents and yeah, that, I don't know. I think I just remember that memory very clearly just cuz it felt like, oh wow. I'm like Korean <laugh> and like yeah, yeah, like it was a very kind of special experience for me and I I'm glad that the, I got along so well with my host family cuz I know some other people in my program, the, I don't know, the family just kind of was like a living situation and, and not really like a family, but they were very open to me joining their, their family rituals and whatnot.

Adapted Podcast ([00:42:58](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=B7mC50KlpYSQnmE20I-adK4pYPyvK6rPxy_b6LODdm6xPDOXGtI4UNaZQSjVyjEfR2yKQN9KlFcUb59Vh_tnV50db6Y&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2578.01)):

Maybe that was an example of where you realized that you had a connection to Korea for you.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:43:06](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=gfCJYVbMMgkPzrSq8UFSAAcvdrFoNP4eBrJk74FNnLuTkP1BsvDisCFSIym0d6yRLOEwdZHp819mCiO3FDtj_LWgnRg&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2586.46)):

Yeah, no, definitely. Yeah, actually, yeah, looking back like, oh, being able to converse in like my experience with this, my host family, like my parents didn't have and that's totally fine. And yeah, I, I think that at that moment too, I was like very like my my Korean language conversing schools was very low at the beginning, but it slowly progressed <laugh> and I think at that point I realized like, oh wow, I can have a conversation and not use Google translate every second. But yeah, but now, now I can't do that anymore. I kind of have lost a lot, but

Adapted Podcast ([00:43:45](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=xL7dyqPlS4-Jhv4CP6Q3WQdJ41PhxfdVi3ccvqiy9lZXASBXmbcpMB_esiUCSJ82WZZtIasXs-6-wJzAuyBjZ8Epj5M&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2625.26)):

It'll come back if you, you know, but yeah, it's, it's harder if you're not using it every day. Yeah. Yeah. Did you feel like at times when you were in Korea that you had kind of this imposter syndrome of, you know, a lot of us talk about that even being in the states, having in this imposter syndrome of maybe not feeling like not really feeling that we could own our Korean identity or that we were, you know, imposter Asians, you know, and then being in Korea, like, did you feel sometimes that you were also an imposter Korean?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:44:17](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=MRdQue0Zvn2udyenPrTQGhW41Qkco8qd6wGoSuJO9mRy3FZKapqN2E_FZlhvAhBFyTsQiJHdQxHIqkjKIbLVFQ7vVTI&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2657.12)):

Totally. Constantly. Like it was really weird cuz yeah. Yeah. And like the states, everyone looks at you as like Asian American or Korean, but like you can kind of like sneakily, like pretend to like, I mean, we are Korean, but like like kind of blend in with the crowd, but then after a few moments where I start speaking with my accent or I don't know, my American mannerisms or something they're like, oh wait a second. You're not Korean or something, but we are Korean. Yeah. And it's like oh, I forget the term, like the, the third space of like not being American enough or not being Korean enough. Like we're like never enough. But and I think at times just to like survive social situations, I would just kind of try to hide the fact that I'm Korean. And would like just make up stories like, oh my I'm like fourth generation Korean American or something like <laugh>, that's why I don't speak Korean or something. Like for people that don't care, like taxi drivers or something, but

Adapted Podcast ([00:45:32](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=ATyon_pwEDt8llUiq5DS3RSp3bBe_jDk8Kf2kr4_7IWhePcRrd7E5rMDiUTti6Be0jQgRRXfA01Zc-mTS39miuxhFKo&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2732.989)):

You mean in Korea? Yeah,

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:45:34](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=a-K5tjw9qWRwMZjK3LxD3-NO64qf_wN9sDUcM04Q8Y4OPKCNXEei8d6qLIgJIjKdoPm6uJj05IWZkttNzWN1SwnKKIc&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2734.01)):

Go ahead. Yeah. In, in Korea I would try to hide the fact that I'm I'm adopted in yeah, that actually a, another common in is with my name. So I always go by Han Yong Wunrow. Actually growing up, my parents always had called me Han Yong my Korean name. But I guess Romanization rules usually there's like a dash or they're like combined the first name into like one word. But I think at the time, something in my adoption papers there's a space or something. So all, all the people in Korea, they thought my so it's always like land, last name, first name order. So they think my last name is Han and my first name is Yong and then they just get really confused by one row. They don't even know what's going on with that. So yeah. It's been a, a, like I have a, like a standard explanation in Korean that I often say like, oh, my name is

Adapted Podcast ([00:46:43](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=IJC5ppEuqYFbpU57nCnHNi8AAKetAAd_IquJI7izmSilloL4R9eb-4JdjRgpF254cvIjAC6O5qzsT8im07uP9r7VQXM&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2803.33)):

<Inaudible>. Yeah. you know, it's funny because I, I, you know, I think sometimes like language, language ability is what kind of is like the gatekeeper that keeps us out of like fully feeling. We have access to this Korean identity, but you were in Korea and you were able to, you know, you were translating for your parents, you were learning to, to speak that that must have had a special feeling for you.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:47:11](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=LlrKEi4TiZJWoD0FdJZk5XHQBmc_uYG_qUe65KXxyU7z2VRlYr-IKIJe8VJhItVZXVSV7ocajFSuZNNbNv0Pr99KfhU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2831.15)):

Yeah, no, definitely like I'd kind of been trying to learn Korean, like, like I took some classes in university and that helped with like VOCA, but yeah, I think like not being able to converse specifically with my birth family was like, felt like that that was like the final, last barrier of like being able to reconnect with someone. Cuz of course, like there's translators and stuff, but it's kind of weird having like this third person <laugh> you, you can only talk about so much without just feeling kind of strange yeah. Being able to survive in Korea and live there and speak the language was I think one of the, like, I don't know, goals or something or something that I just really wanted to obtain. So I, I think I was just for that one moment that I shared about being in the car with my parents. I think I just remember, I was like, oh yeah, I did it <laugh> I can speak Korean at least to this amount.

Adapted Podcast ([00:48:26](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=9WsGB3BDGt2zwALKXgM1bLQk90Xo6XLek0YjU-lKwwUV6tWL5ewTjpdMtJQA83wkyF_a9J0o7A6L9aNlt8VgzbyBxsA&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2906.239)):

What was it like being able to be near was your, did your birth mother live in Jeonju?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:48:34](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=IG3c3YOSVupxYzViIxmjlWWH44YO-a4sGmR_15yF3r3oMFfXHm2TS3zODkJZ77geIU9N6KQ4DFLmJppklEYokEnTDoI&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2914.28)):

Yeah, so she lives in, she lives in Jeonju and yeah, my Iksang was maybe like a 20 minute bus ride, so like pretty close. So I got, I got to see her quite a bit, which was I was very happy that I got placed in the school right next there.

Adapted Podcast ([00:48:50](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=I8t_ikgKbfdvItmVmh9My1eZSQWKN-mXLol4Q4MnywLJFYl6USnF8yCoeRp6Mr_HCZOv_8ZQDsPv_nl6GKt_x49vu3A&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2930.79)):

Yeah. I mean, I don't know, are the things you wanna share about that? What was it like being able to sort of on a more consistent basis be able to see her or was she open to seeing you?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:49:04](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=XNBcvUBl_qHP8TAQiBif_iZtshkmEc6j8gUFTmBA73oVpiwBKb0dHy9NVL3AaMDLS8VTyWcsOhS9Fnzk9GvFsmenxH8&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=2944.4)):

Yeah, no. So maybe we saw each other like every other week or so. So she, she also had, I have a half brother and half sister and at that time they were in my half sister was like second year in high school and her younger brother was like middle school. So my birth mom was pretty busy <laugh> taking care of her kids. And the, the tricky thing is that no one else knows I exist <laugh> except for my birth mom. So it was kind of difficult navigating, like felt kind of like, like we secretly met up literally when, when she was free and, but yeah. One comment is that it, I think of all the people in Korea that I like spoke to in Korean, my birth mother was the easiest person to speak to Korean, to like where I could understand very easily.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:50:04](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=y4W6F0syBwZDfxkd0RXu-VbG0u8qbcKkU62IUFCETEa2KwDmi61VI70GFrDE8E6IaaQk5rE0TkRofF1g4tx3Ipc8Oyk&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3004.6)):

And I'm pretty sure, like she deliberately slowed her speech. <Laugh> like very slowly so that I would understand. And she also speaks like a little bit of English, but I think she's like kind of embarrassed. So she never really spoke English as me, but yeah, I think it's a little not weird, but we look like very, very alike. Like we have the same nos, like the face it's like, oh wow. We're related. And having that was, I don't know how to, like, it's hard for like adoptee to explain that to like these other people who like grew up with people who look like them the entire life. It's just like very surreal moment when like we first reconnected and yeah. And I, I'm just glad I got to know her on a slightly more personal level too. So like I know like, oh, she doesn't like this food or her favorite actors, blah, blah, blah.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:50:57](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=qBLXcRUHVRToYKtgvSQF1kv8w5yp2S32TYV_keKBCpsWGkCvDuobp_sl5fuZiKjoc8SKIetBVETN5OviFfPDhVsI0cU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3057.27)):

And yeah, yeah. And actually when, when I studied abroad living this city Pohang, we got to reconnect, I think a little bit more closely because her kids were a little bit younger and their like daycare or something like that. And she just had more free time to spend with me. So we went on a couple trips together, which I think she was, or we were both just trying to make up for lost time if that's like the right way to think about it. But just like trying to figure out who each person was and <laugh> share time together.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:51:57](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=4GuH964HpEy-wRS9PRKb1lmVoElTScj_BxQXi_cgAy5nlcWuZwYBCVUbipivVA3K9gfZ8l22campzRoiRCJXSgHcAtU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3117.34)):

We did have like talk about like, she kinda shared her story more deeply in some of the details I didn't know, growing up. And yeah, I don't think she ever like specifically like apologized or anything. It, that was just, I don't know, like I wouldn't want her to apologize. It's just like, <laugh> just feels weird, like sorry about, yeah, no. And I don't think I really wanted her to feel Remo or like I never want like, or no kid wants her parents to feel bad about anything like or whatever like that and especially this. And I think initially I just kept on going back to this idea of like, oh, I had like a really good life in America and I really like math or whatever. And yeah, like me trying to let her know not to feel bad about this decision that she, this really hard decision that she had to make. And after that, I think it, like, obviously we didn't talk about that every single time we met up. So I think

Adapted Podcast ([00:53:16](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=JxLfQk_ULjdqrDrlE3vVos1JOq0NU4zo_jbS3oWxB33Hn6XVWdEyCYgrSulzhMhNW5PjWicnZHwixE1zUbuD9COXZqg&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3196.04)):

I guess I just meant like having to meet and, you know, and feeling like you were this secret, you know, and

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:53:23](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=TEE2ou51mVnOWcabhUKn45EA2AYIUq1WGoZX1tZyBuXe-0B2pk74dEBZbQH82P2u-UupZRFcSMqWn7z8sX6WT7-c_RA&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3203.98)):

Oh yeah. That, I think that's like something like, I kind understand, but not totally like that she comes from like a more conservative family that kind of like caused a lot of unneed family drama that I don't want for her, but at the same time it's like I'd like one weird thing that I'll share is that when I was studying abroad, I'd actually met my half brother and half sister when they were like, I don't know, six and seven. And I think she lied and said like, oh, this is my friend's kid. Who's from America. That it surprisingly looks just like me. And I'm pretty sure at six and seven, they were like, oh, they figure it out. Or they kind of know I, or I think I think the, my younger half brother maybe was a little bit too young, but the half sister was like, cognizant enough.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:54:20](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=M9B3n8JtkTSm1cZAL5fvAnOVGdU9vFRjTgg7HdxlqRHauzZvsegM8bGAoQMDxqDqVzHqx6iVtIZBzmxZ8IstWwPrZvQ&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3260.58)):

I was like, oh, wait a second. <Laugh> but I'm not, I'm not really sure if she talked to them afterwards or shared, but to, to my knowledge that no one really knows that I'm her son. Yeah. So there is like some ti, like, I'm not, I wouldn't say like I'm best friends with my birth mother or like, there's definitely some topics that are difficult to bring up and like me kind of the fine line of like respecting her boundaries as well. So like I'd wish people knew <laugh> that existed. Yeah. I think, I think, yeah, there's just so many different stories about reconnecting with birth family that I've heard from my friends and maybe this isn't true. I just feel like the relationship could be so fragile maybe at times just cuz I've heard so many bad stories of like, or maybe the family doesn't want have anything to do. Or like it's like, you're just unable to find your birth parents and I think that's why I'm maybe kind of maybe overly cautious about kind of pushing some of these boundaries of like, oh, tell your kids that I exist or something, but yeah. Yeah. I also try to understand and empathize.

Adapted Podcast ([00:55:37](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=cLBnEE0CyS7lykBXn0wT1kyPM9zjrkPV8lVaK3j-CLhRm_KtQdnAsyfM7642kqKzskN7IlnsUVMVjEgn4TbDamovH6E&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3337.68)):

Yeah. I mean these, like you said, it can be, I mean, it's very, sometimes it can be very delicate and you you know, so quickly these relationships can disappear, you know, mm-hmm <affirmative> so you don't wanna do anything that might push people away, you know? But yeah, so it's almost, I think as adoptees, you're kind of negotiating doing a lot of negotiating, but also you're not really in a position of power. Right.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:56:11](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=PaH1sUucrIhUPWAAg0D5zm8hzMRz1QzEhCxcoGNM0IapOwBgYYTrlMgEinn2J5x35aZcUzhQNFhzgvUh1IAV6wegoEQ&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3371.13)):

Mm-Hmm <affirmative> yeah. Like I can't make any of these decisions. <Laugh> it's kind of on her and like you said, the, I know like not like this like kind of irrational fear of like, oh, she's never gonna talk to me if I ask you this. I don't think that will happen. But like at, at times it just feels like like we finally like kind of reconnected. I don't want that to go away. And like it's, it's different from a other type of relationship with like a, like just like a friend or like a, another family member. But this, yeah,

Adapted Podcast ([00:56:45](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=FH38LugoFtLDDI6ppMg56uyXfZ69SAbmNebIRmQoIPst_oCb1MHaY1HIh7j9HElU_Baky3JLm7jTPFmedPCqk9IvcN8&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3405.87)):

You call, do you call her umma and does she call you adil like son?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:56:52](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=MOQp6TBU567sU-L5jHHLbiTrqqg20pk9nC8O4x--kdCKG5XI1jAj7VOx0fn8jboUG7bxZd7bp42jQm5SAneIxGWjXcQ&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3412.31)):

In text? Yeah. I, I, I always, I have her saved as umma and I think in talking, she always says like, she act, actually calls me Yong a lot even. I, I, I'm not really sure if this is a common thing to like nickname your kids or something where you just say one Sy,llable but she always calls me Yong. Or like Yong-ah. I think she may, I don't think she's ever called me adil, but maybe that's just because I'm like not a small kid. I'm not really sure. Language decisions and stuff like that, but yeah.

Adapted Podcast ([00:57:34](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=5UQw6hOfjDbfZv2g2fGzmKGpSGZq4sH3sKY_RKRsDZJTN9ZrtZ2h7dxwfCBeFHP5QH7CwVDlZS9pQTNqNrXUlbddoHs&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3454.49)):

Do you hope one day that you'll be able to meet your half siblings more openly?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:57:43](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=8u8xiA5jH3v_LtEMIIU00ZPN1SN7rGYAfyJ2Mej_TY7Ho_E2wWjEm-8gXHaKnOkO2SLkc460NXCmfdX0kFKwfWfK810&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3463.52)):

Yeah, no. That's what I want to happen and now they're oh gosh, I think they're in like in college now actually like yeah, yeah. Cuz I was living in Korea 2017, which is now like five years ago. And yeah. Yeah, so they just finished. Okay. Yeah, no, they they're in college now, which is crazy.

Adapted Podcast ([00:58:10](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=obstV9u9EhAmlE5Z881oeir5erPgmV3tIpo73IkZOxHObhCMYBJxQlOWuWGrWcW6ZWDhT1_OYyYyTPi2GOEUPBuy7BU&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3490.42)):

Do you ever, ever have these fantasies? You're just gonna Facebook message from and oh, by the way,

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:58:15](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=3rIpDlAJpYA0pThtukqJGNj3d0L0qTvV8RY3ba8LdRHTfvhLrP1nw1m3mqo07Cru6ISQ-f3YFd-v2l6yEHNs0_hDsxw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3495.16)):

I yeah. Can definitely figure out a way to find them on like yeah. Facebook or social media let them up. But I, I also would probably like never do that just cuz I feel like it caught too much drama with that. I, I don't know, maybe a better, more delicate way to do it. But yeah, I have thought about that like, oh, well I just text someone say hi,

Adapted Podcast ([00:58:45](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=lNSGIfds2VWZOQnjlwJOCLzL5iuzLsyBx9FVVh3rCQ2odStxCmMmMttYmwMA-ZCf1kiNeYkpHmFQNOPYUuDxQ2fAXG8&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3525.63)):

Maybe, maybe one day they'll just they'll come forward to you with, you know.

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:58:53](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=i0QakJ5n7r_EFwe3wxH5ijwhVDN25mrOq37IkcblQsDIOXKfrBZtD8ndmWHDeo6M-wTBM-w-On8xNfhEFq_5-zRxP9k&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3533.36)):

Yeah, no, definitely. I think my, my genome is in some family library out there and I don't know everyone's doing 23 me. They'll just randomly. Oh there's someone shares half of my DNA, but yeah. Yeah, I would kind of like that for me to have a relationship with my half brother and half sister.

Adapted Podcast ([00:59:20](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=y7s7bzEiypKF1tqlzLbuRBO2bPQO4T5eqBYWc2IicVJVWum2jaLQrsnNi8RkgYwvQ80_GthiyKIu5NHB-tmxQFjgTj8&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3560.14)):

Do you see yourself going to Korea to live for any amount of time?

Han Yong Wunrow ([00:59:24](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=qPCFUYcU6qazQmkHgsMd9bo5iwV4DFh4BuaZQW7UJ2EXrKUo7xm88hoRX-qh9GMBDI5ZAxnejArX0x53lpu49EsUv7U&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3564.63)):

Yeah. I think if I went back to Korea to live I'd need like, like I, I wouldn't just move there. I'm on a whim, but I I'd need some like kind of job or something specific and yeah, that's something I really maybe not struggled with, but kind of like my ideal job would be like something that would allow me to like constantly go back to Korea where like, I don't know, whatever company pays for it and it's nice. And I could just like be Korea while also working, but it's kind of hard to find something like that in math, but yeah.

Adapted Podcast ([01:00:05](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=jkKlXlSEdL_N4dDpUnKfXMPzf3fv9fV-pBv8SG9e_ERWH0f0-AteHDYn8LCtP4z5bp69OcUF6ndWgE2QgnVsLWrJ-nw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3605.99)):

Could you, could that be a subject you could go back to Korea and, and teach at a university there.

Han Yong Wunrow ([01:00:11](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=arobJ0fW3ubBWJLSCxCo94Iblr4zjZx5g8wbDpsz97-Z-vwyXDukp40ri7r1Vq6PzFgCxRS2ZK6zIiZv_igmZXUYYzo&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3611.58)):

I did look into that and there's like a couple places specifically that like, oh, visiting professors and stuff, so that's yeah, yeah, yeah. So that's, that's kind of a academic career goal maybe that I, I would like to have cuz I don't see myself like never going back to Korea cuz I think, I think that's always gonna be a part of my life.

Adapted Podcast ([01:00:36](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=GivjsAb7ehTN69_B6tuLCQA9BL9tLQyQy4SVWkwk4Q86MxME2S7mcVuo1uDEx4W-Dcr2KksF90rFkVLcacxFNJ3PB1s&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3636.42)):

So now you're in New York city. I, I did wanna kind of circle back about how are you feeling being in New York and during the time of just so much violence towards Asians?

Han Yong Wunrow ([01:00:49](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=250vo8KMCCsTGBVOMwU2KAXPy33XWZreoVsdMEMcKHfXLkDGom8lZALhNbZh-XvJccytowClf4NHXeQ7Rq3b-CF0YGQ&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3649.78)):

Yeah, no it's, it's scary. I think, I feel like every day on my feet, like there's always a New York times article about some horrible story and yeah, I think like, I don't know. I think I have maybe a slightly different experience as like a male, but my my partner she's, she's also Asian American and in daylight maybe a little bit safer, but like I always like go meet her at the train station to pick her up. So we take the subway together and yeah, it's, it's like, fortunately I haven't had any like kind of horrible, like anti-Asian hate experience since moving to New York. But I know it's out there, I'm kind of a bit more vigilant about safety and, and looking out for others too. And I'm also surprised, like this is a random side comment, but you know how the subways in Korea, they have the sliding doors and how that's like, like it seems like such an easy safety thing. I don't know. I'm not sure what the MTA is doing, but I know the MTAs, like always a mess, but I think that's an action that I feel like maybe hasn't been put on the forefront when it seems like an important thing. Yeah.

Adapted Podcast ([01:01:53](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=5WUz1WS9M14pOMNwPkMq2p9w3JIBFlZescGSn1yeBrdeXxGtCX_P3AfUDs_eZYt7Q5zkiNo0UZvEHW27YdVYu80wr6c&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3713.71)):

Are you enjoying life though so far, or, I mean it's during the pandemic though being in New York, but

Han Yong Wunrow ([01:01:59](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Ty5D_WoET138nA1uM9c_8br1CZYpahF0u74cSNwWi_4a6kW-FxnGh72427glHzSh_k8wE8tJMNSUnEy9uZ1UD9jpWlw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3719.22)):

Yeah. Yeah. Things are slowly opened up more and no, but yeah, I, I love New York. I'm definitely like a, a bigger city type of person. And like I found my favorite restaurants in K town. And I've gone out to flush in a few times to visit that, so, yeah. And, and also there's there's an H Mart, very coast that I live. And I specifically chose my apartment to be close to that. So to me, it's, it's the life it's, it's very nice.

Adapted Podcast ([01:02:30](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=53CDcC0j2g0Bjw-_Yu2kPUlur-ottnj-cLmtAQbcfOkE68Ib0mCBmqswp3F3s2rb-_eWtmU4Y73WnaaEOZGQLItKNF4&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3750.11)):

Nice. I'm so ENV, you live near in H Mart?

Han Yong Wunrow ([01:02:32](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=sGgMijsiVpeJ_Im_4P2WSI3AfUMB7-wCfgbQB7_pKTbeYUE5uYlbrre598nw5E01mBt7VnO3SQhfEK5fcaJfkj039FE&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3752.67)):

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah, I wish they brought one to Minnesota, but I'd also feel bad if it put other these groceries store out business, but

Adapted Podcast ([01:02:43](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=XraVni1o8SEViJRcGqXx3_2kFirS3p52UCqawcuR4kiLSOuZWXjLtwK2-Km1zvo_GIHNUffGWUr6zAVZ8kFM3NW1T2I&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3763.98)):

What are your favorite Korean places in K town? Oh

Han Yong Wunrow ([01:02:47](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=0539g5vtH6hD8pZt2TvnzZI_VQE7yo3zlCsAhEDdNA9k1DgioXWbvTgqj_RWfejQ_AC3A4HzRsIEYQUhLr4gff5B2nk&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3767.51)):

M,we really love this place called Chodang-gorl. So they, they make their own tofu in house and they have really good soondubu, but,uthey have this other dish called bichi jjigae and like, I think bichi is like the name of the like post, like when you make tofu, there's like these like random bean curd products, but,uumy friend always calls it like the poor man. Soondubu. But it's my favorite, like tofu dish and they just really have good banchan on. And,uI don't know if anyone listens to this part, like go to Chodang gorl . It's like the best <laugh> restaurant in, in K town. U

Adapted Podcast ([01:03:22](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=CaLtHYum1B8x7bPX6pknjpiYb0HTHEWMLNATTO3N8uHy4sfiJ0RnObqebVFRLKshh5dr58s3afDkh7-YGo78bf1ynco&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3802.38)):

Thank you so much Han Yong. What does it mean in Korean? Do you know? Like, is, does it mean number one first something. Oh yeah.

Han Yong Wunrow ([01:03:29](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=B6vjOeuly6p606uM1uEiDZulrAyaYPljqZbCXMGI0wDsYD10pkrGfH77aNAWczRzQGu6f99kj0y3EBh1mLnWhkUYyqw&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3809.13)):

Yeah. So Han is like Han like Korean and Yong is actually dragon. So my name means Korean dragon, which I always thought was really cool. Growing up. Yeah. Yeah.

Adapted Podcast ([01:03:43](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=Js0vWhspdVAe9pJdHNYPfaGPgp0AQGKYt0jqdHx-8XFnYtwMKzSuiGMPytrC2uHvm8d9hgJlQvhfAQV-oazcYYUZqdQ&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3823.81)):

Korean dragon. I love it. Okay. okay. Well, thank you so much. This is great. But if anyone wants to get ahold of you UNG, how, how do they do that? Or do you have, do you wanna put out your socials or

Han Yong Wunrow ([01:03:58](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/Edit?token=jXkvZUikNuHlgQR92x5KzFQS93RYgxZIWxE0Ogbv7zr1hpLlbwSrPJgpUTvAz4oEcPSzlYty7DHAZvXmUrd_p9d5k2E&loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3838.21)):

Yeah, no, I'm fine with sharing my, my Facebook, which is just my name. HANYONG Wunrow. I think I'm the only one row in, in the world. So I think, I think they'll be fine.