



When I Grow Up I Want to Be a List of Further Possibilities (A. Poulin, Jr. New Poets of America)

Chen Chen

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In this ferocious and tender debut, Chen Chen investigates inherited forms of love and family--the strained relationship between a mother and son, the cost of necessary goodbyes--all from Asian American, immigrant, and queer perspectives. Holding all accountable, this collection fully embraces the loss, grief, and abundant joy that come with charting one's own path in identity, life, and love.

In the Hospital

My mother was in the hospital & everyone wanted to be my friend.
But I was busy making a list: good dog, bad citizen, short
skeleton, tall mocha. Typical Tuesday.
My mother was in the hospital & no one wanted to be her friend.
Everyone wanted to be soft cooing sympathies. Very reasonable
pigeons. No one had the time & our solution to it
was to buy shinier watches. We were enamored with
what our wrists could declare. My mother was in the hospital
& I didn't want to be her friend. Typical son. Tall latte, short tale,
bad plot, great wifi in the atypical café. My mother was in the hospital
& she didn't want to be her friend. She wanted to be the family
grocery list. Low-fat yogurt, firm tofu. She didn't trust my father
to be it. *You always forget something*, she said, *even when*
I do the list for you. Even then.

Chen Chen was born in Xiamen, China, and grew up in Massachusetts. His work has appeared in two chapbooks and in such publications as *Poetry*, *Gulf Coast*, *Indiana Review*, *Best of the Net*, and *The Best American Poetry*. The recipient of the 2016 A. Poulin, Jr. Poetry Prize, he has been awarded fellowships from Kundiman, the Saltonstall Foundation, Lambda Literary, and in 2015, he was a finalist for the Ruth Lilly and Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Fellowships. He earned his BA at Hampshire College and his MFA at Syracuse University. Currently, he is pursuing a PhD in English and Creative Writing at Texas Tech University. Chen lives in Lubbock, Texas, with his partner, Jeff Gilbert, and their pug dog, Rupert Giles.

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Bert Martinez:

Within this era which is the greater man or who has ability to do something more are more precious than other. Do you want to become one among it? It is just simple method to have that. What you need to do is just spending your time not very much but quite enough to experience a look at some books. One of several books in the top checklist in your reading list is When I Grow Up I Want to Be a List of Further Possibilities (A. Poulin, Jr. New Poets of America). This book and that is qualified as The Hungry Inclines can get you closer in growing to be precious person. By looking upwards and review this publication you can get many advantages.

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