

A Beast Slinks Towards Beijing

Alice Evelyn Yang

An unforgettable magical realist debut that explores the effects of intergenerational trauma, the legacy of colonialism and the inescapability of fate, perfect for readers of R.F. Kuang.

Qianze has not seen her father in eleven years, since he walked out of her life the night of her fourteenth birthday and disappeared without a trace. But then she gets a call—there is a man on the porch of her childhood home, and he's asking for her. This man isn't the Ba Qianze remembers: he is much older, more fragile, and worst of all, haunted by a half-forgotten prophecy.

While Qianze wrestles with what she owes this near-stranger, Ba begins telling stories of his past. From his bloody days as a Red Guard during the Cultural Revolution to his mother's youth under Japanese occupation, he circles around the prophecy he came to deliver. Qianze has always longed to know more about her family history, but as Ba reveals a past far darker than she could have imagined, she finds herself plagued by strange visions—fox spirits trail her on her evening commute, a terrifying jackalope stalks her nightmares, and the looming prophecy slinks ever closer.

Spanning decades and continents, ***A Beast Slinks Towards Beijing*** employs a combination of stunningly rendered folklore and atmospheric prose to examine the legacy of colonialism through the eyes of three generations. Alice Evelyn Yang's debut novel is a story of family and forgiveness, of folklore and fate, that will leave you unsettled and undone.

Author Bio:

Alice Evelyn Yang is a Chinese American writer from Norfolk, Virginia. Her work has been published in MQR, AAWW's The Margins, and The Rumpus, among others. She is the recipient of the 2022-23 Jesmyn Ward Prize from MQR and completed her MFA in Fiction in 2022 at Columbia University, where she was awarded the Felipe De Alba Fellowship and nominated for the Henfield Prize. This is her first novel.

- **PACHINKO** meets **DO NOT SAY WE HAVE NOTHING**
- **FOR FANS OF:** *The Poppy War* by R.F. Kuang, *Mexican Gothic* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia and *Wandering Souls* by Cecile Pin, stories that are epic in scope and theme and stories that leave them checking shadowy corners and questioning their own reality.
- **FOLKLORE X WEIRD GIRL HORROR TREND:** Taps into the rising trend of creepy and disturbing fiction targeting women, laced with lingering and sinister dark folklore.
- **CHINESE/AMERICAN GENERATIONAL SAGA:** Delving into toxic intergenerational trauma spanning 3 decades of 1 family; from the Japanese occupation of Manchuria and The Red Guard, to how 1st generation immigrants experience the US today.
- **SINISTER AND CREEPING PLOT:** Where a creature lurks in a character's peripheral and in the margins of the pages, with writing that is sharp and imagery that is viscerally haunting.
- **DEBUT CHINESE AMERICAN AUTHOR:** Who currently resides in Norfolk, Virginia. Alice's instagram @rot.and.read is fun, zeitgeisty and has a loyal following.
- **HOLOGRAPHIC FOIL COVER:** The finished package will be paperback with holographic foil on the front cover which mirrors the hallucinogenic themes of the book.



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"This is a novel of rare depth and resonance." — Lucy Rose, *The Lamb*

"This is a book that will stir you to your core." — Thao Thai, *Banyan Moon*

"This is a story about the monsters we inherit and those we create" — Naomi Xu Elegant, *Ginkgo Season*