

NICHOLAS WANG

Fiction Writer | Los Angeles, CA

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THE COLLECTION: *IN GOO*

IN GOO is a literary fiction collection of thirteen stories (approximately 45,000 words) set in contemporary urban America, where the surreal breaks into everyday life and ordinary people confront the impossible.

The collection examines how we lose ourselves in the sprawl of modern life—sometimes gradually, sometimes all at once. Blending urban realism with elements of magical realism and the absurd, *IN GOO* explores loneliness, loss, memory, and the feeling of being stuck in the world we live in today. Told with wry humor and a distinct voice, the collection will appeal to readers of George Saunders, Carmen Maria Machado, and Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah.

Status: Complete manuscript available. Currently seeking representation.

SELECTED STORIES

In Goo (~3,000 words)

A sharply-dressed man escapes his monotonous life for an impromptu walk through Hancock Park, where he encounters the La Brea Tar Pits and a precocious six-year-old. A meditation on being stuck, being alone, and being alive.

Drumstick Nub (~2,500 words)

A man's hand falls off while waiting for the bus. A darkly absurdist exploration of how we lose ourselves, piece by piece.

Omakase Sushi Bar (~6,000 words)

A bartender descends into a restaurant's basement during a power outage and finds an impossible space. Told years later, the story explores the fear of being trapped and the unreliability of memory.

Parachute, Parachute (~4,000 words)

Years after a breakup, a man discovers his ex-girlfriend's dream journal. A story about the complacency that quietly erodes love.

Can 'uh Beans (~2,000 words)

William lives under the I-10 freeway and navigates a brutally hot day. A story of invisibility and survival, told with compassion and unflinching clarity.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nicholas Wang is a Taiwanese and Vietnamese American writer of literary fiction based in Los Angeles, where he was born and raised. His work explores what it feels like to be surrounded by people yet fundamentally alone, the strangeness lurking in ordinary moments, and the split seconds when the world reveals itself as something other than what we thought it was.

Wang has lived in Chicago, Houston, and San Diego, and spent years working in restaurants—from dishwashing to bartending. He has also worked as an EMT and has a degree in kinesiology. He writes primarily short fiction, blending realism with elements of magical realism and the absurd.

Wang is currently studying in the Advanced Short Story class at UCLA Extension Writers' Program and is a member of the Robertson Writers Group.