

Yaerim Gen Kwon

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2024-28 PhD Candidate, Creative Writing

Aug 2024–May 2028

Program for Writers, Fiction, University of Illinois Chicago

EDUCATION

University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL

(expected) May 2028

PhD Candidate in Creative Writing, Department of English

Betty Stuart Smith Award 2024-2026 & Graduate Teaching Assistantship

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

May 2024

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing & Editor-in-Chief, *Indiana Review*

Thesis: *Upward Mobility* (A Novel)

Creative Writing Fellowship & Student Academic Appointment, 2021-2024

Carleton College, Northfield, MN

June 2017

Bachelor of Arts in English

Thesis: “Exploration and Trial of Translation Theory in Contemporary Korean Literature”

Starr Foundation Merit Scholarship, 2013-2017

POSITIONS HELD

Instructor, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL

Aug 2024–ongoing

ENGL 291: Introduction to the Writing of Fiction, Instructor of Record, Spring 2026

ENGL 291: Introduction to the Writing of Fiction, Instructor of Record, Fall 2025

ENGL 160: Finding Your Voice, Instructor of Record, Fall 2025

ENGL 160: Finding Your Voice, Instructor of Record, Summer 2025

ENG 161: Writing About Love (2 courses), Instructor of Record, Spring 2025

Instructor, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

Aug 2021–May 2024

2024 Earle J. S. Ho Graduate Teaching Award in Creative Writing

ENG-W280: Literary Editing and Publishing, Instructor of Record, Spring 2024

ENG-W203: Fiction Workshop, Instructor of Record, Fall 2023

ENG-W131: Reading, Writing, and Inquiry I (3 courses), Instructor of Record, Fall 2022 & Spring 2023

ENG-W103: Introductory Creative Writing (2 courses), Fall 2021 & Spring 2022

Editor-in-Chief, *Indiana Review*, Bloomington, IN

May 2023–May 2024

Creative Nonfiction Editor, 2023-2024

Reader, Fiction & Creative Nonfiction, 2021-2023

Workshop Instructor, Mexico City Gateway, Mexico City, Mexico

March 2022

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

FICTION

“Last Meal.” *Cream City Review*, Issue 48.1 (Spring/Summer 2024). Print.

“Death as a Writing Prompt.” *Reed Magazine*, Issue 147 (Spring 2024). Print.

TRANSLATION

“Posture of Apology” by Lim Hyeon. *Southern Humanities Review*, Volume 58 No. 4. Print. [Web](#).

ARTICLES

“Morocco’s colonial heritage in higher education.” *Al Jazeera* (June 2016). Web.

“K-pop stocks bounce back strong from pandemic blow.” *Korea Herald* (July 2020). Web.

“K-pop album sales remain robust despite pandemic.” *Korea Herald* (July 2020). Web.

“K-pop labels call for fair profit-sharing rules for TV show clips.” *Korea Herald* (July 2020). Web.

“Beauty of Hangeul rediscovered through Korean pop songs.” *Korea Herald* (May 2020). Web.

“Will virtual concerts replace offline tours?” *Korea Herald* (May 2020). Web.

INTERVIEWS

“Meet Big Hit’s creatives behind BTS-inspired TinyTAN.” *Korea Herald* (Sept 2020). Web.

“Rocket Punch celebrates first anniversary with ‘Juicy’.” *Korea Herald* (Aug 2020). Web.

“Yukika’s journey from Japanese actress to K-pop artist.” *Korea Herald* (July 2020). Web.

“Natty makes miraculous debut after six years.” *Korea Herald* (June 2020). Web.

“Meet the couple behind BTS and TXT’s latest hits.” *Korea Herald* (June 2020). Web.

“Yubin, CEO and artist, is happier than ever.” *Korea Herald* (May 2020). Web.

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS

Bread Loaf Translators’ Conference, 2025

Full Scholarship Award (\$2830), Translation Manuscript Workshop

American Literary Translators Association (ALTA) Emerging Translator Mentorship Fellow, 2025

Korean Prose Fellow (\$1500) with mentor Janet Hong

University of Illinois Chicago, Department of English, 2024–2026

Betty Stuart Smith Award (\$2750/year, \$5500 total)

Indiana University, Department of English, 2024

Earle J. S. Ho Graduate Teaching Award in Creative Writing (\$500)

Indiana University Writers’ Conference, 2023

Merit Scholarship (\$750), Fiction Workshop

National Society of Arts and Letters, 2023

Winner, Hegarty Award (\$750), Indiana Chapter

New York State Summer Writers Institute, 2022

Merit Scholarship (\$1300), Fiction Workshop

Indiana University Mexico Writing Travel Award, 2022

Merit Fellowship (\$1500)

National Society of Arts and Letters, 2022

1st Prize, Literature, Holl Merit Award and Jones Merit Award (\$1000), Indiana Chapter

The Los Angeles Review Short Fiction Award, 2019

Finalist, "Death as a Writing Prompt"

PANELS, READINGS, & LITERARY SERVICE

The 48th ALTA Conference, Tucson, AZ

Mentorship Fellows Reading, November 2025

Bread Loaf Translators' Conference 2025, Bread Loaf School of English

Bread Loaf Reading Series, June 2025

Poetry Performance Translation Now!, UIC Institute for Humanities

Translation Poetry Reading, April 2025

Chenxin Jiang Book Launch, Seminary Co-op

Book Q&A and Reading "For Now I Am Sitting Here Growing Transparent," with Chenxin Jiang & Paola Iovene, February 2025

Radical Poetry & Performance Reading, Madison Street Books

Fiction Reading with Grisel Acosta & Jose-Luis Moctezuma hosted by the UIC Center for Latinx Literature of the Americas, February 2025

The 47th ALTA Conference, Milwaukee, WI

Panelist, "Who is the Voice Speaking To?" October 2024

The Program for Writers Graduate Student Fall Reading, UIC Institute for Humanities

Fiction Reading, November 2024

Reading the World, Morgenstern's Bookstore

Fiction Reading, April 2024

IU MFA in Creative Writing Third-Year Graduation Reading, Indiana University

Fiction Reading, April 2024

Teaching Workshop, Indiana University

Panelist, "Microresistance as a Technique to Address Microaggressions in our Classrooms," November 2023

Poets & Writers, Mapping the Maze Workshop

Panelist, "Submitting to Literary Magazines and Journals," September 2023

Works-in-Progress Panel, Indiana University

MFA Thesis-in-Progress, "Writing *USA*," April 2023

NSAL Award Showcase, John Waldron Arts Center

Fiction Reading, April 2023

Asian Lit Reading, Cook Center Garden at Maxwell Hall

Fiction Reading, March 2023

New York State Summer Writers Institute, Skidmore College

Fiction Reading (Virtual), June 2022

NSAL Award Showcase, John Waldron Arts Center

Fiction Reading, May 2022

IU MFA in Creative Writing First-Year Reading, Cook Center Garden at Maxwell Hall

Fiction Reading, September 2021

WORKSHOP EXPERIENCE

Bread Loaf Translators' Conference

Translation Manuscript Workshop, Aaron Robertson, Summer 2025

University of Illinois Chicago

ENGL 571: Fiction Workshop, Christopher Grimes, Fall 2025

ENGL 571: Fiction Workshop, Christopher Grimes, Spring 2025

ENGL 572: Novel Workshop, Luis Urrea, Spring 2025

ENGL 574: Nonfiction Workshop, Luis Urrea, Fall 2024

Indiana University

CMLT-C680: Advanced Translation Workshop, Bill Johnston, Spring 2024

CMLT-C581: Literary Translation Workshop, Bill Johnston, Fall 2023

ENG-W611: Fiction Workshop, Angela Jackson-Brown, Spring 2023

ENG-W611: Fiction Workshop, Brando Skyhorse, Fall 21, Fall 2022

ENG-W611: Fiction Workshop, Samrat Upadhyay, Spring 2022

Indiana University Writers' Conference

Fiction Workshop, Megan Giddings, Summer 2023

New York State Summer Writers Institute

Intermediate Fiction Writing Workshop, Elizabeth Benedict, Summer 2022

Carleton College

ENG-L261: Telling Your American Story, Kao Kalia Yang, Spring 2017

ENG-L280: Crafts of Writing: Creative Non-Fiction, Dennis Cass, Spring 2015

GrubStreet

"The Final Drafts: Revising Your Short Fiction," Jonathan Escoffery, 2018 (scholarship)

"Crafting Scene: Online," Nora Corrigan, 2020 (scholarship)

Catapult

"How to Break Hearts," Richard Chiem, 2019 (scholarship)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL

Jan 2025–ongoing

Department of English, Program for Writers

Graduate Instructor

- Responsible for all aspects of instruction for ENGL 161 (First-year Composition; 20-25 students per section)

- Develop semester-long curriculum to support the study and practice of college writing
- Collaborate with colleagues to develop critical pedagogy centered on community

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

Aug 2021–May 2024

Department of English, Creative Writing

Associate Instructor

- Responsible for all aspects of instruction for ENGL-W103, W203, W131, and W280 (Introduction to Creative Writing; Fiction Workshop; First-year Composition; Literary Editing and Publishing; 12-25 students per section)
- Develop semester-long curriculum to support the study and practice of creative writing
- Facilitate safe learning spaces to nurture and engage a wide range of student writers
- Collaborate with colleagues to develop critical pedagogy centered on care and community

Room to Read, Seoul, South Korea & Virtual

Dec 2018–May 2024

Writing Instructor

- Teach and curate English literature classes to K-12 students in South Korea
- Tutor 1:1 K-12 students in South Korea interested in advancing their English writing
- Advise students on revising their stories and essays for publication and student contests

PREM Academy & Paul's Academy, Seoul, South Korea

June 2019–Aug 2021

Literature & Writing Instructor

- Built 6 and 8-week curriculum and lesson plans for middle school students for summer intensive English language & literature programs
- Led multiple creative writing and literature classes of 15-20 students Mon-Fri
- Mentored undergraduate teaching assistants in grading essays and supervising students
- Held weekly book club discussions for ~10 high school students

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Korea Herald, Seoul, South Korea

Dec 2019–Oct 2020

Reporter, K-pop

- Pitched ideas, wrote articles, attended media showcases, and interviewed industry experts, musicians, professors, etc. on K-pop for the country's biggest English-language newspaper
- Tweeted real-time on industry news, stock reports, media showcases, interviews, events, etc., resulting in an increase of followers from 120k to 173k
- Conducted live broadcast interviews with various K-pop bands on Naver's V-Live platform