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ANJIE SIJUN LOU

All we ask is you to be happy

PRAISE

“What does longing look like, across so much grief, loss, desire, language, and ‘clotted’ sea? Angie Sijun Lou’s *All we ask is you to be happy* is a startling, visceral collection dripping with raw eggs, yolky with ache. I kept returning to these poems, over and over, to be feverishly fed. Simultaneously lyrical and narrative, Lou’s poems are haunted with questions of intimacy, consumption, tenderness, connection, belonging, migration, and intergenerational trauma. Full of hybrid texts, prose poems, screenshots, redactions, and ghost interviews, these poems ‘live in the slippage’ of familial lineage. Lou writes playfully: ‘I pledge allegiance.... to the weird gap... between my two front teeth...’

What does it mean to be an immigrant daughter? What does it mean to be happy and for whom? *All we ask is you to be happy* asks us to linger in these layered questions and stir the broth of memory. For, aren’t we also ‘ghostslikemewholingerintheirdesiny’?”

Jane Wong, author of *Overpour*

ABOUT THE CHAPBOOK

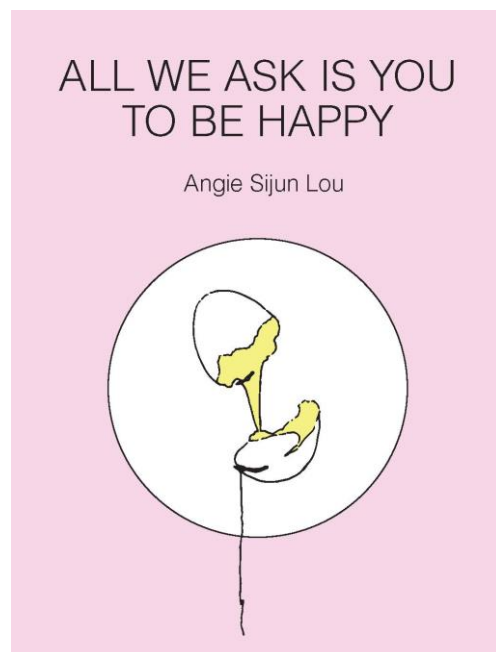
All we ask is you to be happy is a collection of prose poetry that lives at the nexus of several possible futures: the diaspora and homeland, performativity and the real, android and animal, a girl and her fractures. This collection traces one family’s movement from Red China to living undocumented in the United States, questioning what remains when origins are displaced, ghosts become material, and myths are forced to survive under capitalism.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Angie Sijun Lou is from Seattle and Shanghai. She is a Kundiman Fellow in Fiction and a PhD student in Literature and Creative Writing at the University of California, Santa Cruz.



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