

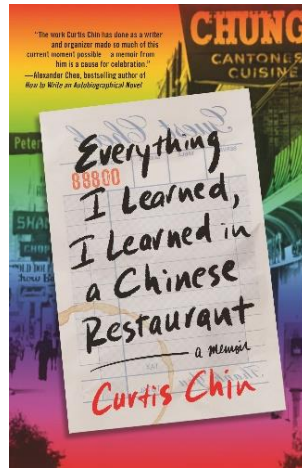


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China Centre Book Talk

Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant



Curtis Chin

Tuesday 20 May 2025, 15:00 GMT

China Centre, Kin-ku Cheng Lecture Theatre

Chin's humour-filled memoir, *Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant*, tells his story about growing up Asian in Detroit and coming out to his working class immigrant family, all set against the Reagan Revolution of the 1980s, AIDS, and his family's popular Chinese restaurant. The book has been featured in the [New York Times](#), [the Washington Post](#), [Los Angeles Times](#), [Time Magazine](#), as well as [CBS Saturday Morning News](#) and [NBC News](#). It's also been honoured by the State of Michigan and the American Library Association. Here is a segment that aired on PBS Newshour. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yOOv1AKvX4c>



Curtis Chin is a co-founder of the Asian American Writers' Workshop in New York City and served as the non-profits' first Executive Director. He went on to write comedy for network and cable television before transitioning to social justice documentaries. Chin has screened his films at over 600 venues in twenty countries. He has written for CNN, *Bon Appetit*, the *Detroit Free Press*, and the *Emancipator/Boston Globe*. A graduate of the University of Michigan, Chin has received awards from ABC/Disney Television, New York Foundation for the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, and more. His memoir, *Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant*, was published by Little, Brown in Fall 2023. His essay in *Bon Appetit* was selected for Best Food Writing in America 2023.