Nay Saysourinho The Capture of Krao Farini

The Capture of Krao Farini is part Turing test, part circus flyer. Written in the imagined voice of Krao Farini, a real sideshow performer brought to the United States at the turn of the 20th century, the book dissolves the line between algorithm and spectacle to reveal the ultimate consolation prize-to be acclaimed as human enough.

The Capture of Krao Farini hit me so hard. It is two things at once; first it is a lyrical, tender tribute to the wondrous and exploited, Krao Farini but it is also a clear-eyed and unflinching autopsy of the cruelty and mega-entitlement of colonialism and the invented "authority" that it gave her "father" to "purchase" Krao's human body and soul. The "I am not a robot" sections are incredibly nimble and powerful. Nay's writing is spellbinding.

Nay Saysourinho's The Capture of Krao Farini is a glitch in an otherwise

unflinching system, a ruptured vein in history's violent, long arm.

Subverting spectacle and the white, colonial gaze, Saysourinho's brilliant book dares to stare back, to take back, to hold accountable all that

preserves categories and cages. This is a rare voice. This is a fugitive place. Embedded in this book is a fearless threat whispered through steel bars: "You may stare as much as you like, but sooner or later you all pay for this." No, no, I haven't come to see Krao Farini. I've come to witness

- NEKO CASE

- JESSICA Q. STARK

//

//

Distributed by: Asterism Books

Chapbook

Poetry | \$14 6" x 5" | 40 pp.

Release Date: September 2023



the reckoning.

Nay Saysourinho is a writer, visual artist and recipient of a 2023 Baldwin for the Arts Fellowship. She was previously a Rona Jaffe Fellow at MacDowell and a Short Fiction Scholar at Tin House Winter Workshop. In 2019, she was chosen as the inaugural Adina Talve-Goodman Fellow by One Story and in the same year as a Marion Deeds Scholar by the Mendocino Coast Writers Conference. She holds a Berkeley Fellowship from Yale and has received support from Kundiman, The Writers Grotto, and the Tucson Festival of Books Literary Awards.

Media contact: Eduardo Rios Pulgar • publicity@uglyducklingpresse.org UGLY DUCKLING PRESSE is a nonprofit publisher of poetry, translation, performance texts, investigative forms, lost works, and books by artists. For more information, visit uglyducklingpresse.org.

