

# Tan Lin's *Insomnia and the Aunt*

is an ambient novel composed of black and white photographs, postcards, Google reverse searches, letters, appendices, an index to an imaginary novel, re-runs and footnotes. The aunt in question can't sleep. She runs a motel in the Pacific Northwest. She likes watching Conan O'Brien late at night. She may be the narrator's aunt or she may be an emanation of a TV set. Structured like everybody's scrapbook, and blending fiction with non-fictional events, *Insomnia and the Aunt* is about identities taken and given up, and about the passions of an immigrant life, rebroadcast as furniture. Ostensibly about a young man's disintegrating memory of his most fascinating relative, or potentially a conceptualist take on immigrant literature, it is probably just a treatment for a prime-time event that, because no one sleeps in motels, lasts into the late night and daytime slots. / ISBN: 978-0-9767364-7-9 / \$10.00 / mid-April, 2011

Tan Lin is the author of *Lotion Bullwhip Giraffe*, *BlipSoak01*, *Ambience is a Novel with a Logo*, *Heath (Plagiarism/Outsource)* and *7 Controlled Vocabularies and Obituary 2004. The Joy of Cooking*. His work has appeared in numerous journals including *Conjunctions*, *Artforum*, *Cabinet*, *New York Times Book Review*, *Art in America*, and *Purple*. His video, theatrical and LCD work have been shown at the Marianne Boesky Gallery, Yale Art Museum, Sophienholm Museum (Copenhagen), Ontological Hysterical Theatre, and as part of the Whitney Museum of American Art's Soundcheck Series. Lin is the recipient of a Getty Distinguished Scholar Grant for 2004-2005 and a Warhol Foundation/Creative Capital Arts Writing Grant to complete a book-length study of the writings of Andy Warhol. He has taught at the University of Virginia and Cal Arts, and currently teaches creative writing at New Jersey City University.

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Tan Lin is the author of *Lotion Bullwhip Giraffe* (Sun & Moon Press, 2000), *Blipsoak 01* (Atelos, 2003), and *Seven Controlled Vocabularies and Obituary 2004*. ...  
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