



City of Monterey Park News Release

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“Wanting”: An Author Talk with Claire Jia at the Monterey Park Bruggemeyer Library

Monterey Park, Calif. — January 5, 2026 — Join the Monterey Park Bruggemeyer Library for an interview with award-winning writer Claire Jia on Saturday, January 31 at 1 p.m. in the Monterey Park Bruggemeyer Library Friends Room. Jia will discuss her award-winning novel, “Wanting.” The interview will be conducted by UC Irvine professor Christopher Fan and will include a bilingual Q&A session in English and Mandarin. Light refreshments will be provided. Registration is required and will open on January 10. To register, call Adult Services at 626-307-1368.

Claire Jia is an LA-based writer whose work has appeared in The New York Times Modern Love column, The Rumpus, and Reductress. She has also written for television and video games, including the 2024 Peabody Award-winning game, “We Are OFK.” Her novel, “Wanting,” has been described as an “incisive and witty debut” (The New York Times) and an “engaging and insightful take on desire, envy, and betrayal” (Kirkus Reviews). Taking place across three lives and two countries, “Wanting” explores how far we will go for friendship, romance, and dreams.



Christopher Fan is an Associate Professor of English at UC Irvine, Director of UCI Global Asias, and a co-founder and senior editor at Hyphen magazine. His research and writings focus on 20/21st century Anglophone and Asian/American cultural production, Northeast Asian political economy, speculative fiction, and Taiwan studies. His first book, “Asian American Fiction After 1965: Transnational Fantasies of Economic Mobility,” was shortlisted for the Association of the Study of the Arts of the Present’s 2025 Book Prize.

“Wanting” will be available for purchase and signing at the event courtesy of Fables and Fancies bookstore.

The Monterey Park Bruggemeyer Library is the City’s public library located at 318 South Ramona Avenue, Monterey Park, CA 91754. To learn more about Library events and services, please visit the Library’s website www.montereypark.ca.gov/library.

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