

Genaro Kỳ Lý Smith  
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The following is a brief bio:

Genaro Kỳ Lý Smith was born in Nha Trang, Vietnam in 1968. He earned a B.A. in English from California State University, Northridge in 1993. He later earned an M.A. and M.F.A. in creative writing from McNeese State University in Lake Charles, LA in 1999.

He is the author of *The Land Baron's Sun: The Story of Lý Loc and His Seven Wives* (UL Press), which won the 2016 Indie Book Award in poetry. His novel *The Land South of the Clouds*, the second in the trilogy, was released on October 25, 2016. It took second place in 2017 for the Indie Book Award. *The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born* (Oct. 2018).

His other works of poetry and fiction have been published in *Crab Orchard Review*, *Pembroke*, *Gumbo: An Anthology of African American Writing* (Doubleday/Broadway), *Asian American Literary Review*, *Xavier Review*, *Northridge Review*, *Amerasia Journal* (UCLA), *turnrow* (U of Louisiana at Monroe), *Scene Magazine*, *dis-Orient*, *Christmas Stories from Louisiana* (UP of Mississippi), *Kartika Review*, and *Blue Lyra Review*.

He received the ATLAS grant by the Louisiana Board of Regents for 2013-14. He has earned first place in the Zora Neale Hurston/Richard Wright Fellowship competition, a recipient of both the Louisiana Division of the Arts Artist Fellowship and mini-grant, second place in both the *Poets & Writers* Exchange Program, and for his short story "Dailies" in 2008 from the Santa Fe Writers Program.

He currently resides in Ruston with his wife Robyn and their two daughters, Layla and Naomi. He has been teaching literature, composition, and creative writing at Louisiana Tech University since 1999.

### **Education:**

McNeese State University, Lake Charles, Louisiana.

M.A. in English (May 1999).

M.F.A. in Creative Writing (May 1999). Thesis: *The Land South of the Clouds*, Director, Robert Olen Butler

California State University, Northridge. Northridge, CA.

B.A. in English with an Option in Writing, 1993.

### **Writer in Residence:**

--2020 Writer's Residency at the Kallenberg Art Tower (KAT) at the Central ARTSTATION. November 4-11, 2020.

--Guest Author for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Murphy-Hendrix Foundation, February 28-March 2, 2017 at Hendrix College in Conway, AK: 7:30-9 pm.

--Reader and creative writing workshop instructor at A Celebration of Literature and Art: A Writers and Readers Symposium in St. Francisville, LA, February 16-17, 2017.

### **Readings and Symposiums:**

--Keynote speaker and reader for the South Central Modern Language Association, October 24, 2019 @ 6:30 pm, the Marriott Hotel in Downtown Little Rock, AK.

--Louisiana Poet Laureate Presents Louisiana Poets: "Just Listen to Yourself." 17 April 2019, 12-1:30 pm @ the State Library of Louisiana, Baton Rouge.

--Short Story Panelist at the Louisiana Book Festival held at the State Capitol: Senate Chamber E. November 10, 2018.

--Inaugural South Arkansas Literary Festival: "The Culture of *Con Lai*" featuring Genaro Kÿ Lý Smith at the El Dorado Conference Center in El Dorado, AK on April 13, 2018.

--Image to Word: Poetry Inspired by Photographs from Leo Touchet's Exhibition: *People among Us*. Featuring Darrell Bourque, Patrice Melnick, Elizabeth Burk, Sandra Sarr, Sidney Creaghan, and **Genaro Kÿ Lý Smith**. Acadiana Center for the Arts Side Gallery, 101 W. Vermillion St., Lafayette, LA 70501 from 4:30 pm-5:30 pm, June 10, 2017.

--Featured author for the Tom Dent Literary Showcase at Dillard University, Georges Auditorium on November 3, 2017. New Orleans, LA: 6 pm.

--Reader and creative writing workshop instructor at A Celebration of Literature and Art: A Writers and Readers Symposium in St. Francisville, LA, February 16-17, 2017.

--Black History Month: African Asian Experience at El Camino Community College in Compton, CA, February 28, 2017: 2 pm.

--Reading & Book Signing: Honors Center at SUNY New Paltz, NY on February 16, 2017.

--Fiction reader for the Louisiana Book Festival, November 10, 2018 in Baton Rouge, LA.

--Fiction reader for the Louisiana Book Festival, October 28, 2016 in Baton Rouge, LA.

--Poetry panelist for the Louisiana Book Festival on October 31, 2014 in Baton Rouge, LA.

--Meadows Museum of Art at Centenary College, Shreveport, LA on April 1, 2016.

- Suffolk Community College Creative Writing Festival, Long Island, NY on April 13-15, 2016:  
10:30 am – 3 pm.
- The Cowgill Center at Transylvania University, Lexington, KY. October 15, 2015: 5-6 pm.
- Northwestern State University: D'Amato-Thomas Reading Room, Watson Library, March 13, 2015 in Natchitoches, LA.
- The Maple Leaf Bar, New Orleans, March 22, 2015: 3 pm.
- South Regional Library, Lafayette, LA on November 13, 2014: 7 pm.
- Lorelei Loft Bookstore in Vicksburg, MS, October 4, 2014: 6 pm.
- A Word's Worth: Festival of Words. St. Charles Chapel in Grand Coteau, LA, October 19, 2013: 6 pm.

### **Awards and Fellowships**

- The Land Baron's Sun: The Story of Lý Loc and His Seven Wives*. UL Press: Lafayette, LA, 2014. 2016 Indie Book Award Winner in poetry.
- The Land South of the Clouds*. UL Press: Lafayette, LA, 2016. 2017 second place for the Indie Book Awards in multicultural fiction.
- 2012-13: ATLAS recipient by the Louisiana Board of Regents with a ranking of #1.
- 2013-2014 Nominee for the F. Jay Taylor Award for excellence in teaching, research, and services.
- "Dailies": Second place finish in the Santa Fe Writers' Program fiction competition, 2008.
- "Perfect in Parts": Finalist in an international fiction competition (open to Canadian and American Writers of Asian descent) sponsored by *Hyphen Magazine*, 2008.
- 2004: Virgil Orr Award Recipient for Outstanding Undergraduate Professor of the year.
- 2002: First Runner-up in the *Poets & Writers* Exchange Competition, New York.
- 2003-2004: Louisiana Division of the Arts Artist Mini-Grant recipient.
- 2001-02: Louisiana Division of the Arts Fellowship Recipient for literature.
- 1999: First place winner of the Zora Neale Hurston/Richard Wright Fiction Competition held by Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

**Honorariums and Services:**

- Guest editor for the School of Liberal Arts journal publication, *The Quatrain*, Vol. 3, 2018.
- Fiction and prose poetry judge for *Louisiana Writes!* 2015-2018.
- Poetry Panel at the Louisiana Book Festival, November 1, 2014, Baton Rouge, LA.
- Honorarium recipient by the Warren County Library for "Experience Poetry in Vicksburg" on April 28, 2012.
- Fiction judge for the Arkansas Arts Council on July 7, 2004 in Little Rock, AK.
- Honorarium recipient by Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas: guest reader and lecturer for the Governor's Program, July 8, 2004 for *The Land South of the Clouds*.
- Served as fiction/poetry juror for the Shreveport Regional Arts Council on August 28, 2004.
- Served as judge for the Division of the Arts grants review process for literature, May 16, 2003.
- 2003 Honorarium recipient by the Shreveport Regional Arts Council. March 29, 2003: "Arts on the Edge" Festival.
- 2001-02: Served as judge for the Division of the Arts grants review process for literature.
- 2000: Honorarium recipient by the Southern Literary Festival, University of Louisiana, Monroe, April 12.
- 2000: Honorarium recipient by the Jackson Parish Library, Jonesboro, LA. May 20: 3 pm.

**Publication history for my 4<sup>th</sup> book, *Portraits of Our Father, Drinking* (forthcoming):**

- "Portrait #1: *An Early Start*." *64 Parishes* (Winter 2018): 21.
- "Halloween in Iran" and "This Is the Place." *Shawangunk Review* 28 (Spring 2017): 141-45.
- "An Inadequate Father" and "31 Days in November." *MockingHeart Review* 1.2 (2016): 1-3.

**Publication history for *The Land Baron's Sun: The Story of Lý Loc and His Seven Wives*:**

- "The Land of Dead Children." *Completely Mixed Up: Mixed Heritage Asian North American Writing and Art*. Ed. Brandy Lien Worrall-Soriano. Rabbit Fool: Vancouver, 2015. 329-30.
- "The Shape of Things: I. The Seamstress." *Xavier Review* 33.1 (2013): 19-20.
- "The Fisherman's Wife." *Pembroke Magazine* 45 (2013): 39-40.

“View from the Veranda: An Elegy for Chan,” “A Museum of Trees,” “Propaganda: The Reeducation of Yên,” and “Grasping.” *Blue Lyra Review* 2.3 (2013): online journal.  
“Vacation,” “The Starving City,” and “Providence.” *Crab Orchard Review* 16.1 (2011): 180-88.

**Publication history for *The Land South of the Clouds* (8 Chapters):**

“Chapter 5, Tuesday: Kill the Children.” *Asian American Literary Review* 3 (2012): 246-49.  
“Chapter 4: The Bone Orchard.” *Kartika Review 2011 Anthology: Asian Pacific Islander American Literature*. Eds. Paul Lai et al. San Francisco: Kartika, 2011. 69-71.  
“Chapter 4: The Bone Orchard.” *Kartika Review* 11 (2011): 26-27.  
“Chapter 3, Night: Lessons in Translations.” *Northridge Review* (Fall 2011): 36-39.  
“Chapter 25: August 15, 1979 Friday.” *Northridge Review* (Spring 2008): 66-69.  
“Chapter 34: The Land South of the Clouds.” *Northridge Review* (Fall 2003): 50-59.  
“Chapter 12: Tan Son Nhut Airport, Ho Chi Minh City, 1997.” *Gumbo: Stories by Black Writers*. Eds. E. Lynn Harris and Marita Golden. New York: Doubleday/Broadway, 2002.  
“Chapter 2: Monday.” *turnrow* 2.1 (2002): 169-74.  
“Chapter 1: Asia Minor, Los Angeles June 1979.” *Amerasia Journal* 26.3 (2001): 133-36.

**Anthologies and Collections:**

“Chapter 12: Tan Son Nhut Airport, Ho Chi Minh City, 1997.” *Gumbo: An Anthology of African American Writers*. Eds. E. Lynn Harris and Marita Golden. New York: Doubleday/Broadway, 2002.  
“Chapter 10” from *Requiem for a Year: A Novella. Christmas Stories from Louisiana*. Eds. Dorothy Dodge Robbins and Kenneth Robbins. UP of Mississippi: Oxford, 2003. 103-116.  
“Ascend.” *City Dialogues: Life During Wartime* (2003): 58-64.  
“Pinksville.” *Amerasia Journal: Anthology*. Ed. Russell Leong. Los Angeles: UCLA P, 1997. 139-48.

**Other Publications (short stories and poems):**

“Dailies”: Second place finish in the Santa Fe Writers’ Program fiction competition, 2008.  
“Dailies.” *turnrow* 3.1 (2003): 188-99.  
“The Flag above Me.” *Amerasia Journal* 27.3-28.1 (2002): 203-217.

“La Luna Absencia.” *The Arena* 29 (1998): 3.

“The Killing Fields.” *Beyond the Valley of Contemporary Poets: An Anthology*.

Eds. Brendan Constantine, Nicole Harvey, and Robert Wynne. Venice: Beverage P, 1997.  
4-5.

“A Kind of Blue.” *The Northridge Review* (1997): 59-60.

“A Napalm Lullaby.” *dis-Orient* 2.3 (1995): 51-52.

“Cadillac Coolness.” *Weather of the Eye* (1994): 3-4.

“Blue Grotto.” *Cutting Edge* (1995): 5.

“The Black Exhibit.” *The Shooting Star Review* (1994): 4.

“Healing Scars.” *Scene Magazine* 10 (1990): 27-31.