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Da Capo Press to Publish *How to American: A Narcissistic Memoir Disguised as an Immigrant Story* by Silicon Valley Actor/Comedian Jimmy O. Yang

Today, Jimmy O. Yang is best known as quiet troublemaker, prank caller, and hacker house-squatter Jian Yang on *Silicon Valley*, the Emmy-nominated HBO show created by Mike Judge. Next spring, he'll achieve what he jokingly calls The Holy Grail of Asian Actors: playing the Asian boyfriend of a white girl alongside Melissa McCarthy in the film *Life of the Party*. He's also currently filming what he calls the most Asian studio movie ever—*Crazy Rich Asians*, based on the *New York Times* bestseller of the same title.

Yang's star is on the rise, but Hollywood is only part of his story. His family emigrated from Hong Kong to Los Angeles when he was 13—just in time for Yang, who didn't speak any English, to enter adolescence in the L.A. Unified School District, caught between the duality of his family's traditional Chinese values and the independent spirit of American culture.

In his first book, *How to American*, Yang shares his always hilarious and often poignant stories of assimilating into American culture, learning American customs by watching BET RapCity, and figuring out how to date girls who were six inches taller than him—all while dodging his parents' unrelenting attempts to get him to be a studious, model Asian son. He also writes about his burgeoning acting career, the choices he made, and the compromises he refused to make. Chapters include "How to Thuglife" (what Yang learned about America by watching three hours of rap videos a day) and "How to Hollywood" (making the most of the roles given to him as an Asian-American actor).

With a clear eye and his irresistibly quirky sense of humor, Yang explores the timely subjects of immigration and the presentation of minorities in Hollywood through his own personal experience.

As Yang himself explained, "I'm excited to share my experience as an immigrant assimilating to a new country and an outsider stumbling my way into Hollywood. It'll be a fun read and you don't have to be an immigrant or an actor to relate to the awkwardness of fitting in. But in all honesty, I just want to write this book so I can pick up some girls at Barnes and Noble."

According to Senior Editor Dan Ambrosio, "Comedy fans, especially those who enjoy Jimmy O. Yang's scene-stealing character on *Silicon Valley*, will love *How to American*. In his own satirical

and charmingly self-deprecating way, Yang captures the classic story of an immigrant pursuing the American dream.”

Publisher John Radziewicz added, “The Swedish Academy has already been in touch with me several times about the book, though, come to think of it, the voice on the phone did sound an awful lot like Jimmy’s. But I believe they’re on to something—he’s a natural writer, with a great, funny, and very American story to tell.”

Da Capo Press Senior Editor Dan Ambrosio took U.S. and Canadian rights. The book was represented by Anthony Mattero at Foundry Literary + Media LLC. *How to American* will be published in April of 2018. The audio book will be published simultaneously by Hachette Audio.

Jimmy O. Yang is an actor, stand-up comedian, and writer best known for his portrayal of Jian Yang on HBO’s Emmy-nominated series *Silicon Valley* and his dramatic turn opposite Mark Wahlberg in the highly acclaimed film *Patriot’s Day*. Born in Hong Kong, Yang made his television debut on the CBS series *2 Broke Girls* and his first late-night stand-up appearance on *The Arsenio Hall Show*, where he received a rare standing ovation. He’s based in Los Angeles.

Da Capo Press, an imprint of Perseus Books, a Hachette Book Group company, has published books by such comedians as Jenny McCarthy, Michael Ian Black, Doug Stanhope, and Robert Schimmel, and has books in the works with comedians Brian Posehn and Jim Florentine.