

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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The Museum of Modern Art in New York and Artists Rights Society, the representatives of Balthus, kindly provided permission to use, for the cover art, Balthus's painting, *La Rue*, which depicts nine oddly choreographed people seemingly going about their ordinary lives on a Parisian street. (I understand the thin cardboard figure in front of the store is not supposed to be a cardboard cutout at all, but a real person.)

I dedicate this book to my parents, who confronted prejudice but taught tolerance, and who endured much harder lives so that their children might enjoy easier ones.

Dennis Chong

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*Evanston, Illinois*