

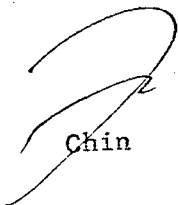
## Letters to the Editor

Dear Joe,

You shouldn't have faked it in print. Chinese American lit and Chinese American history have a greater and more substantial existence than the stuff of your abstract expressionism contemplation of Chinese American identity. You fakery even disguised as personal essays are no substitute for knowledge.

I want you to apologise to me in print, admit your fraud, confess your ignorance, your language problem, your lack of qualifications, and your faking it in "The Albatross Exorcised" and do it in the pages of the *Tamkang Review*.

I've blown the whistle on you, to the *Tamkang Review* and the Rockefeller Foundation. It's time for you to grow up and be a man, Joe. Welcome to Chinese America.



Chin

### Editor's Note

We received both Mr. Frank Chin's letter to the Editor and Professor Joseph S. M. Lau's response too late for earlier publication. As to the article in question, please refer to "The Albatross Exorcised: The Rime of Frank Chin," in the Fall, 1980 issue of *Tamkang Review*.

Dear Sir:

I have just received a blind copy of Mr. Frank Chin's letter addressed to Professor Yen Yuan-shu of National Taiwan University in which he pointed out the errors — scholarly as well as interpretational — I made in my essay entitled "The Albatross Exorcised: The Rime of Frank Chin" (*TkR*, XII, I).

Though I take strong exception to Mr. Chin's quoting from my personal letter without permission, I can well see why he is so angry with me. In his letter to me dated March 5, which I shall refrain from quoting, Mr. Chin demands that I apologise to him in print.

Since I am guilty of misquoting him in my essay, I would like to offer him my formal apology. *Mea culpa*.

This lesson has taught me or someone in my position a moral lesson: never venture into a field of study just because of personal interest. My original purpose in undertaking Chinese-American study was to serve as a kind of medium between the U.S.-born Chinese American and the native Chinese in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and other Chinese communities. Apparently I have failed.

Unless this letter is published in *Tamkang Review*, I am afraid Mr. Chin would not accept my apology as formal. I shall be deeply grateful to you if you would publish it in the next issue. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph S. M. Lau

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