

Other(ed) Bodies/Asian Lives

Royce Uy

## Dis/embodied Figures

The last piece of rice and fish

Before I begin my passage to the New World

A free world.

I hope to conceive my child there

Where I can work to make life a little more bearable.

I can finally be free

Or as those with pale skin tell me, I can be

With family and rights as an American.

I simply have to take on the work

Of the freed slaves of a past America

Or so they say.

I *think* I'm finally free.

Freer than I was in my village in China.

## Racing Yellow

Kick them out. They don't belong here.

Chinese elites sounding like white conservatives of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Harvard. Yale. All the Ivy leagues.

Are Asians the new Blacks?

No.

Are Asians the new Whites?

No.

High test scores and resilience

A myth of the yellow body.

Poverty, famine, discrimination

Homelessness, sadness

All hidden in the race for yellow.

## Gay Mulan

Who is my reflection someone I don't know

As Mulan says.

Be a man with woman

Be a father with child.

My queer brothers and sisters

Left alone in the unknown

No family to see them for who we are.

Are we really a threat to Chinese families?

When their children

Of Chinese blood

Can be like one of us.