

**ALEXANDER CHEE**

**“[Alexander Chee is] the fire, in my opinion. And the light.” — Junot Diaz**

Alexander Chee is a Korean-American writer, poet, reviewer, and renowned essayist who writes honestly and fiercely on subjects such as race, gender, and LGBTQ+ issues. He is also a former advocate for the AIDS advocacy organization, ACT UP.

Alexander Chee’s debut novel, *Edinburgh*, for which he won a Whiting Award, was critically acclaimed and praised for its careful handling on the difficult subject of sexual abuse. It was the winner of the James Michener/Copernicus Society Fellowship Prize, Iowa Writers' Workshop's Michener Copernicus Prize in Fiction, and was the recipient of the Lambda Literary Foundation Editor’s Choice Award. His second novel, *Queen of the Night*, a historical novel about a female opera singer, was published nearly fifteen years later in 2016 and was met with high praise. It was named “epic” by *Vogue* and *The Washington Post* wrote that it is, “extraordinarily beautiful and dramatic, a brilliant performance.”

His essay “Girl,” which deals with gender identity, appeared in the 2016 edition of *Best American Essays*, and his first collection of essays, *How To Write An Autobiographical Novel*, is forthcoming from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in 2018.

Alexander lives in New York City, where he curates the Dear Reader series at Ace Hotel New York. He has a fondness for elaborate breakfasts which he makes himself.