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★ **“MUCH-NEEDED.”**

— *Booklist*, starred review

★ **“POWERFUL.”**

— *BCCB*, starred review

★ **“EMPOWERED.”**

— *Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

★ **“WINSOME.”**

— *School Library Journal*, starred review

FRONT DESK

By Kelly Yang

Inside Out and Back Again meets *Millicent Min*, *Girl Genius* in **FRONT DESK**, a timely, hopeful middle-grade novel with a contemporary Chinese twist. Written by **debut author Kelly Yang**, this novel takes inspiration from Kelly’s life story, as her family immigrated to the United States from China when she was a young girl and managed a motel in California.

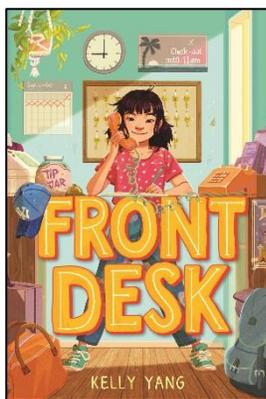
Mia Tang has a lot of secrets—

Number 1: She lives in a motel, not a big house. Every day, while her immigrant parents clean the rooms, 10-year-old Mia manages the front desk of the Calivista Motel and tends to its guests.

Number 2: Her parents hide immigrants. And if the mean motel owner, Mr. Yao, finds out they’ve been letting them stay in the empty rooms for free, the Tangs will be doomed.

Number 3: She wants to be a writer. But how can she when her mom thinks she should stick to math because English is not her first language?

It will take all of Mia’s courage, kindness and hard work to get through this year. Will she be able to hold on to her job, help the immigrants and guests, escape Mr. Yao, and go for her dreams?



Kelly Yang’s family immigrated to the United States from China when she was a young girl, and she grew up in California, in circumstances very similar to those of Mia Tang. She eventually left the motels and went to college at the age of 13, and is a graduate of UC Berkeley and Harvard Law School. Upon graduation, she gave up law to pursue her dream of writing and teaching kids writing. She is the founder of The Kelly Yang Project, a leading writing and debating program for children in Asia and the United States. She is also a columnist for the *South China Morning Post* and has been published in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and the *Atlantic*. Kelly is the mother of three children and splits her time between Hong Kong and San Francisco. Please find her online at www.kellyyang.com and follow her on Twitter @kellyyanghk.

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