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EVERY VERSION OF YOU

Longlisted for the Climate Fiction Prize 2026

by GRACE CHAN

THE BOOK

In late-twenty-first-century Australia, Tao-Yi and her partner Navin spend most of their time inside an immersive, consumerist virtual reality called Gaia. They log on, go to work, socialise and even eat in this digital utopia. Meanwhile, their aging bodies lie suspended in pods inside cramped apartments.

Across the city, in the abandoned real world, Tao-Yi's mother remains stubbornly offline, dwindling away between hospital visits and memories of her earlier life in Malaysia.

When a new technology is developed to permanently upload a human brain to Gaia, Tao-Yi must decide what is most important: a digital future or an authentic past.

GRACE CHAN



Grace Chan is an award-winning speculative fiction writer. She writes about brains, minds and space. Her debut novel, *Every Version of You*, won the University of Sydney's People's Choice Award and was shortlisted for the NSW Premier's Literary Awards Christina Stead Prize and *The Age* Book of the Year. It was longlisted for the Stella Prize and the Indie Book Awards. It has been optioned for a film adaptation by Cognito Entertainment. Grace's short fiction can be found in *Clarkesworld*, *Lightspeed*, *Escape Pod*, *Fireside*, *Black Cranes: Tales of Unquiet Women*, *Going Down Swinging*, *Aurealis*, *Andromeda Spaceways Magazine* and many other places. Grace was born in Malaysia and lives and works on the unceded lands of the Boonwurrung and Wurundjeri people. In her other life, she works as a psychiatrist.

MARKETING & SALES POINTS

**** Winner of the University of Sydney's People's Choice Award / Shortlisted for the NSW Premier's Christina Stead Prize and *The Age* Book of the Year / Longlisted for the Stella Prize ****

***Never Let Me Go* meets *Black Mirror*, with a dash of Murakami surrealism thrown in, in this speculative literary novel about staying in love after mind-uploading into virtual reality**

Perfect for fans of *Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin and *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline

Stunning and spellbinding, with an emotionally compelling love story and a complex mother-daughter relationship at its centre, *Every Version of You* unpicks the ties between life and technology to ask what truly makes us human, and what in our world is worth preserving

Film rights options to Cognito Entertainment. ANZ edition published by Affirm

PRAISE FOR *EVERY VERSION OF YOU*

'It's like *Ready Player One* meets *Station Eleven* and *Ex Machina*, and it's the book I can't stop thinking about this year' - ***TIME OUT***

'Disturbing, unflinching and emotionally-charged' - ***DAILY MAIL***

'Confronting what might one day be left on a ruined, "offline" Earth is a powerful way to refocus the lens on the world we are presently creating, and the politics informing what we build - whether it's from bricks or code' - ***GUARDIAN***

'With an intriguing blend of cli-fi, philosophy of mind and transhumanist themes, Grace Chan's novel delivers striking science fiction steeped in absurdity and dystopian menace' - ***SYDNEY MORNING HERALD***

'A meditative, gorgeous, endlessly imaginative take on the future of virtual reality and what it means to be human, as well as a deeply tender story of love and the immigrant experience... A transcendent debut' - **GRACE D LI, author of *Portrait of a Thief***

'The haunting images in *Every Version of You* followed me long after I turned the final page... Grace Chan is a vivid, insightful storyteller' - **ELIZABETH TAN, author of *Smart Ovens for Lonely People***

'Visceral, mind-bending and tender' - **INGA SIMPSON, author of *The Last Woman in the World***

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Verve Books
Harpenden
Herts AL5 1EQ
Tel: +44 (0)1582 766348

UK Distribution: Turnaround
Second Floor, Crown House
47 Chase Side, Southgate
London N14 5BP
Tel: +44 (0)208 829 3000
www.turnaround-uk.com