

AARON CRIPPEN

[So the girl, San Jie]

So the girl, San Jie, says we're having dog for dinner. I'm like OK. When in Rome. It smells good on the stove anyway. Scott's toking up and I join him. The kid, Fan Fan, is in the corner. Julia with her big eyes is going back & forth. San Jie brings out about 9 dishes followed by the dog on this orange platter. The head is on and all. It's like an adolescent dog. Fan Fan comes, Julia sways her hips, we all sit down and start. It's my first dog. I rip off the ear with chopsticks . . . well, try. I suck at chopsticks. San Jie pulls out the white eye for herself. And the kid, Fan Fan, starts bawling. "You killed Jimmy! You killed Jimmy!" His hand holding chopsticks in midair wilts like a flower. His face starts pouring from all its holes. San Jie says, "You didn't take care of him." She eats the white eyeball. Julia pulls the dog's spongy tongue from its baked mouth and holds it to Fan Fan's lips. "Here, eat Jimmy's tongue and he'll be with you forever." And the crying kid eats it.