

## ABSTRACT

### WE HAVE TO GO INSIDE

In most Asian American texts, something is negotiated, and eventually something gets lost. Most often it's the person's identity. But I believe it's not as simple as that. In this book, as the speaker moves from one place to the next, you will find that he relinquishes a part of himself but at the same time he takes with him a part of that place. Identity is not permanent. It changes. It grows. But this will only happen if the inner landscape is itself transformed. These are poems of landscape after all—the inner (personal) and geographic.

Michael Maníquiz  
May 2006