

RELIVING

In another life, I was the mechanic for the Millennium Falcon. Fix-it man specializing in lube jobs and light speed. Intergalactic grease monkey and silent co-pilot to Han and Chewie. My hands were a mixture of socket wrench and surrogate parent. I tightened her bolts and tended to her well-being. Checked under the hood to hear her arias that shook worlds. Kicked in her wings to make sure she could fly into the reality of tomorrow. She was a whooshing spotlight nursed on the teats of galaxies. I was a beaming man born in the shadows. At night I took her for test drives around the moons of Corellia. Sped through space seizing control of the wheel I made sure never veered too far to the dark side of the universe, where I was visible only to the minor stars. An anonymous beacon of blur and contentment. In another life, I was the mechanic for the Millennium Falcon.

In my life before that, I was the Millennium Falcon.

DANIEL ROMO

Daniel Romo is the author of *When Kerosene's Involved* (Black Coffee Press, 2013) and *Romancing Gravity* (Pecan Grove Press, 2013). His poetry and photography can be found in *The Los Angeles Review*, *Gargoyle*, *MiPOesias*, *Yemassee*, *Word Riot*, and elsewhere. He holds an MFA from Queens University of Charlotte and teaches high school creative writing. He lives in Long Beach, CA. More of this writing can be found at danielromo.net

