

Biography

Rob Rhee was born on a Friday. His parents are both Korean immigrants whose American names start with S. He has an older brother and a much older half-sister from his father's first marriage in Korea. His father's mother lived on Roosevelt Island for nine years and had a Casio Keyboard with preset songs of which his favorite was Ave Maria. She was not a Catholic. He was a Born Again Christian from when he was twelve until he was sixteen. During that period he believed that his best friend S. Rabinowitz would go to hell for not accepting Jesus into his soul and with a group of friends once gouged his palm with a nail. His mother owns a jewelry store and has perfect teeth. She slipped and fell on icy stairs two weeks before he was born and his parents were afraid that he was going to be disabled. He has a cousin who is disabled. Rob Rhee grew up in a house with sixteen doors. His mother's mother is less than five feet tall and harvests herbs in her local park which is against the law. At the supermarket she criticizes the produce before she purchases it. Before his mother's father died he owned a jewelry store in Manhattan and before that he was the Korean ambassador to France. His grandfather never spoke about love with his mother and was an extremely picky eater. His father will eat anything. Sometimes he refuses to eat with his father, especially when he puts donuts in soup or mixes Korean food with American food in a way he finds inappropriate. Rob Rhee never met his father's father. He was a smoker. He knows that on his deathbed his grandfather made his father, fourteen at the time, promise to become the president of a unified Korea. He has not yet done so. He has played Kim Jong-Il twice on Late Night with Conan O'Brien and once for a Geico commercial that never aired. He has been, among other things, a real estate agent, a golf teacher, an actor, a banker, a millionaire import export tycoon, a member of the Korean CIA and most recently a mental health aide at the Creedmore Psychiatric center in Queens.