

“This is the rare debut that introduces not a promising talent but a major writer, fully formed.”—Garth Greenwell

A Lucky Man

Stories

JAMEL BRINKLEY

In the nine expansive, searching stories of *A Lucky Man*, fathers and sons attempt to salvage relationships with friends and family members and confront mistakes made in the past. An imaginative young boy from the Bronx goes swimming with his group from day camp at a backyard pool in the suburbs, and faces the effects of power and privilege in ways he can barely grasp. A teen intent on proving himself a man through the all-night revel of J’ouvert can’t help but look out for his impressionable younger brother. A pair of college boys on the prowl follow two girls home from a party and have to own the uncomfortable truth of their desires. And at a capoeira conference, two brothers grapple with how to tell the story of their family, caught in the dance of their painful, fractured history.

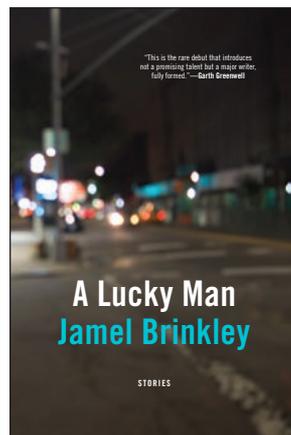
Jamel Brinkley’s stories, in a debut that announces the arrival of a significant new voice, reflect the tenderness and vulnerability of black men and boys whose hopes sometimes betray them, especially in a world shaped by race, gender, and class—where luck may be the greatest fiction of all.

“There’s true magic in Jamel Brinkley’s stories. . . . By using all his formidable talents, he’s shown us a vision of ourselves.” —**Victor LaVelle**

“I loved this book. From sentence to sentence, these stories are beautifully written, and they are wonderfully moving and smart. . . . Jamel Brinkley writes like an angel.” —**Charles Baxter**

“In vibrant yet restrained prose, Brinkley illuminates the longing for home, which lurks in all of us. A magnificent debut.” —**Laila Lalami**

“These stories do not shy away from heartbreak and brutal consequences. . . . An unforgettable collection by an important new voice.” —**Danielle Evans**



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JAMEL BRINKLEY’s stories have appeared in *A Public Space*, *Gulf Coast*, and elsewhere. He is a graduate of the Iowa Writers’ Workshop and has been a Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing Fellow. He lives in Los Angeles.