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the87press**Author bio:**

Fargo Nissim Tbakhi is a Palestinian performance artist and the author of *TERROR COUNTER* (Deep Vellum, 2025; the87press 2026) and *ANTIGONE. VELOCITY. SALT.* (Deep Vellum, 2027).

TERROR COUNTER

Fargo Nissim Tbakhi

Debut poetry collection from queer Palestinian performance artist

- 2025 Longlist for the National Book Award for Poetry
- Queer performance and visual artist focusing on Palestinian lived experiences
- Winner of the Ghassan Kanafani Resistance Arts Prize
- Tbakhi's work has been supported by fellowships from Rhizome DC, Radius of Arab American Writers (RAWI), and more
- For fans of: George Abraham, Mohammed El-Kurd, Zaina Alsous

About the book

Moving through sections of varying experimentalism, from an invented visual form (the Gazan Tunnel) to all-caps queer ecstatic, Fargo Nissim Tbakhi here attempts to carve out a space for the negotiation of an alternative subjecthood.

The voices in this collection are driven by despair, futility, utopia, vulnerability and the spirit of a collective liberation; they move in search of a lyrical voice which can inhabit both the paranoid preservationist mode that facilitates Palestinian survival, and the imaginative possibilities that might make possible Palestinian life.

TERROR COUNTER asks: where and how might a Palestinian subject escape the public consumption of American letters? And, ultimately, how can we continue to love each other amidst the endless terror of the colonial world?

Reviews

From a queer Palestinian performance artist comes this debut poetry collection of Palestinian survival, imagination, preservation, and liberation. —*Autostraddle*

Fargo Nissim Tbakhi is a Palestinian poetic being of the most natural order. Just wait until you arrive at his elegy for his father. If you're lucky, you will understand what Sirhan Sirhan means. If you're lucky, Tbakhi's performance will let you taste what free is. —Fady Joudah, author of [...]

Liberation is love poetry. Bring your heart, dear reader. Bring your crowbar. —Brandon Shimoda, author of *The Grave on the Wall*