## **Author Bio**

Tazio Ruffilo is a born and bred product of Paterson, New Jersey, where he was raised by his undefeatable mom, jack-of-all-arts dad, and desperado big sister. The different hats he's worn and the cast of characters in his hometown are major influences on his writing. On most weekends you can find him chasing his kids around a public space, trying to convince them to get down from there. Tazio teaches writing and communications at Hudson County Community College, and his first collection of short stories, *Got That Fire*, was released by Tolsun Books in 2023.