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The Fortieth Day

by **Kazim Ali**

From the Bible to the Quaraan, the fortieth day symbolizes the last moment before deliverance, a moment in time when a supplicant or prophet or storm-beaten passenger knows there is no state “after,” but finally accepts the present state as a permanent one.

In *The Fortieth Day*, Kazim Ali follows the fractured narratives and moving lyrics of his debut collection, *The Far Mosque*, with a deeply spiritual and meditative book exploring the rhetoric of prayer. His poems are nothing shy of meditative ecstasy.

Praise for The Fortieth Day

“In *The Fortieth Day*, every poem keeps an exquisite and undistracted vigil, wholly devoted to the contours of each moment. These vigils are rewarded amply, as Time itself unfolds its secrets to Ali. To read this book is to see new colors in a new depth.”

—Donald Revell

“Kazim Ali lets the self unfold amidst play and prayer, wonder and language. Many of Ali’s poems proceed sound by sound, the syllables themselves tiny devis voicing to the poet, and to the reader, where next to track a fugitive god.”

—Jeff Davis

“Kazim Ali has been kissed by the lips of eternity and managed to remain lucid enough to speak of the wonder.”

—Sharon Gannon, co-founder, Jivamukti Yoga

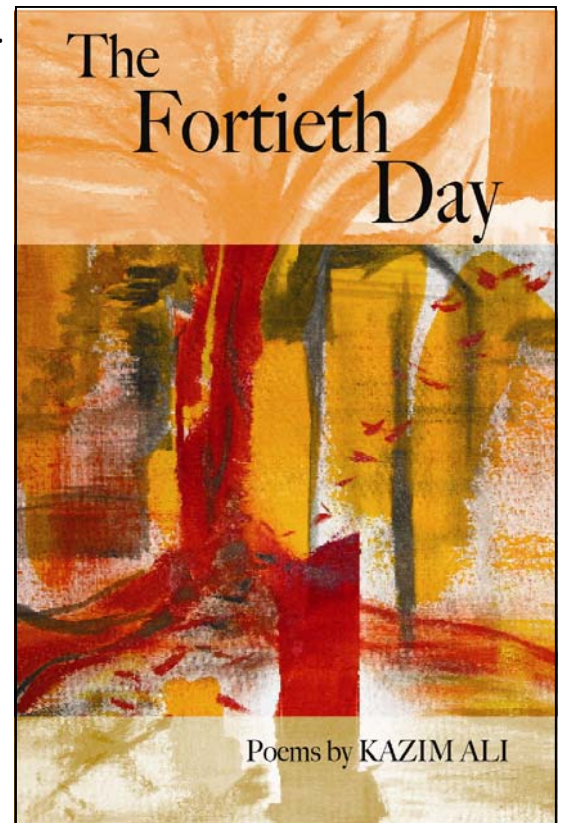


About the Poet

Kazim Ali (www.kazimali.com) was born in the United Kingdom and raised in an Islamic household. He holds degrees from University at Albany, and NYU. His books include *The Far Mosque* (Alice James), the novel *Quinn’s Passage* (BlazeVox), and an e-chapbook, *River Road*, which appeared in *Bridges: a Journal of Jewish Feminist Literature*. His poetry has recently appeared in *jubilat*, *Barrow Street*, *The American Poetry Review*, and *Best American Poetry 2007*. He lives in Oberlin, Ohio.

Press kits and other promotional materials are available upon request from BOA Editions.

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