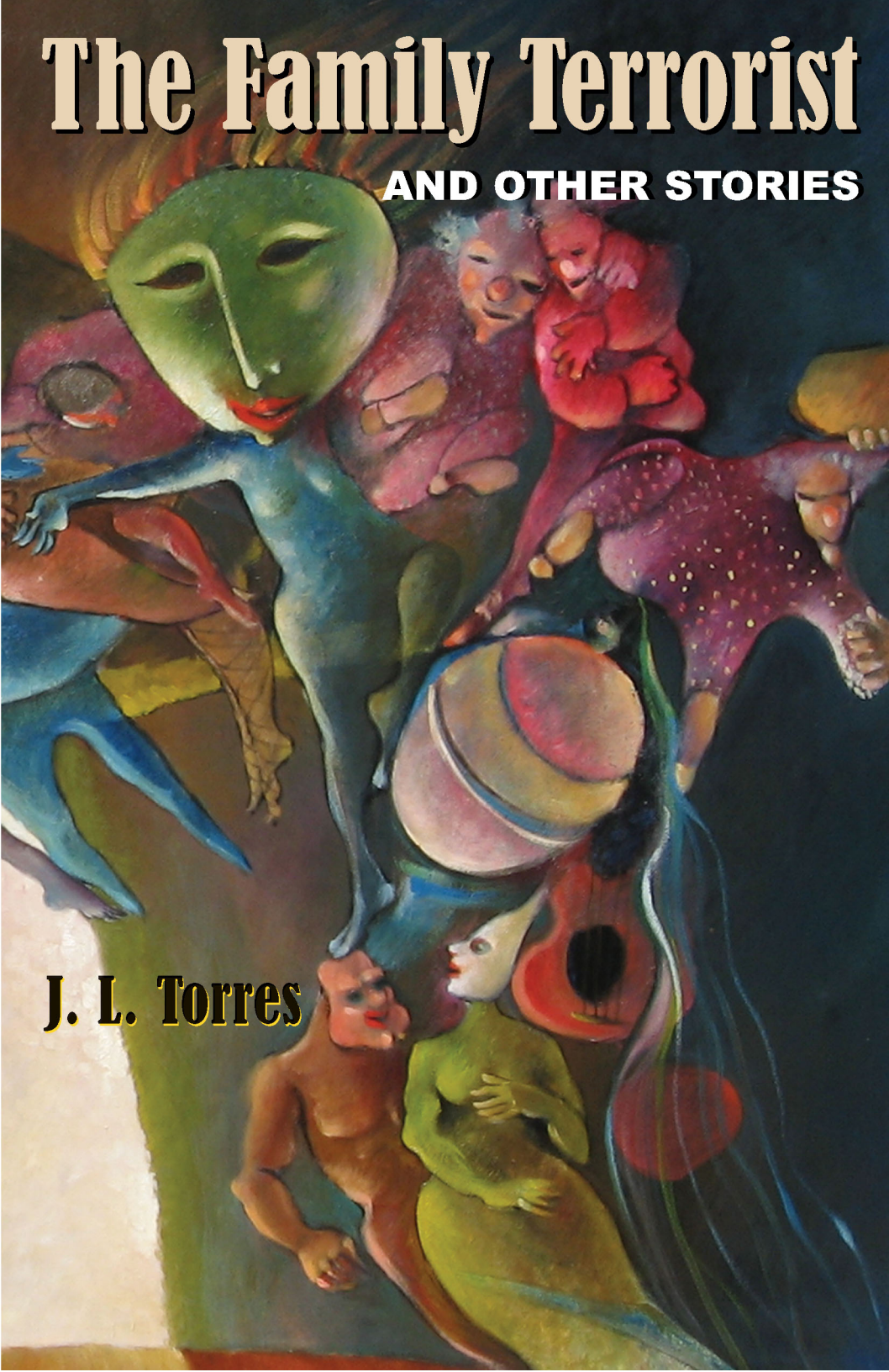


The Family Terrorist

AND OTHER STORIES

J. L. Torres



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Dedication

For Julian, so one day you may write your own stories.

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Thanks to *la familia*—Lee, my beautiful wife and life partner, Alex and Julian, the best sons any father could want—for your love, patience and understanding. To my mother, Marcelina Padilla, whose strength and morals guide me, always. To everyone else in the immediate family, including friends—thanks for the encouragement, laughter and hugs.

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I am grateful to the editors of the following publications for publishing earlier versions of the respective stories:

The Americas Review: “My Father’s Flag”

Growing Up Latino: “My Father’s Flag”

Crosscurrent Quarterly: “Isla” (appeared as “An Intimate Reprieve”)

Chiricu: “Kerchiefs on a Fence”

Karamu: “A-nee-mal”

Wind: “Pigeons”

Finally, *muchísimas gracias al pueblo puertorriqueño*, for serving as my inspiration.

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