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### **After a successful first virtual event, Chippewa Valley Book Festival hosts Brandon Taylor on March 12**

Following an impressive first event that drew in over 990 registrants and viewers from across 40 states, the Chippewa Valley Book Festival looks forward to hosting award-winning author, Brandon Taylor, for a discussion about his book, *Real Life*. A Conversation with Brandon Taylor will take place virtually on March 12, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. (CST). Registration is required for this FREE event. Learn more at [www.cvbookfest.org/festival-events/taylor](http://www.cvbookfest.org/festival-events/taylor).

Brandon Taylor is the author of *Real Life* which was shortlisted for the 2020 Booker Prize for Fiction and was named one of the best books of 2020 by numerous publications, including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Vanity Fair*, *The Guardian*, *The Paris Review*, and *VICE*. Plans were announced in December for a film adaptation starring Kid Cudi. The program is expected to touch upon themes presented in the book including racism, sexuality, and trauma. Moderated by Lopa Basu, Ph.D., the program will include a reading from the novel and questions and answers with Taylor.

*Real Life* takes place on a Midwestern campus with more than a passing resemblance to the one that Taylor attended in Madison, Wisconsin. It's the last few days of summer break. Wallace, a queer, Black man from Alabama, is a graduate student whose laboratory project has gone awry. Could it be the result of deliberate sabotage? Although the events that follow are packed into a single weekend, issues of race, gender, sexuality, history, and trauma all come to bear upon personal reflection, furtive romance, and one of the most disastrous dinner parties in recent fiction.

*“Breathlessly physical...steadily exciting and affecting...[a] charged experience.”–  
Booklist (starred review)*

Author photos, book jacket graphics, social media graphics, as well as Chippewa Valley Book Festival logos can be found at: [www.cvbookfest.com/media](http://www.cvbookfest.com/media)

*The Chippewa Valley Book Festival partners with the Pablo Center at the Confluence, and the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire Foundation to provide literary programming for all Chippewa Valley residents.*

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