

“A wild and wise collection of fever dreams set in an ailing Iowa.”

—Ryan Ridge, author of *New Bad News*

A linked flash story collection surrounding Buddy Holly's 1959 plane crash site and the still-obsessed inhabitants of the Iowa town.

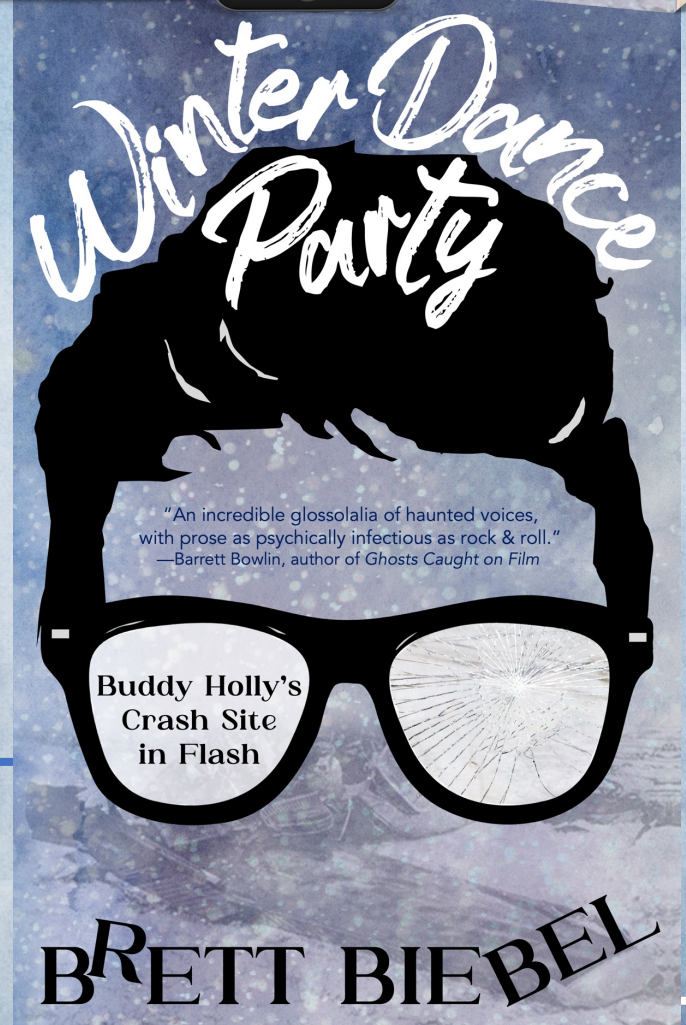
In the wee hours of a cold winter morning, the plane carrying Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, and J. P. “The Big Bopper” Richardson crashed in a remote Iowa field, killing all three musicians, and forever marking February 3rd, 1959, as “the Day the Music Died.” The 59 linked flash stories in *Winter Dance Party* focus on the obsessions and indifferences of the inhabitants who still live near that field, as well as on the development company that bought the property—and what cash-grab designs they might have for a big empty piece of Americana. Amidst flyover-country pranks and bowling-alley shenanigans are the struggles between those who want to stop the commercialization, those desperate for the tourist dollars, and those caught in between. Told in crisp, lyrical prose, this is the fragmented story of tragedy and aftermath, filled with that American determination to profit off them both.

“An incredible glossolalia of haunted voices, with prose as psychically infectious as rock & roll.”
—Barrett Bowlin, author of *Ghosts Caught on Film*

“Biebel’s deft writing captures the obsession and mystery surrounding pop culture history.”
—Allison Renner, author of *Won’t Be By Your Side*

“A nostalgic 1950s musical journey through the Midwest in prose that sparkles with the melody of sunsets over cornfields.”
—Tommy Dean, author of *Hollows*

“Present in these 59 stories are the ghosts from that night in 1959, when the music died in Clear Lake, Iowa. The characters we come to know feel the spectral pull of the past in their bones, as Biebel deftly answers two fundamental questions: Why do we cling to history, and is progress always a good thing?” —L Mari Harris, editor of *Trampset*



WINTER DANCE PARTY
Buddy Holly's Crash Site in Flash by Brett Biebel



Brett Biebel is the author of *48 Blitz* and *Winter Dance Party*. His short fiction has been included in dozens of literary journals and anthologized by *Best Small Fictions* and *Best Microfiction*. It's also been listed as part of *Wigleaf's* annual Top 50 Very Short Stories (2021). He writes and teaches in Illinois.

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