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# ALTERNATING CURRENT PRESS





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"... piercingly observant, profound longing and nostalgia ..."

-Gary McDowell, author of Aflame

A debut full-length poetry collection combining obsessive self-observation, pop culture, dark humor, and the macabre parts of womanhood.

In *Fish Love*, Bryanna Licciardi leans into her obsessive nature and twisted humor, offering readers a landscape of bizarre realism. From dark, familial narratives to imagined dates with serial killers, she eagerly distorts the line between love and loathing, self and other, fantasy and actuality. With a dreamlike quality and gut-punching lines, Licciardi guides readers through the stages of rage, hurt, laughter, and raw memory, ultimately ending her debut full-length poetry collection in the realm of hope among the most sinister of places—regret.



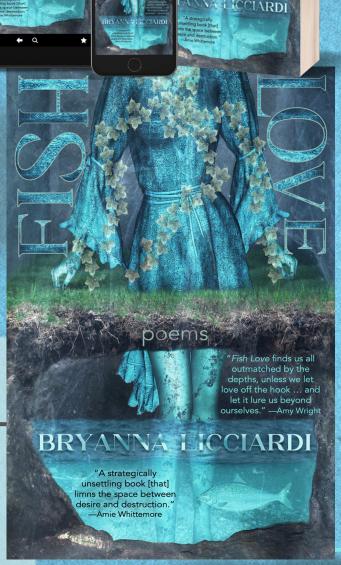
—Amie Whittemore, author of Glass Harvest

BRYANNA LICCIARDI resists the question, "Where are you from?" She has lived all over the country—California, Texas, Michigan, Massachusetts, Louisiana—and currently resides in a small town near Nashville, Tennessee. She is a degree collector of sorts, with a BA from Austin Peay State University, an MFA from Emerson College, and a doctorate from Middle Tennessee State University. She works as an English lecturer and profess-sional development coordinator, also at MTSU. Her spare time

is spent taking care of four cats and one husband. Licciardi's first book, *Skin Splitting*, is a poetry chapbook from Finishing Line Press (2017). Her literary works have also appeared in such publications as *BlazeVox*, *Cleaver Magazine*, *Poetry Quarterly*, *Red Flag Poetry*, and *Adirondack Review*. For more about her work, go to bryannalicciardi.com.



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## FISH LOVE Poems by Bryanna Licciardi

On Sale: July 30, 2024 DISTRIBUTED BY: INGRAM & ASTERISM Poems

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### "A MOST MAGNIFICENT, MOST DISTINCTLY AMERICAN VOICE."

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# "... A PHENOMENAL, POIGNANT DEBUT ABOUT A YOUNG MAN AND NATION COMING OF AGE AT THE TURN OF THE 21ST CENTURY."

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"In this surprisingly expansive chapbook, Dayton J. Shafer moves swiftly and adeptly through his childhood, masterfully conjuring both the specific and universal in equal measures in this American contemporary-coming-of-age story." —Caitlin Leffel, senior editor at Union Square & Co.

"These philosophical passages do not shy away from shame, embarrassment, discomfort. These lines probe at big questions ... with equal parts dark nostalgia and humor. This manuscript reveals the true experience of being an American: simultaneously embracing and rejecting one's identity at every turn."

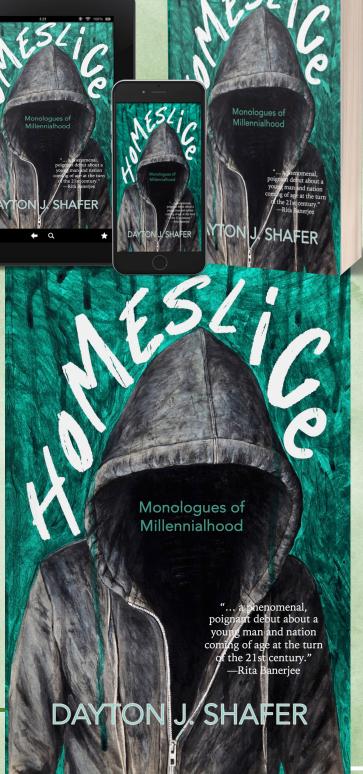
—Frances Cannon, author of Walter Benjamin Reimagined



DAYTON J. SHAFER's pieces have been featured in fringe festivals, barns, abandoned factories, converted laundromats, black boxes, street sides, and with Vermont Public Radio, the Susan Calza Gallery, Poem-City, and Split Lip Magazine. He's a former writing fellow at Vermont Studio Center, managing editor of Hunger Mountain Literary Journal, and grant recipient from the Montpelier Public Arts Commission.

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### HOMESLICE Monologues of Millennialhood by Dayton J. Shafer

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#### "A wild and wise collection of fever dreams set in an ailing lowa."

-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 lowa 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 lowa 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 cashgrab 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.

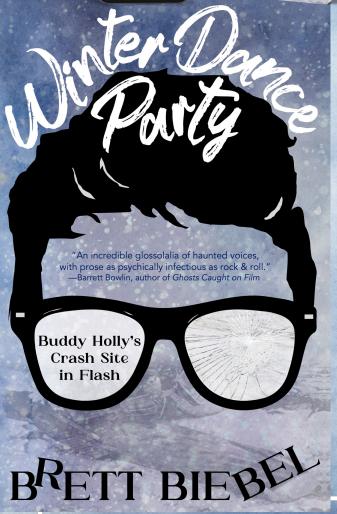
"An incredible glossolalia of haunted voices, with prose as psychically infectious as rock & roll." -Barrett Bowlin, author of Ghosts Caught on Film

"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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# "... dispatches from the interior: singing with secrets and intimacies ..."

-Ruth Awad, author of Set to Music a Wildfire

A chapbook collection of intimate poetry linked by the theme of letter-writing.

Letterlocking is an ode to postcards, grocery lists, ideas on cocktail napkins, notes passed under doors, envelopes, and secrets. It is a record of the way the written word leaves its mark on us and the ways we hold on to one another during separations of all kinds. From gentle repetitions that read like pleadings—a do-over by the undone—to soft spaces of courting rituals that stay between lovers, inner turmoils easier to write than to say aloud, and imagined closure for friends and enemies on the receiving end, the epistolic poems in Stephanie Staab's Letterlocking reveal our deepest intimacies and pay homage to the security of an unbroken seal.

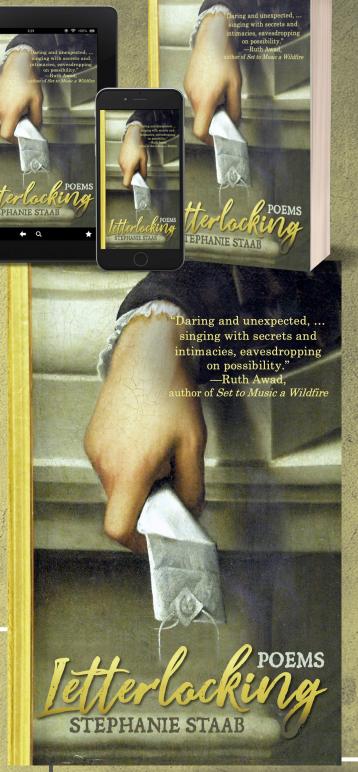


—Ruth Awad

"Letterlocking arrives as dispatches from the interior: singing with secrets and intimacies, eavesdropping on possibility. Daring and unexpected, these poems are letters you will keep and return to often."

—Ruth Award, author of Set to Music a Wildfire

"To friends and enemies, Staab writes, 'I hope [this letter] finds you changed'—a gift she also offers her reader. Encased in *Letterlocking*'s envelopes and coffrets are quiet intimacies, cockroaches, 'blood and melon juice on the counter.' Read these poems like love letters. Read them like secrets."—Hannah V. Warren, author of *Slaughterhouse for Old Wives' Tales* 



LETTERLOCKING Poems by Stephanie Staab



STEPHANIE STAAB is an American poet living in the Black Forest, Germany. Her work has appeared in Gulf Coast, Lake Effect, Lunch Ticket, Chestnut Review, and Ligeia Magazine, among other outlets.

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