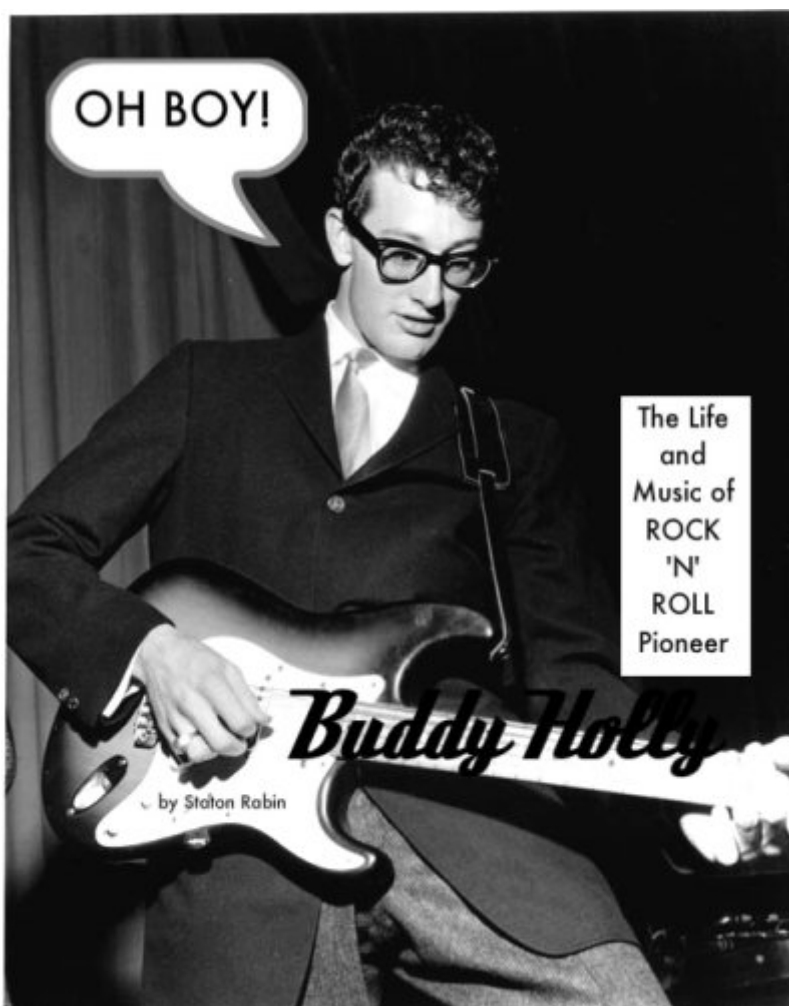


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# OH BOY! The Life And Music Of Rock 'n' Roll Pioneer Buddy Holly



## Synopsis

**\*\*New! Special Tribute-- for the 50th Anniversary of "The day the music died" --** Like Buddy Holly himself, this book is an original • solid gold. And it rocks. OH BOY! is your backstage pass to the birth of the rock music revolution. It's the most complete, compelling, and fully up-to-date new biography of the legendary Buddy Holly, the young man who was legally blind, but saw the future of rock'n'roll. This compulsively readable book-- the first and only full-length biography of Buddy for young adults and tweens-- fills a glaring gap in the curriculum of "the school of rock" and recaptures the Buddy Holly magic for a new generation. Award-winning author Staton Rabin's stirring biography of rock'n'roll legend Buddy Holly is beautifully clear, honest, and utterly persuasive-- just like Buddy's music. Ah, the music! Those trademark Holly hiccups and yodels, that West Texas twang, the boyish energy that bursts from the starting gate like Seabiscuit. The dazzling guitar licks that penetrate hearts like gamma rays. The kind of rock music that whether you're eight or eighty, dares you to try- just try!-- to keep your feet still and stay in your seat. Propelled by hits like "That'll be the Day", "Peggy Sue", "Everyday", "Rave On", and "Oh Boy!" created by Buddy and his group, the Crickets-- the first rock band that wrote, arranged, and performed its own songs • Buddy's fame swept across the globe like a Texas twister. This all-inclusive biography tells the true story of Buddy's thrilling, faster-than-a-rollercoaster ride to superstardom, featuring: --Excerpts from rare, classic interviews with Buddy's family and friends --Insightful analysis of Buddy's best-known songs --Buddy's witty high school English essay --His pivotal first meeting with an up-and-coming young singer named "the Hillbilly Cat" (Elvis!) --The astonishing story-behind-the-story of his first hit record --The drama of his romances, including a heartbreaking split with his high school sweetheart, and his storybook "love at first sight" romance with Maria Elena, the beautiful woman he would marry -- Buddy's painful break-up with his manager, Norman Petty, and his beloved band, the Crickets -- Vivid descriptions of what it would have been like to see, hear, and meet Buddy in person -- Buddy's prophetic dream -- The Winter Dance Party (otherwise known as "the bus tour from hell") --A full account of "the day the music died" when the world lost three bright young stars: 22-year-old Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens (17), and The Big Bopper (28). It includes a riveting, "you are there", minute-by-minute account of the tragic plane crash, which seeks to solve the mystery of what really happened that cold February night in 1959 -- A "Where are

they Now? --A section that tells what the Crickets and Buddy's other friends and family are doing today --Details of tributes planned to honor Buddy for the 50th anniversary of his death, and a complete and current list of the best-of-the-best sources for further information about Buddy: books, web sites, movies, etc. --Amazing quotes about Buddy Holly from some of the many rock & roll stars who were influenced by him, including Bruce Springsteen, Keith Richards, Eric Clapton, Paul McCartney, and Bob Dylan --And so much more. So, here he is, "live and in person"-- Buddy Holly. Go ahead and say it: "Oh boy!"

Age Range: 10 to Adult About the Author: Staton Rabin has written many popular books about cultural icons for Simon & Schuster and Viking, including BETSY AND THE EMPEROR. She was trained in music, and has a degree in film from NYU. Rabin is member #10,346 of the Buddy Holly International Fan Club, and owns of a Fender Stratocaster guitar. Her web site can be found at [www.myspace.com/statonrabin](http://www.myspace.com/statonrabin) Rave on!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Staton Rabin, an widely published author of books for children and teenagers, wasn't planning to

write a book about Buddy Holly. A series of coincidences convinced her to undertake the project, and thank goodness she answered the call. Otherwise, a new generation of young music lovers might well think that Elvis invented rock 'n' roll, with maybe a little help from the Beatles. In fact, this "boy next door" from Lubbock, Texas, became one of the earliest and most original voices of rock 'n' roll, inspiring everyone from the Beatles to Bob Dylan to Don MacLean, who immortalized the date of Holly's untimely death -- February 3, 1959 -- as "the day the music died." This Kindle edition arrives in time for the 50th anniversary of that sad day, but the book itself is full of joy and savvy appreciation of Buddy Holly's place in the history of American music. I will confess to being several decades older than the target age group for this book, but I loved the story and the way Rabin tells it. She is a fine writer, and her connection with her subject is heartfelt. "Elvis may have been 'the King,'" she writes in the Introduction, "but it was Buddy Holly who drew up the blueprints to build the palace of rock 'n' roll." I bought a Buddy Holly album -- *Essential Masters* (digital) -- on and loaded the mp3 files onto my Kindle. This made for a delightful reintroduction to his music and his story. With the help of this inspiring book, Buddy Holly is less at risk of becoming the most famous rock star that young people have never heard of.

I am a big Buddy Holly fan and a new Kindle owner. So I was excited about getting to read this book on my Kindle. It only took me about three pages to realize that this book is pretty cheesy. The book is very poorly written and frankly, I'm surprised anyone would publish it. I've seen articles in high school newspapers that were better written. It's clear that the author is a Buddy Holly fan, but she could have been somewhat more neutral and analytical. She's a cheerleader for Norman Petty and Holly's wife, Maria Elena Holly. This book really appears to be just re-written newspaper articles and other information readers can easily find on the Internet - kinda like a junior high student's report on Rome or something that is really a re-written Wikipedia article. There doesn't seem to be much original work here. I would only give it one star, but even a bad book about Buddy Holly deserves two stars.

Pretty good read...

I purchased this book after hearing an interview with Ms. Rabin on Len Edgerly's Kindle Chronicles podcast. I've always had a mild interest in Buddy Holly and it had been a while since I'd read anything about him. Ms. Rabin does a good job of documenting Buddy's background and career and I found this to be an enjoyable read. The book seems to present a fair picture of Buddy's life (maybe

a little too fair in dealing with his ex-manager Norman Petty) and contains many quotes about Buddy's influence on music from people who later became famous. This is a relatively short book but, in my opinion, definitely worth a read.

Saw Buddy Holly in person in the 50s; excellent show by all. He lived a full life in a very short period of time, he left us too soon. His music lives on and always will.

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