



FICTION

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## *The* HONEYMOON CORRUPTION

BY RICHARD LEE ZURAS

**I**t's the early 1960s, and while the Doo-wop era is ending, racial and class prejudice is alive and thriving in the American South. In this unforgiving environment, star-crossed young lovers Althea and Guy are determined to wed—despite the objections of Althea's disapproving and powerful father.

Undeterred, the couple elopes to the seaside resort town of Wildwood, New Jersey, with two suitcases, a veil, and no plans. Fast running out of cash, they fall in with a local duo: the free-spirited Jeannie and the fast-talking Max Castaldi, who may be able to provide just the break the young couple needs. But as Max introduces Guy to a shadier world that seethes under the boardwalk lights, both Guy and Althea—so full of optimism at first—soon learn that getting on their feet in this town may demand more than they are prepared to give.

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*"Swiftly-paced, simmering with tension, this thin novel packs the dramatic wallop of a heavyweight contender."*

—Neil Connelly, author of *The Midlife Crisis of Commander Invincible*

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### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**R**ichard Lee Zuras was born and raised in Arlington, Virginia. He spent time with his parents and brother, most every summer, in Wildwood, New Jersey, and Atlantic City, New Jersey. It is from these experiences, and his vivid, undying memories of the Jersey Shore that Richard produced *The Honeymoon Corruption*. Richard now resides in northern Maine where he teaches creative writing and film at the University of Maine at Presque Isle. He lives with his wife, Kelly, and their two boys, Everett and Holden. Richard has published short stories in close to twenty literary journals and is the author of the novel *The Bastard Year* (BrandyLane).

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