



Busch creates nostalgia in “My Twinkie Barricade”

In his graphic tale about childhood, impulsive actions and consequences, Benjamin Busch captures the spirit of youthful adventure. A war veteran, actor and writer, Busch tells the fast-paced story of a confrontation with his father which ends in a show of love and compassion.

Written when the iconic snack, Twinkies, went out of production, Busch’s narrative revives emotions of loss and nostalgia for a brand which many Americans relate to their childhoods. Remorseful after he wolfed down a box of Twinkies, young Benjamin knew the unreasonable “Twinkie defense” would not deter his punishment. He flees outside and hides in secret tunnels created in snow piles. Alarmed, his father shoveled through the snow.

Busch captivates with his descriptive prose and metaphors. To him, the streets looked like “deep white furrows,” and snow piles were “fallen clouds.” The story ends with compromise. He realizes what matters most is not retribution but forgiveness, and the powerful influence of a father’s love.