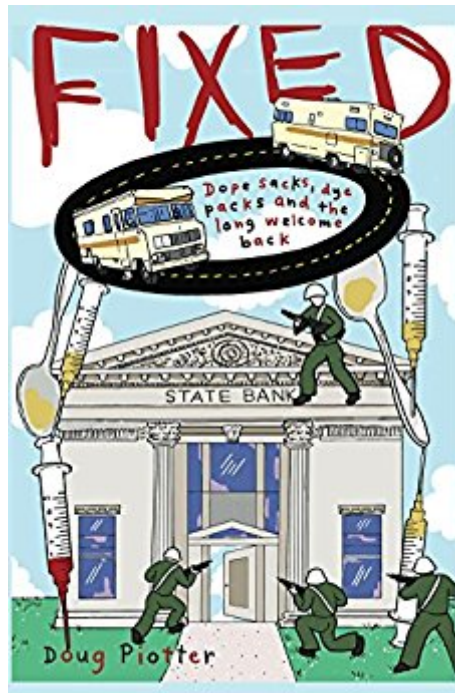


The book was found

Fixed: Dope Sacks, Dye Packs, And The Long Welcome Back



Synopsis

Fixed is a darkly comedic memoir that spans my unsupervised youth, drug and alcohol addiction, bank robbery, life in prison and ultimately my release and re-entry into my life's new and sober orbit. I grew up with alcoholic parents trapped inside their own lonely skins, a painful childhood full of cold shoulders and broken furniture. I burst onto the drug scene at age eleven and thrived before slowly finding out that it wasn't all that it was cracked up to be. With addiction taking over and dictating my every move, I tried to make sense of it all while gathering five unwanted felonies along the way. At thirty-three, after a long string of bank robberies and my bad guy impersonation had run its course, I was brought back to life with the gift of prison and given the opportunity to experience a new childhood that I could have only imagined while growing up in Manville. Upon release, I learned that the universe is a kind and forgiving place, often strange and funny with plenty for everyone as long as I don't forget where I came from.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Grabs your attention immediately and holds you throughout the whole story. Doug tells it like it was and is and pulls no punches, doing so in direct, simple, honest and humorous ways. Personal

journey from very difficult childhood to early horrific adulthood to prison purgatory and finally to personal redemption. The only thing better than reading Doug's book is to hear him tell these stories in person. I have had that pleasure to hear his passionate, believable presentation. You must read this phenomenal, personal journey. You will be amazed and inspired by Doug.

I began reading the "Look Inside" version of Doug's book on during my lunch break |once I had reached the end of that "free ride" [somewhere in mid-chapter 7], I was so engaged in his story that I immediately purchased the Kindle version and continued reading the book on my iPhone, undeterred by the fact that lunch break was far behind me and there were work related tasks to be attended to. I couldn't stop reading " and by mid-afternoon I had found myself converting my laugh-out-loud reactions to some of Doug's descriptions of his real life experiences into loud coughing fits so that my co-workers would not become suspicious about what I was up to |Doug is a grand story teller. He has an authentic voice, and he is honest and forthcoming about where he has been, and what he has learned on his journey through this life - I found his story relatable and compelling. I give this book an unabashed two thumbs up!

Humor, honesty, and hope -- for me Doug Piotter's book has all three in spades. His story about towing the VW van made me laugh so hard I couldn't breathe. The honest revelations about prison sex and the visceral yuck of junkie life impressed me by his willingness to be open and vulnerable. Most importantly, although I have never been a junkie or a bank robber I sometimes feel lost in my own personal darkness, and FIXED gives me hope that I can always find the light again.

I found this book from a comment section in the Seattle Times where one contributor recommended it as the topic was homelessness in Seattle. The book is well written, funny, but terribly tragic. Without giving away the "end", the book was almost too much to take as the author recounts his life from one substance abuse issue, crimes, criminal / druggie associates to another. Just when you think it cannot get worse it does until the end. It's worth reading as insight to see beyond the cliché "homeless" label given to people living on the streets to a more honest view of at least a subset of them.

I have never laughed out loud so many times in a single book before--it's that funny. This was one of those reads I thought about when I was away, a faint, nagging longing to return ASAP to the wild, wacky and occasionally achingly poignant world of Doug Piotter. But even the sad moments didn't

last long. The author's razor-sharp wit easily lifted me up again, never morose despite plenty of tragedy. I didn't want this book to end, and I want the next one right away. Reading this book is a major attitude adjustment, no matter your circumstances, for the better.

Funny, profound, no ing, sad... I could add more adjectives. I picked this up thinking to read a few pages, hoping it would help w a child with similar issues. I was quickly consumed with finishing! It gave me hope, and some understanding. I laughed at loud in places. I am so amazed at, and proud of, the author. Wow.

Piotter's book was a joy to read " The author's stories of his childhood brought sadness about the family's disfunction; his antics of early life brought giggles; his description of his "ædruggie" days brought disbelief at times; his stories of prison made me wonder at his survival. His road to sobriety, maturity and contribution to society now brought pride in a man who could really make it on the "æoutside". His willingness to share his life in all of its colors makes this a must read for all of us.

Piotter certainly has lived a whirlwind of a life. He seems to be doing well for himself as a recovering addict ex-convict with his wife, job, and dog. It's certainly wonderful that he's been given the chance to redeem himself after he scorned that chance time and time again. His memoir shows his life through an objective lens while he interjects with what he learned along the way. However, I found the flow of the story very difficult to navigate. The book was comprised of seventy-seven chapters, and each was a short narrative about an event in his life. Perhaps because these were written in a short story style, each story did not necessarily relate to the story before or after it. Additionally some of the sentences were choppy and the word choice proved difficult to follow. That being said, the moral of the story was a prevalent theme, and Piotter presents that to his readers effectively. He challenges the idea that people can't change, and is constantly willing to give people a second chance, including himself. It is miraculous to me how accepting his whole family seems to be. I love the way he talks about his dogs. Doug Piotter says, "One of my most haunting regrets was that I gave away my dog Tork. As a living amends, I rescued Zinc, just like my wife had done for me. We've both never had it so good." Again, Piotter seeks to give others the second (or third or fourth) chance that he was given. It's apparent that no matter how many times people do things wrong, they deserve the chance to redeem themselves and still have it within themselves to change. I received a copy of this book from Sage's Blog Tours for an honest review. You can read more of my

reviews at <https://showthisbooksomelovewordpresscom.wordpress.com>

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