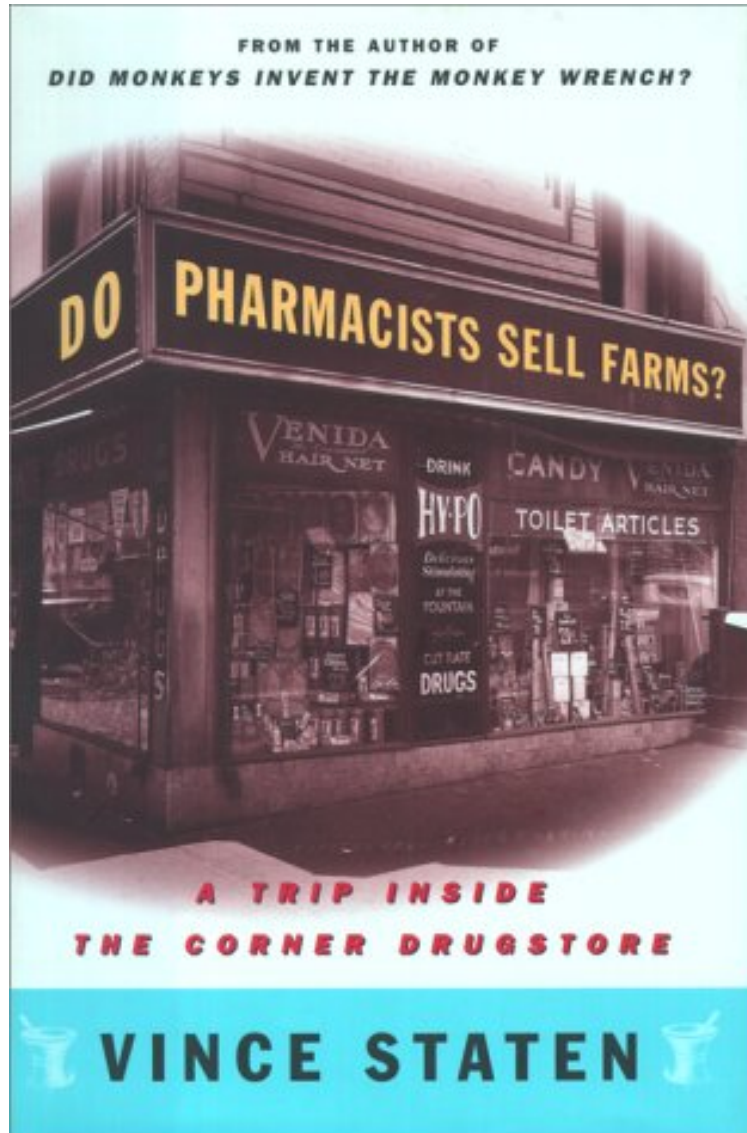


(Mobile library) Do Pharmacists Sell Farms?: A Trip Inside the Corner Drugstore

Do Pharmacists Sell Farms?: A Trip Inside the Corner Drugstore

Vince Staten

DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#1679082 in Books Simon n Schuster 1998-06-15 Original language: English PDF # 1 .82 x 5.79 x 8.751,
#File Name: 0684834855208 pages | File size: 60.Mb

Vince Staten : Do Pharmacists Sell Farms?: A Trip Inside the Corner Drugstore before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Do Pharmacists Sell Farms?: A Trip Inside the Corner Drugstore:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Amusing truths of the commong "drugstore"By E. M. RuckiEnjoyable light reading, this book has many little known facts that will astound professionals as well as the general public. Vince Staten remembers well a slowly fading side of Pharmacy. Slightly superficial, but not meant to

be anything but entertaining. All in all, excellent. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Poor follow up to "Can you trust a tomato in January?" By John P McCauley Jr I was very dissatisfied with this book. I suppose I expected a better, intellectual history of the corner drugstore, but what I read was a poor and sophomoric diatribe. Please do not waste your money. Mr Staten has written better. I suppose I will need to check his other work at the library before I purchase again. Also, do not be deceived, "Did Trojans use trojans" is the same nonsense in paperback form.

Do you remember standing in front of the pharmacist, trying to work up the nerve to ask him for that last essential item for tonight's big date? Or maybe staring at the home-permanent display, wondering, "Should I or shouldn't I?" Do you recall where these and other high altars of onrushing adulthood were located? The corner drugstore. No small town was complete without one. Along with the grocery and the hardware store, the corner drugstore was one of the essential institutions a town needed. Vince Staten has already written about the first two of these in *Can You Trust a Tomato in January?* and *Did Monkeys Invent the Monkey Wrench?* In *Do Pharmacists Sell Farms?* Staten takes on the third in an effort to explore and capture the heart of this American institution before it disappears. Staten takes us back to a time when the corner drugstore was the place where mothers met in the morning to trade gossip, where businessmen met in the afternoon to lunch and cut deals, and where teenagers gathered after school for a soda and a smile. It was also the place where many people had what their doctor was doing to them explained so they could actually understand it. But just as the town square has lost its luster and been replaced by the mall, the corner drugstore has given way to the superstore. Return with us to the days when the soda jerk ruled the social scene and *True Confessions* was the hot magazine at the newsstand. Here Staten will walk you one last time through those narrow, cluttered aisles and answer many of the questions that have plagued customers since time immemorial. What is this V7 that makes *Vitalis* so wonderful? How does *Grecian Formula* know what color my hair used to be? What ever happened to *Preparations A-G*? *Did Trojans use Trojans*? With inimitable style and wit, Staten offers the stories behind the salves, nostrums, and patent medicines that you could once find on every corner, giving us the secret histories of all the people, places, and above all, things that made up this centerpiece of Americana. So whether you're reliving your own memories or wishing to experience the sights and smells of the corner drugstore for the first time. *Do Pharmacists Sell Farms?* Is the next best thing to sitting at the counter sipping an ice cream soda on a sunny summer afternoon.

.com The corner drugstore used to be a prescription for happiness in America. Sweethearts met at the soda fountain after school, kids picked out penny candy, and when you needed a certain medicine refilled, it was a friend and neighbor who did the work. But with the arrival of shopping malls and national discount chains, the Main Street drugstore has almost disappeared from the American landscape. In *Do Pharmacists Sell Farms?*, author Vince Staten provides a folksy and funny account of the social history of pharmacies and their products, along with some sober and revealing lessons about marketing and business. What Staten, a freelance writer, did for hardware stores in a previous book, *Did Monkeys Invent the Monkey Wrench?*, he does for the corner drugstore in this book. Instead of zeroing in on hammers and nails, Staten takes an intriguing look at the evolution of the drugstore products we now take for granted, such as sanitary napkins and toothpaste. For example, did you know it was an accident that helped make Ivory soap so popular? One day, a Procter Gamble worker goofed and mixed in too much air to a batch of the famous soap. Some mishap. The customers loved the way the soap popped up in their bath water--they wanted more of "the soap that floats," something that P G was happy to supply. In many ways, the corner drugstore grew up with America's increasingly consumer- and market-driven economy. But it has also become victim to the same forces, with the rise of McDonald's leading to the decline of the drugstore soda fountain. While the book is a funny valentine to corner drugstores, it isn't a "With Deepest Sympathy" card (yes, greeting cards are another item Staten describes). As he concludes, "This is the final chapter in this book. But it's only the first chapter in the saga of the corner drugstores, the opening act in a struggle to see if any semblance of drugstores as we knew them and loved them can survive." --Dan Ring
From *Publishers Weekly* This is charming, nostalgic history by the author of *Did Monkeys Invent the Monkey Wrench?* Staten takes readers back to the 1970s and before when the local drugstore was virtually a community center, where women bought hair products, men cigars and teenagers hung out at the soda fountain after school. But, as Staten makes clear, the day of the independent corner pharmacy has waned, with the chains now owning more than 50% of the stores and doing 84% of the business. The book is informative about the most popular products marketed by today's drugstores, from Rogaine and *Vitalis* to Dr. Scholl's Foot-Eazer arch inserts. Amusing are the stories of manufacturers' attempts at advertising sanitary napkins and condoms in a nation that preferred to hang on to the legend of the stork. Making Staten's book even more delightful is his appendix listing 50 old-fashioned corner drugstores still extant around the nation. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. From *Kirkus* sA lighthearted look at a fading American institution and the products found on its shelves. Staten (*Ol' Diz: A Biography of Dizzy Dean*, 1992; *Did Monkeys Invent the Monkey Wrench?*, not reviewed; etc.), who fondly remembers the corner drugstore of his own youth, briefly recounts the history of this fixture of American small-town life as ``pharmacy and apothecary, drugstore and general store, prescription center and community center, soda fountain and social hub." However, the

greater part of his attention is devoted not to the institution itself but to its merchandise. Starting with the head and working his way down to the feet, Staten profiles selected items from aspirin to corn removers. Hair products, especially hair restorers, seem to have a special fascination for the balding Staten, who inserts regular reports on his personal experience with Rogaine (yes, he grew some hair, but not nearly enough). Among the capsule histories included here are those of dandruff shampoos, toothpaste, Band-Aids, Vaseline, condoms, and diapers. The curious can discover how Maybelline and Ben-Gay got their names and the real people behind Lydia Pinkham's Herbal Compound and Dr. Scholl's Foot-Eazers. Inexplicably, Staten adds an appendix listing the addresses of the 71 remaining drugstores in the country bearing the name Corner Drug. Rather less than a social history and far from comprehensive, but full of entertaining if trivial facts presented with good humor. -- Copyright ©1998, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.