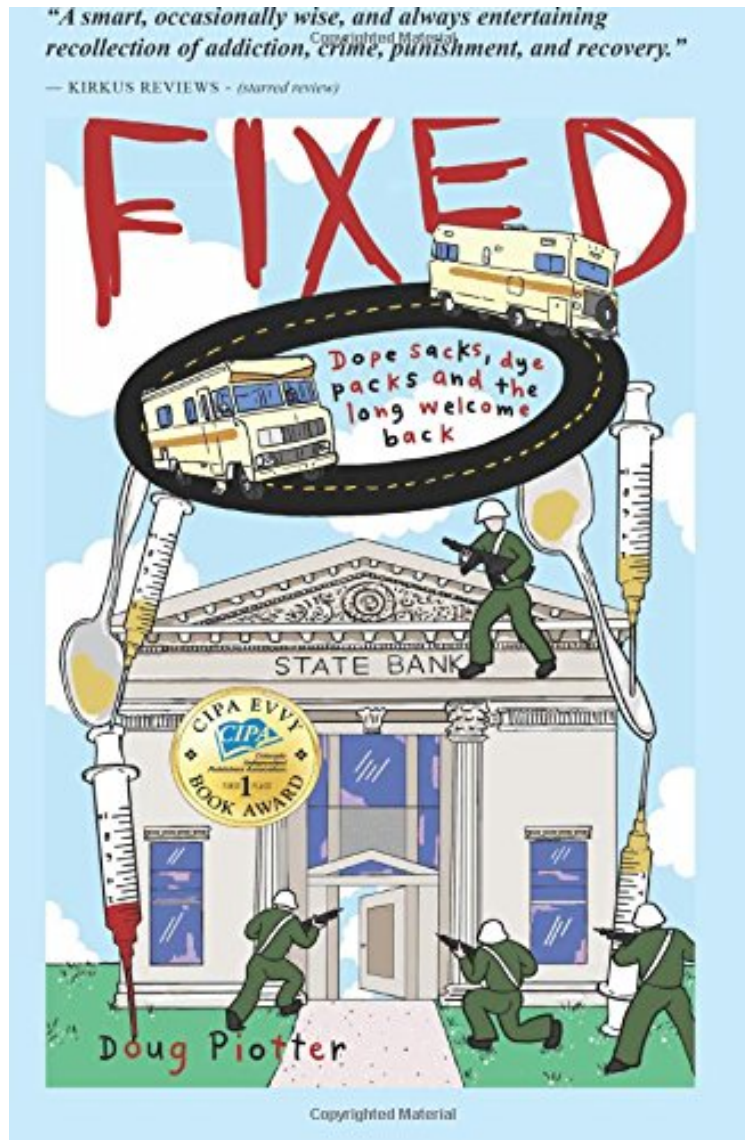


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## Fixed: Dope sacks, dye packs, and the long welcome back

Doug Piotter

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#1963104 in Books 2015-08-31Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .79 x 5.251, .80 #File Name: 099658000X348 pages | File size: 74.Mb

**Doug Piotter : Fixed: Dope sacks, dye packs, and the long welcome back** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fixed: Dope sacks, dye packs, and the long welcome back:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Couldn't put it down...By TerryBI 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"! 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Pointed, Powerful, Passionate and Personal By Larry St Pierre 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. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Laughed so hard I couldn't breathe By Maggie 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.

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.

In this raucous debut memoir, an addict hits bottom in spectacular fashion by getting arrested for a string of bank robberies. Piotter describes a Seattle boyhood tangled in familial and personal dysfunctions: an authoritarian yet deadbeat dad, swerving between frauds and gambling binges; a defeated, alcoholic mom; and junior high pot smoking and dealing that served as a gateway into serious cocaine and heroin addictions. His adulthood was even more chaotic as he weathered homelessness, jail stints, gangsters who beat and shot at him, epic benders with druggies and prostitutes, and a ceaseless, exhausting search for anything he could steal--including oscillating fans, driving gloves, and a box of raw oysters--to feed his \$500-a-day habit. It was with palpable relief that in 1993, after a spell as a gentleman bandit knocking over local banks, he was sentenced to nine-and-a-half years in a federal penitentiary. There, Piotter began an unlikely turnaround as he received treatment for his addictions, kept his nose relatively clean, and learned construction trades. He's a keen observer of the prison's often bizarre and occasionally noble characters and twisted moral economy; for example, in one sequence fraught with chilling irony, a sober friend flushes his dealer cellmate's stash down the toilet to avoid a search by guards, which puts him in debt to the prison's Colombian cartel, who in turn extract repayment by making him kill one of their Mexican rivals. Piotter's narrative unfolds as a picaresque of brief, punchy, shaggy dog stories; even after his release, as he stays sober, starts a construction company, and woos his wary future wife, he's still beset by lurid happenstances, including road-rage episodes, a public sea lion orgy, and the hanging suicide of his neighbor. His storytelling is briskly paced, evocative, and laced with piquant character sketches and wisecracks, such as, "I'm allergic to alcohol; every time I drink I break out in handcuffs." The author's life, as portrayed here, contains enough screw-ups for 10 dysfunctionality memoirs, but unlike other memoirists, he eschews angst and self-pity and highlights the absurd humor of the predicaments he made for himself. The pathos here is all the more moving for being spare, understated, and well-earned from hard experience.