



# Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic

By Sam Quinones

Download now

Read Online →

**Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic** By Sam Quinones

**Winner of the NBCC Award for General Nonfiction**

**Named on Amazon's Best Books of the Year 2015--Michael Botticelli, U.S. Drug Czar (*Politico*) Favorite Book of the Year--Angus Deaton, Nobel Prize Economics (*Bloomberg/WSJ*) Best Books of 2015--Matt Bevin, Governor of Kentucky (*WSJ*) Books of the Year--Slate.com's 10 Best Books of 2015--*Entertainment Weekly's* 10 Best Books of 2015 --Buzzfeed's 19 Best Nonfiction Books of 2015--The Daily Beast's Best Big Idea Books of 2015--*Seattle Times's* Best Books of 2015--*Boston Globe's* Best Books of 2015--*St. Louis Post-Dispatch's* Best Books of 2015--*The Guardian's* The Best Book We Read All Year--Audible's Best Books of 2015--*Texas Observer's* Five Books We Loved in 2015--Chicago Public Library's Best Nonfiction Books of 2015**

**From a small town in Mexico to the boardrooms of Big Pharma to main streets nationwide, an explosive and shocking account of addiction in the heartland of America.**

In 1929, in the blue-collar city of Portsmouth, Ohio, a company built a swimming pool the size of a football field; named Dreamland, it became the vital center of the community. Now, addiction has devastated Portsmouth, as it has hundreds of small rural towns and suburbs across America--addiction like no other the country has ever faced. How that happened is the riveting story of *Dreamland*.

With a great reporter's narrative skill and the storytelling ability of a novelist, acclaimed journalist Sam Quinones weaves together two classic tales of capitalism run amok whose unintentional collision has been catastrophic. The unfettered prescribing of pain medications during the 1990s reached its peak in Purdue Pharma's campaign to market OxyContin, its new, expensive--extremely addictive--miracle painkiller. Meanwhile, a massive influx of black tar heroin--cheap, potent, and originating from one small county on Mexico's west coast, independent of any drug cartel--assaulted small town and mid-sized cities across the country, driven by a brilliant, almost unbeatable marketing and distribution system. Together these phenomena continue to lay waste to communities from

Tennessee to Oregon, Indiana to New Mexico.

Introducing a memorable cast of characters--pharma pioneers, young Mexican entrepreneurs, narcotics investigators, survivors, and parents--Quinones shows how these tales fit together. *Dreamland* is a revelatory account of the corrosive threat facing America and its heartland.

 [Download Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiat ...pdf](#)

# **Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic**

*By Sam Quinones*

**Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic** By Sam Quinones

**Winner of the NBCC Award for General Nonfiction**

**Named on Amazon's Best Books of the Year 2015--Michael Botticelli, U.S. Drug Czar (*Politico*) Favorite Book of the Year--Angus Deaton, Nobel Prize Economics (*Bloomberg/WSJ*) Best Books of 2015--Matt Bevin, Governor of Kentucky (*WSJ*) Books of the Year--Slate.com's 10 Best Books of 2015--*Entertainment Weekly's* 10 Best Books of 2015 --Buzzfeed's 19 Best Nonfiction Books of 2015--The Daily Beast's Best Big Idea Books of 2015--*Seattle Times's* Best Books of 2015--*Boston Globe's* Best Books of 2015--*St. Louis Post-Dispatch's* Best Books of 2015--*The Guardian's* The Best Book We Read All Year--Audible's Best Books of 2015--*Texas Observer's* Five Books We Loved in 2015--Chicago Public Library's Best Nonfiction Books of 2015**

**From a small town in Mexico to the boardrooms of Big Pharma to main streets nationwide, an explosive and shocking account of addiction in the heartland of America.**

In 1929, in the blue-collar city of Portsmouth, Ohio, a company built a swimming pool the size of a football field; named Dreamland, it became the vital center of the community. Now, addiction has devastated Portsmouth, as it has hundreds of small rural towns and suburbs across America--addiction like no other the country has ever faced. How that happened is the riveting story of *Dreamland*.

With a great reporter's narrative skill and the storytelling ability of a novelist, acclaimed journalist Sam Quinones weaves together two classic tales of capitalism run amok whose unintentional collision has been catastrophic. The unfettered prescribing of pain medications during the 1990s reached its peak in Purdue Pharma's campaign to market OxyContin, its new, expensive--extremely addictive--miracle painkiller. Meanwhile, a massive influx of black tar heroin--cheap, potent, and originating from one small county on Mexico's west coast, independent of any drug cartel--assaulted small town and mid-sized cities across the country, driven by a brilliant, almost unbeatable marketing and distribution system. Together these phenomena continue to lay waste to communities from Tennessee to Oregon, Indiana to New Mexico.

Introducing a memorable cast of characters--pharma pioneers, young Mexican entrepreneurs, narcotics investigators, survivors, and parents--Quinones shows how these tales fit together. *Dreamland* is a revelatory account of the corrosive threat facing America and its heartland.

## **Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic** By Sam Quinones Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #98650 in Books
- Published on: 2015-04-21
- Released on: 2015-04-21
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1

- Dimensions: 9.48" h x 1.32" w x 6.33" l, 1.00 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 384 pages

 [Download Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiat ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online *Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic* By Sam Quinones

---

### Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

**An Amazon Best Book of April 2015:** The rise of OxyContin addiction and subsequent heroin use has been much in the news lately as we try to make sense of what is happening in suburban and small town America. Sam Quinones' *Dreamland* takes a multifaceted approach to the subject, profiling people from all walks of life, ranging from citizens of impoverished Mexican ranchos to young affluent white athletes, all cogs in the wheel of the latest drug epidemic. Unlike the crack cocaine phenomenon of the 1980s, today's widespread opiate addiction has roots in the prescription pads of certified physicians and the marketing machine of Big Pharma. When the addict, forced by availability and economics, transitions to heroin he is met by a new breed of entrepreneurial drug dealers who are only too happy to take calls and make deliveries. The changing landscape of small town America, along with science, opportunity, shame, and of course greed, all play a role here and to see the puzzle come together, one comprehensible piece at a time, is as fascinating as it is unsettling.-- *Seira Wilson*

Review

"Best of" lists for 2015 - Amazon.com, Slate, Wall Street Journal, Entertainment Weekly, BuzzFeed, Daily Beast, Seattle Times, Boston Globe, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Bloomberg Business, Audible

"Does what 'Fast Food Nation' did for fast food to Black Tar Heroin and oxycodone . . . A stunning journalistic journey that follows the history and narrative trajectories that lead to this entirely new style of cultivating drug addiction . . . I just love this book." - Marc Maron

"The most original writer on Mexico and the border out there." ?*San Francisco Chronicle Book Review*

"Over the last 15 years, he has filed the best dispatches about Mexican migration and its effects on the United States and Mexico, bar none." ?*Los Angeles Times Book Review*

"Journalist Quinones weaves an extraordinary story, including the personal journeys of the addicted, the drug traffickers, law enforcement, and scores of families affected by the scourge, as he details the social, economic, and political forces that eventually destroyed communities in the American heartland and continues to have a resounding impact." ?starred review, *Booklist*

"Quinones' research ensures that there is something legitimately interesting (and frequently horrifying) on every page. A-." ?*Entertainment Weekly*

"[A] compelling examination . . . a driven and important narrative." ?*Wall Street Journal*

"In *Dreamland*, former *Los Angeles Times* reporter Sam Quinones deftly recounts how a flood of prescription pain meds, along with black tar heroin from Nayarit, Mexico, transformed the once-vital blue-collar city of Portsmouth, Ohio, and other American communities into heartlands of addiction. With prose direct yet empathic, he interweaves the stories of Mexican entrepreneurs, narcotics agents, and small-town folks whose lives were upended by the deluge of drugs, leaving them shaking their heads, wondering how they could possibly have resisted." ?*Mother Jones*

“Smack is back in the news as heroin use spikes and busts pile up at the border, making *Dreamland* a timely book. Veteran journalist and storyteller Sam Quinones provides investigative reporting to explain the latest surge. But he also goes way deeper; he tells the social and human stories at the heart of the opiate trade and how it tortures the souls of America and Mexico.” ?Ioan Grillo, author of *EL NARCO*

“*Dreamland* spreads out like a transnational episode of *The Wire*, alternately maddening, thrilling, depressing, and with writing as sharp and insightful as a razor blade. You cannot understand our drug war and Mexican immigration to the United States without reading this book.” ?Gustavo Arellano, syndicated columnist ;Ask a Mexican!

“Quinones is a veteran journalist and expert storyteller long steeped in the demi-monde of Mexican-American bordercrossings. *Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic* is an intricate jigsaw puzzle piecing together his findings from intensive investigation of the unprecedented spread of heroin addiction throughout the United States over the past two decades . . . *Dreamland* offers an eye-opening, enlightening and mesmerizing account of one of the most important stories of the last few decades . . . Quinones is a master storyteller, with a knack of bringing hundreds of characters to life . . . *Dreamland* stands as a model of meticulous investigative reporting providing important insights not only the current opiate epidemic but also into the sometimes negative symbiosis between our country and our neighbors to the south.” ?*New York Journal of Books*

"Quinones recounts individual tales--from junkies in Portland, Ore., to pill mills in Appalachia to entrepreneurial heroin traffickers from small-town Mexico--to describe a “catastrophic synergy” in which over-prescription of opioid painkillers begets addicts, many of whom then turn to heroin, which is cheaper and just as ubiquitous." ?Best Books of 2015, *Boston Globe*

“Unflinching . . . compellingly investigated.” ?*Kirkus*

"The path of heroin from America’s urban slums to its trim suburban subdivisions is traced by a *Los Angeles Times* reporter. Quinones’ deeply researched and readable book says well-heeled addicts got hooked first on pain-killing medications like OxyContin--but then switched to much cheaper Mexican heroin, feeding a problem across the nation." ?Best Books of 2015, *St. Louis Dispatch*

“Fascinating . . . a harrowing, eye-opening look at two sides of the same coin, the legal and illegal faces of addictive painkillers and their insidious power.” ?*Publishers Weekly*

“A haunting tale of opiate abuse in the heartland . . . Using expert storytelling and exhaustive detail, Quinones chronicles the perfect storm of circumstances that cleared the way for the Mexican narcotic to infiltrate our small and midsize communities over the last two decades.” ?*Kansas City Star*

“Fascinating.” ?*Salon*

"You won't find this story told better anywhere else, from the economic hollowing-out of the middle class to the greedy and reckless marketing of pharmaceutical opiates to the remarkable entrepreneurial industry of the residents of the obscure Mexican state of Nayarit . . . *Dreamland*--true crime, sociology, and exposé--illuminates a catastrophe unfolding all around us, right now." ?Laura Miller’s 10 Favorite Books of 2015, *Slate*

“The must-read book about America's heroin crisis . . . Quinones combines thorough research with superlative narrative skills to produce a horrifying but compulsively readable book about opiate addiction . . . a book that every American should read. And I state that without reservation . . . This book is as much of a page-turner as a good mystery, as well as being thoroughly and disturbingly illuminating about a national

crisis.” *Christian Science Monitor*

“A gripping read and hard-hitting account of a ubiquitous plague that has flown under the radar.” *Portland Business Journal*

“Quinones's absorbing narrative is deep in research, on-site reporting, personal interviews and insight. Spanning the central U.S. and crossing the Mexican border, *Dreamland* adroitly unsnarls the tangled business that feeds a growing lust for chemical euphoria and relief.” *Shelf Awareness*

"Every so often I read a work of narrative nonfiction that makes me want to get up and preach: Read this true story! Such is Sam Quinones' astonishing work of reporting and writing, *Dreamland: the True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic*." *Seattle Times*

“Everybody should read this book. Everybody.” *Rod Dreher, The American Conservative*

“An important frame of reference for understanding America's opiate epidemic.” *Portland Press Herald*

"[A] powerful investigation into the explosion of heroin abuse in suburban America that combines skillful reporting and strong research with a superb narrative." *The Spectator*

About the Author

**Sam Quinones** is a journalist, author and storyteller whose two acclaimed books of narrative nonfiction about Mexico and Mexican immigration made him, according to the SF Chronicle Book Review, "the most original writer on Mexico and the border."

## Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Patricia Joyner:**

Have you spare time for any day? What do you do when you have considerably more or little spare time? Yep, you can choose the suitable activity for spend your time. Any person spent their own spare time to take a go walking, shopping, or went to the particular Mall. How about open or read a book entitled *Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic*? Maybe it is to get best activity for you. You recognize beside you can spend your time together with your favorite's book, you can smarter than before. Do you agree with it has the opinion or you have different opinion?

**Victor Brown:**

This book untitled *Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic* to be one of several books this best seller in this year, honestly, that is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit upon it. You will easily to buy this book in the book store or you can order it by way of online. The publisher of the book sells the e-book too. It makes you easier to read this book, because you can read this book in your Mobile phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this publication from your list.

**Mildred Vang:**

Your reading sixth sense will not betray a person, why because this Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic book written by well-known writer who knows well how to make book that may be understand by anyone who also read the book. Written with good manner for you, dripping every ideas and writing skill only for eliminate your personal hunger then you still doubt Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic as good book not merely by the cover but also by content. This is one book that can break don't judge book by its include, so do you still needing yet another sixth sense to pick this!? Oh come on your reading through sixth sense already alerted you so why you have to listening to a different sixth sense.

**Clara Brownfield:**

You can get this Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic by visit the bookstore or Mall. Just viewing or reviewing it can to be your solve problem if you get difficulties for ones knowledge. Kinds of this book are various. Not only by simply written or printed but additionally can you enjoy this book by e-book. In the modern era like now, you just looking of your mobile phone and searching what your problem. Right now, choose your own personal ways to get more information about your e-book. It is most important to arrange you to ultimately make your knowledge are still update. Let's try to choose correct ways for you.

**Download and Read Online Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic By Sam Quinones #5T4MOQ1UNRW**



## **Read Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic By Sam Quinones for online ebook**

Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic By Sam Quinones Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic By Sam Quinones books to read online.

### **Online Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic By Sam Quinones ebook PDF download**

#### **Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic By Sam Quinones Doc**

**Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic By Sam Quinones Mobipocket**

**Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic By Sam Quinones EPub**