


**sterling r. braswell**

## **Crazy Town: Money. Marriage. Meth.**

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A riveting personal account and a thorough global history of methamphetamine abuse and addiction.

## Crazy Town: Money. Marriage. Meth. Details

Date : Published September 1st 2008 by Kallisti Publishing

ISBN : 9780967851464

Author : Sterling R. Braswell

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## **From Reader Review Crazy Town: Money. Marriage. Meth. for online ebook**

### **Gina says**

I was intrigued by Sterling Braswell's point of view and loved his story. I did like the history of meth and a background of meth in general. I found this book very interesting.

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### **Ngamako N Patara says**

#### **Drug Is God**

This is very well written. Mixing history about all Drugs from 1218 CE to 2000 is an education for the reader.

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### **Michelle says**

I liked how this wasn't just a memoir of a guy married to a meth head, but it also detailed the history of the drug. Very interesting and I learned some new things (like its use with the military). Normally meth is associated with "white trash" so I thought it was an interesting angle that this guy was a millionaire. It made him more relatable, not the wealth angle, but the average-guy-with-a-nice-house-and-career part. Granted, he made a lot of mistakes. For instance, marrying the chick in the first place despite knowing her penchant for Stadol. His actions were at time frustrating. The writing itself was rather plain and the whole "crazy town" metaphor got a little old at the end. Still, though, a fascinating read and a solid "3." And you definitely realize there are no "happy endings" where meth is concerned.

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### **Corinne Wallace says**

Read it:

Very interesting, a good strong history lesson slashed with crazy meth psychos. Ike, yep it kept me hanging on till the last page.

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### **Valerie says**

This memoir, written by a man whose life has been irrevocably changed and damaged by amphetamines is well worth reading. First of all, Mr. Braswell, is not an amphetamine user himself. However, after many years, he ran into his high school sweetheart, and the two married. What the author did not know was that his wife had become totally addicted to amphetamines, to the point she emptied their joint bank accounts while having an affair with one of their employees, so that this employee could "cook" batches of meth to make

money and for personal use. This is one crazy and almost unbelievable story. However, the author tells it very well. He has also done his due diligence in researching the history of meth, Ecstasy and other related drugs. I would be willing to bet that if the public in general knew that Adolf Hitler had an amphetamine shot daily (not to mention the factory workers in both Japan and Germany to increase work production, as well as to fly Kamikaze missions), the drug would not be so popular. JFK, too, also had shots of amphetamine and Vitamin B12 daily. However, at that time no one could see the future. This group of drugs has helped to bring down western society, not to mention it is physically harmful both to the user, the "cooker", and the environment. (I once saw an idiot pouring his used motor oil out on the ground by Shasta Lake; wonder how many meth cooks have done the same with their waste? These materials get into the water table and help to destroy the planet). What amazes me is that this drug is still popular; however, there have been scientific studies done showing that "altering" our own reality may be hardwired into the human brain. If that is so, instead of wasting all this money on an unwinnable "war", perhaps scientists should find more benign alternatives to these most dangerous and terrible chemicals. A perfect example is alcohol, although there will always be the people who abuse any substance. However, this particular class of drugs is especially dangerous because it has killed people because of overdoses, explosions, not to mention home invasions and related crimes that go along with the extreme craving some people have for the drug. It has been shown that after long time use, the drugs in this class can cause permanent psychosis, Parkinson-like symptoms, and brain damage on the cellular level. And those are only the ones which have been strongly studied. Mr. Braswell ended up divorced from his wife, and he ended up with the custody of their child, but as he says, once you have a child with someone, they are always in your life, one way or another. I am sure there are millions of people out there who wish they never had gotten involved with so-called "tweakers." At one time, I knew a few of these people because I had met them before they got involved with the drug. Lord please don't judge me for wanting to move away from the area where I used to live because these folks are like fleas. They leave irritating bites and you can't get rid of them..... Overall, a very well-written book!

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### **Michael Flanagan says**

It is very rare that I hand out a one star review but this book is a train wreck. The author alternates chapters between his story and the history of amphetamines. While this might have been good in concept in reality it just annoyed the hell out of me. Every time I started to get into the narrative I was ripped away into this separate tangent.

As for the 'actual' story this is where the real train wreck occurs. It jumps all over the place and has no flow what so ever. The editing is atrocious and really impacts on the readability of the story. For example during one passage the story jumps from one scene to the next, excuse me a new paragraph would have been nice. This book is only the second one I have never able finish and this is a shame because the story had so much potential. It highlights the danger of quality control the self-publishing movement can bring.

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### **Lorri Stanton says**

#### **Very good!**

Amazing book and very well written by the man who lived this nightmare! I learned a great deal of history about drugs and substances, going back through the years to eventually to current times and the many similarities. Sterling has very good insight into a better way of handling our drug epidemics and the people

involved with them. Good book!

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### **Sue says**

Interesting memoir of a man who had his life changed by meth despite never using the drug himself. Nicely done story with a history of stimulants and how they were developed, used and eventually why most were banned.

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### **Valerity (Val) says**

Crazy Town: Money. Marriage. Meth.

“But she seems to have arrived at the realization that this is the way adjusted people live, that we are all at best mildly unhappy, that human existence is not an uninterrupted series of incredible highs and lows. Life is dull but bearable and sustainable.”

Oh, this is twisted good. Drugs, sex and betrayal, it's got all the basic food groups to make a good book, and it's non-fiction. But you have to bear with it a bit and let it build. The chapters go back and forth between the history of amphetamines & methamphetamines, and then Sterling's life. And at a certain point the stories do meet, or cross paths. Sterling Braswell and Lucille have history, the kind that went way back, all the way back to high school. They went steady, got drunk for the first time together, went skinny dipping, and lost their virginity together. Since then, Lucille had become a physician's assistant, and Sterling had gotten rich in the technology boom. They hadn't seen one another since they went off to different colleges and now it had been years, when she called after running into one of his friends. They make plans for dinner and later go meet some of his tech friends. When he takes her home later, she pays the sitter and he realizes that she's a single mom now. This is the start of something, but what? It's the start of a trip to Crazy Town. And it does get quite crazy along the way. There are some good points in the history part of this book, and Sterling's story is an excellent lesson in itself. A good read for those interested in addiction stories, biographies dealing with such, and reads along those lines. I found it quite good.

“Narcissists also require unlimited admiration, are themselves arrogant, and most significantly, lack feelings of empathy.“

My BookZone blog:

<https://wordpress.com/post/bookblog20...>

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### **Laura Copley says**

Crazy Town is a sad story. I am sure it was healing for the author to tell his story and for that reason I give it 3 stars. A book I would not recommend.

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## **Yvette Plouffe says**

Interesting true story about the authors life dealing with a drug addicted wife. Intermittent chapters about drug facts and statistics. Loved the book and read it in one day. Unreal what he went through!

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## **Kathy says**

### **Interesting**

Barnwell clearly danced with the devil, but the interruptions of the chapters detailing the history of meth break up the flow of the story. The narrative doesn't fill out in a smooth transition and make for easy reading. You want to know more about the personal interactions and it comes across as light and impersonal. Understandably, he is angry and many kudos to him for fighting for his son, but it could have been more concentrated on the details. It was interesting, but not fantastic.

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## **Mark Shafer says**

**Excellent account of what methamphetamines can do to a stable family.**

Good , interesting book, but a little annoying because after every chapter dedicated to the author's personal experience, there is a chapter detailing the history of drugs in America.

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## **Liz Engstrom says**

So weird! A trashy tale of meth. Not the best writing, despicable characters. But, I had to see what happened to everyone!

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## **Patty says**

Interesting - loved the way the writer went back and forth with history and his story. Usually that type of writing style frustrates me but he kept it tight and factual. Just enough to not take away from the story. Learned interesting facts along with a heartbreaking story.

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