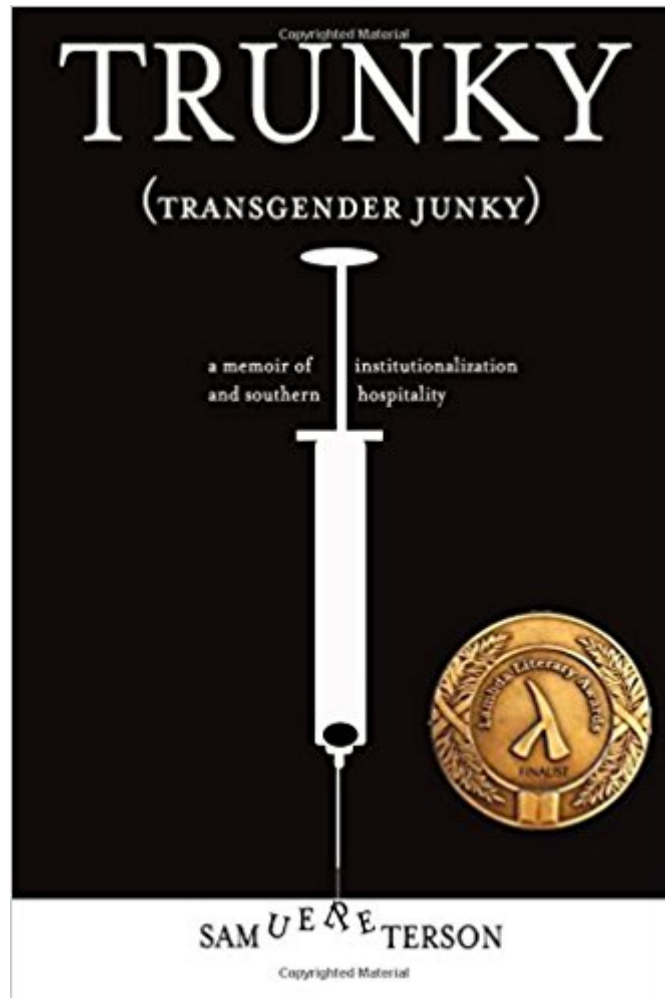




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# Trunky: Transgender Junky



## Synopsis

Profoundly philosophical, surprisingly funny and brutally honest, this modern day tragic-comedy pulls no punches delving into the Sisyphean struggle of human addiction and recovery. After a decade of sobriety and relentless devotion to becoming a writer, Trunky finally finds himself on the brink of success and widespread acclaim. But as fate would have it, he spirals down into depression and begins using heroin again. This relapse is different from those that came before, however, as Trunky ends up institutionalized in a recovery center in the south among a diverse group of dopers--thugs, criminals, white supremacists, professional athletes and business men--all of whom are looking for something theyâ™re terrified of finding. As Trunky navigates his path from addiction to recovery and female to manhood in this cast of characters, he find himself on an unexpected journey into the depths of the human soul where he discovers its fundamental flaws and the redemption we experience from honest vulnerability when we have the courage to take the plunge.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"In gripping and gritty detail, Sam Peterson vividly and transparently captures the anguish and turmoil that accompanies addiction and provides insight into his struggle for redemption and visibility as a man among men. Trunky is a must read for anyone wanting to understand the devastation of addiction, the struggle for gender authenticity and the culture fostered within a Federal Bureau of Prisons Residential Drug Abuse Program. I couldn't put the book down!" -- Zander Keig, LCSW, substance abuse rehabilitation clinical case manager; and co-editor of Letters for My Brothers: Transitional Wisdom in Retrospect, Manning Up: Transsexual Men on Finding Brotherhood, Family & Themselves and Manifest: Transitional Wisdom on Male Privilege

An entertaining, idiosyncratic, and ultimately moving book that deals with big stuff — trauma, the body, gender, addiction — with candor and self-deprecation. Peterson's eye is always aware of the ways in which we primp, posture, and pose, the ways in which we create narratives and personae that allow us to find a place in the world. At the same time, Peterson shows how these narratives can lock us away from others and short-circuit our ability to be who we really want or need to be. Through the exploration of his experiences of addiction, recovery, and relapse, of dysmorphia and transition, Peterson suggests that through persistent critique of our own personal narratives and an open-minded engagement with those of others, we can get better and become better. But *Trunky* spares us the self-help treacle; this is a bittersweet memoir, brooding and depressive, but also witty and full of hope.

A wry, intelligent look at addiction and recovery that, thankfully, doesn't deal in self-pity except to call it out. Peterson's honesty about the thinking that leads to addiction made his descriptions relatable and moving. His account of the underlying difficulties of being trans in an institutional setting, and the lack of transitional housing when it was time to leave, is a disturbing and important addition to our public discourse on addiction treatment. His use of language is refreshing. Honestly thought I'd have to plow through it, since addiction has been somewhat done to death in memoirs, but couldn't put it down.

"In gripping and gritty detail, Sam Peterson vividly and transparently captures the anguish and turmoil that accompanies addiction and provides insight into his struggle for redemption and visibility as a man among men. *Trunky* is a must read for anyone wanting to understand the devastation of addiction, the struggle for gender authenticity and the culture fostered within a Federal Bureau of Prisons Residential Drug Abuse Program. I couldn't put the book down!" -- Zander Keig, LCSW, substance abuse rehabilitation clinical case manager; and co-editor of *Letters for My Brothers: Transitional Wisdom in Retrospect*, *Manning Up: Transsexual Men on Finding Brotherhood, Family & Themselves* and *Manifest: Transitional Wisdom on Male Privilege*

great book!

Brilliant book. All clichés aside, I couldn't put it down. Read it.

Heartbreaking and funny and very real. A great read! I couldn't put it down.

Completely nails it. Sam Peterson speaks up on behalf of an insanely important and all too common, but uncommonly heard from perspective. In addition to being an all around winner, Trunky also elates to the vocabulary junky within. Win win.

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