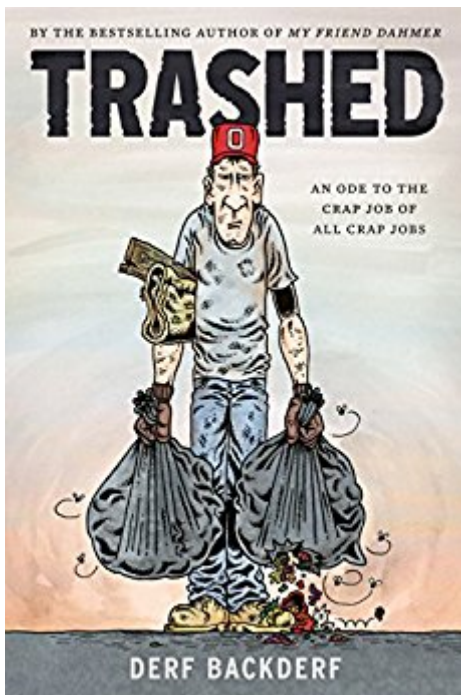


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# Trashed



## Synopsis

Every week we pile our garbage on the curb and it disappears--like magic! The reality is anything but, of course. *Trashed*, Derf Backderf's follow-up to the critically acclaimed, award-winning international bestseller *My Friend Dahmer*, is an ode to the crap job of all crap jobs--garbage collector. Anyone who has ever been trapped in a soul-sucking gig will relate to this tale. *Trashed* follows the raucous escapades of three 20-something friends as they clean the streets of pile after pile of stinking garbage, while battling annoying small-town bureaucrats, bizarre townfolk, sweltering summer heat, and frigid winter storms. *Trashed* is fiction, but is inspired by Derf's own experiences as a garbage man. Interspersed are nonfiction pages that detail what our garbage is and where it goes. The answers will stun you. Hop on the garbage truck named Betty and ride along with Derf on a journey into the vast, secret world of garbage. *Trashed* is a hilarious, stomach-churning tale that will leave you laughing and wincing in disbelief.

## Book Information

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Entertainment > Humor > Satire

## Customer Reviews

John Backderf's previous graphic novel "My Friend Dahmer" was an international bestseller. If

there's any justice in the world,"Trashed" will become one, too. A reworking and expansion of stories Derf first told as a webcomic, "Trashed" tells the story of a young man who takes on "the crap job of all crap jobs," working as a trash collector on a sanitation crew. If you've ever had to work a job where you had to take at least three showers when you got home to even BEGIN to get the stench off you, or even if you've just had one where you had to deal with a knuckleheaded work force and a pain-in-the-ass boss, you will relate to this story. Derf's drawing technique gets better each time out, and his ability to tell an interesting story is as good as his work with his pencils and pens. "Trashed" is based on Derf's real-life experience. Although it's a novel, it feels real because it IS real. Buy a copy for yourself, and while you're at it, get one for that teenager or young adult who sits by themselves in the corner at family gatherings because they think nobody understands them. They'll be glad you did.

Trash MATTERS and Backderf does a good job of describing the history of garbage and the ecologically and socially toxic effects of our trash-spewing economy. However, the trash facts, woven throughout the story, weakened the relationships between the characters. I own Trashed, V1 and read the "Trashed" webcomic that this book evolved from. I miss the the raw, personal energy of the first volume and the looser, smuttier tone of the webcomic. The strengths of this book are in the brilliant dissection of small-town politics (cycles of power and power wielded behind the scenes) and the ever-improving art. I loved the engineering of Woody's comeuppance and I can't look at the MacGee "money shot" panel without laughing. It is a work of perverse beauty and comic genius and a great improvement over the first version in the webcomic. However, the bond between the two men on the back of the truck isn't as strong as it was in Trashed I and there aren't any moments that bring seasoned Service Department workers and short timers together, like the scene with Curtis, JB and Mike in the cemetery, in the webcomic. Backderf works iteratively, recycling and reworking material. Recycling can be good and Trashed, the book, shows immense artistic progress, but some of the sweet bits were lost in the process.

A solid effort, extremely nice looking, but I feel like it was a bit "toned down" compared to the web comic this novel was partially inspired by, I presume in order to make it acceptable to a wider audience. I really liked the web comic, and I have Derf's original "Trashed" graphic novel as well. In this updated novel, I did really enjoy hearing more about how our trash is processed in the US and just how much we produce, as well as some alternatives for getting rid of it that don't involve sending it to dumps. Great drawings and ink, and I loved the wry observations of the main

characters about their job and the trash they collect.

I've been a fan of Derf's since first reading his much-missed The City strip in my local alternative weekly newspaper. I bought a copy of My Friend Dahmer awhile back and admired the way he told a story, even as creepy as it was. I watched Derf create Trashed on his Facebook page over the last couple of years. Watching him toil over this release gave me a bigger appreciation for the finished product. You might not think that a graphic novel about trash men would be all that riveting - and you'd be way wrong in that assumption. Using some real life experience (Derf himself was a garbage collector for a couple of years early on) and good research Derf tells a great story and also educated the reader on the crazy amount of garbage we all create each day. Very well done and highly recommended.

This book is a life changer. I've enjoyed reading this comic and learned a lot from it. I am horrified of the way we/the people dispose our garbage! We as human beings really need to rethink the way we manufacture and dispose of things. I do care about the environment and have always tried to act responsibly but there is so much that I didn't know. The book has also motivated me to do hours and hours of research and to pay our recycling center a visit. It's effected me in so many ways. Thank you for creating it. I hope everyone can read it.

I had read several reviews about this graphic novel. The author, Dorf Backderf has a very wry sense of humor. He also provides the reader just enough factual information about trash and trash collecting. For example, in 1938 was the last time that a garbage truck was modified. The trucks we use today still use the 1938 model with some variations. The reader will learn about yellow torpedoes, maggots, and what materials are dragged to the curb as trash. Backderf is very witty and insightful. He makes the reader laugh about the daily happenings of a garbage man. Highly recommended.

Lots of information. I bought for grandson's summer book assignment. It kept his interest and made him aware of a horrible problem facing society today. Plus, taught respect for people who work in jobs that most give little thought.

"Trashed" explores in comic book/graphic novel format one more crisis facing Americans. We may be over-saturated with issues needing solutions (global terrorism, presidential politics, and more)

but this is a graphic novel every citizen should read. It's entertaining, sprinkled with facts (data is as recent as 2013-14) and points out an issue that politicians and corporations want to gloss over...because of the BIG money involved. Because of the garbage-man, coffee break humor, and off-truck shenanigans the book is probably not appropriate for younger ages.

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