Good Girls on Bad Drugs
Addiction Nonfiction of the Unhappy Hookers
by Mark Mathew Braunstein

INTRODUCTION Forewarning
These are true stories about sex and drugs, namely some guys’ lust for sex and some gals’ love of drugs. So these are modern love stories.

Part One – The UNDERWORLD

01 – MARIE A Shadowy Figure Afoot Flashes “The Look”
Asked to tell you the story of her life, Marie related her woes as a crack addict and a sex worker, and then she thanked you for caring. You ask, “What makes you think I care?” Marie answers.

02 – LINDA Mr Crack Introduces Ms Jane to Mr John
Linda could have been crowned Miss Connecticut. But instead she clinched the title Miss Cocaine. Quote: “Streetwalking was easy to do because it wasn’t like having sex. It was more like cleaning toilets.”

Part Two – The INTERNET ESCORTS

03 – NORWICH and the Bad Bets on the Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun Casinos
Norwich declined with the closure of its textile mills. Due to its proximity to Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun casinos, Norwich was briefly revitalized by their growth until they, too, declined.

04 – LADY LUCK The Escorts’ Guide to the Casinos
The internet has siphoned both johns and streetwalkers off the streets, so Shanna provides a how-to guide to internet escorting. Quote: “Gamblers lose their money gambling, and addicts lose their money using.”

05 – THE THREE GRACES Outcasts on Outcalls
Crystal (Charm) lost out as an escort at Foxwoods. Michelle (Beauty) trolled the gambling floors of Mohegan Sun. Nicole (Grace) won big as an escort at Foxwoods.

06 – DEVON Casino Escort of Last Resort
No arrests for prostitution does not mean no prostitution. Quote: “The head security guard told me that if I ever showed up in Mohegan Sun again, I would be arrested for trespassing.” For trespassing, not prostitution.

07 – OLIVIA The Baby Girl
Olivia, a 17-year-old internet escort, overdosed in a motel brothel. Her death exposed an escort ring that drew its clients from Backpage.com. Her own ad was headlined “Baby Girl is here, young and beautiful.”
08 – KATRINA Life as Hurricane
Katrina was the best-dressed, most well-groomed, and most Barbiest of dolls to ply her trade. At 15, she ran away from a good home and into the clutches of bad drugs. Quote: “I have two weaknesses, boys and drugs.”

09 – HOPE Topless Dancer in a Bottomless Pit
Sexually abused by three stepfathers and murdered by a john. Quote: “People think that I think that I’m better than them. Actually I’m worse than them because I am aware of who I am and yet I’m still doing this.”

10 – LYNNE The Crackhead Addicted to Sex Work
Two of her husbands were johns. Quote: “I was sent to reform school. There I met thieves, carjackers, addicts, gang members, hookers. No one appealed to me more than the hookers.”

Part Three – The STREETWALKERS

11 – NEW LONDON A Whale of a Tale and a Tail of a Whale
The historic whaling port now serves as a playpen for forlorn sailors from the submarine base, as manhood training ground for the male cadets of the Coast Guard Academy, and as a street fair for street girls on street drugs.

12 – COPS & RUBBERS The Streetwalkers’ Guide to the City
Cops first busted the streetwalkers to clear the playing field, then planted their own decoy to bust the johns. The next day, for those for whom prowling the streets for sex and drugs was normal, life returned to normal.

13 – HEATHER The Serial Bank Bandit
Heather was on parole for bank robbery when she robbed six banks in six days in three New England states. Quote: “I was conceived on Halloween in a cemetery.”

14 – RENEE A Connecticut Lawyer in Judge Arthur’s Court
A law school graduate, instead of a lawyer she became a sex worker and crack addict. Her and Michelle’s strangling deaths by a john went unsolved for 13 years. Quote: “Don’t romanticize my life. It’s just suck dick, smoke crack, suck dick, smoke crack.”

15 – TRISH Off to See the Wizard of Poz
Among the few sex workers to have admitted she was HIV-poz. Quote: “The crack is killing me, but this virus in my body is going to kill me too. I’m just sick of this. Sick of waking up wanting to get high. Waking up hungry. Waking up lonely.”

16 – JESSICA The Prodigal Mom
Escaped the streets by becoming a $300-an-hour internet escort. Relinquishing custody of her children, she told the court: “I have made many mistakes, but bringing these two children into this world is not one of them.”

17 – DARLENE Escape to Never-Never Land
Darlene made three foiled forays into freedom from prison. But nary a foray into freedom from addiction. Quote: “I had a love affair with heroin, cheating on heroin with crack. This drug thing has been the hardest struggle of my life.” And still is.
Part Four – The HEROIN HEROINES

18 – WILD and ANTIC WILLIMANTIC The Riddle of the Syringe
Heroin still stains the entire fabric of the community, though less now than when the city attracted statewide and then national media attention for its epidemic of heroin addiction and its long parade of streetwalkers.

19 – JOE the JOHN And Now a Word from Our Sponsors
A quintessentially dirty old man, Joe long ago shed any shame for paying for sex. Sex for hire became the only sex he knew. Quote: “If she’s wearing cologne, leave her alone.”

20 – LIZ Woman Who Runs with the Werewolves
Liz ripped off every john every chance she had. Then served 13 unlucky years in prison as an accessory to two murders. Quote: “I’m sick of everything, of the life, of the drugs, of sex, of people. I miss my family. I want love. I want my mommy.”

21 – JENNIFER Beauty and the Beasts
Nearly fatally stabbed, three weeks later Jennifer got back on heroin and back on the streets. Quote: “The streets have left their marks on me. … Girls on the streets are not just prostitutes, not just drug addicts. I’m a person too.”

22 – BONNIE She Takes the High Road and He Takes the Low Road
Bonnie had the soul of a poet but the mind of an addict. Quote: “Before I was into drugs, I lived without any clue that there’s this underworld. Now it’s everywhere I go. I’m attracted to it, and it’s attracted to me.”

23 – AMBROSIA Walking through the Valley of the Shadow of Death
Raped at age 3, at 14 she again was raped, became pregnant, yet kept the child. Heroin addict since 16. Quote: “I use coke and heroin as a way of blocking feelings. I don’t wanna feel. I don’t wanna think. I don’t wanna be alive.”

Part Five – ANOTHER WORLD

24 – ROBIN The Prosthetic Prostitute
She survived a fire to find her body badly burned, both legs amputated, and both children dead. Quote: “I’m a streetwalker with no feet. People are so judgmental. Most people couldn’t walk in my shoes for five minutes.”

25 – SEX for HIGHER A Eulogy
Most books reach conclusions, while some just reach their last page. Most stories have meaningful endings, but these girls’ stories just end. Quote: “We are not bad girls. We are good girls on bad drugs.”

APPENDICES
Documentary
Further Reading
List of Photographs
Acknowledgments
Glossary of Street Slang