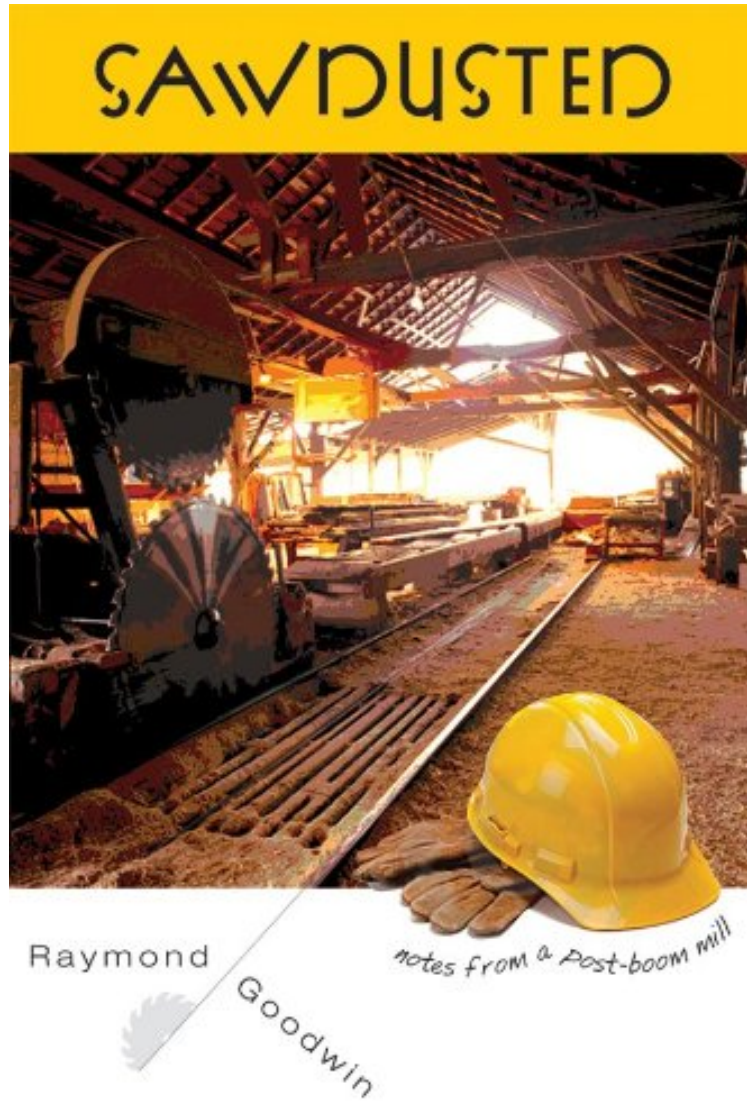


Sawdusted: Notes from a Post-Boom Mill

Raymond Goodwin

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Raymond Goodwin : Sawdusted: Notes from a Post-Boom Mill before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sawdusted: Notes from a Post-Boom Mill:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Saw DustedBy CheriThe book was a good read. I'd recommend it to others. It's well written, and I thought it gave a good picture of what the lumber business was in Michigan. I loved the profile of the author's brother in particular.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. While they cut them down, they themselves grow upBy Jerry G. DimariaA wonderfully delightful story of one mans coming of age in a small town Michigan sawmill. Whether you have worked in a sawmill for years, or never even visited one, you will be sure to recognize the characters, the struggles, angst, anguish, and eventual triumph that marks Goodwins path. This

book is less about the mill, and more about the education each of us receives every day from the people around us. Goodwin manages to find the rough gems in the types of people that many are quick to dismiss, and does so masterfully. This is a book about triumph of the human spirit. Goodwin's descriptive nature, and unique turn of phrase will keep the ardent linguist on their toes (not something you might expect). As an emerging author, Goodwin hits all the right points. If you like Bryson, you'll love this. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An engaging story from cover-to-cover By Midwest Book Review Sawdusted: Notes from a Post-Boom Mill is the memoir of author Raymond Goodwin's twenty months working at a Michigan sawdust mill in 1979. Vividly bringing to life the rundown workspace itself, the pranks that nonunion workers played on one another, their colorful personalities, the hardships of manual labor and a vivid picture of day-to-day life in a lumber mill, Sawdusted is an absorbing blue-collar portrait. An engaging story from cover-to-cover, Sawdusted is accessible to readers of all backgrounds but will resonate most strongly from those who have lived ups and downs of the blue-collar working life themselves.

When Raymond Goodwin started work at a Michigan sawmill in 1979, the glory days of lumbering were long gone. But the industry still had a faded glow that, for a while, held him there. In Sawdusted Goodwin wipes the dust off his memories of the rundown, nonunion mill where he toiled for twenty months as a two-time college dropout. Spare, evocative character sketches bring to life the personalities of his fellow millworkers—their raucous pranks, ribbing, complaints about wages and weather, macho posturing, failed romances, and fantasies of escape.

"Goodwin gets the wrong side of the tracks right in this rare, rich glimpse of working-class lives in the Upper Midwest's industrialized backwoods. A painstaking and painful yet poetic and inspiring mill-hand's chronicle of hell-raising and hard work."--James P. Leary, author of *So Ole Says to Lena: Folk Humor of the Upper Midwest* "All-night bonfires, heavy drinking, and barroom brawls are what the reader may remember about Goodwin's cast of characters, but his depiction of life in a declining Michigan sawmill town reflects a keen insight into people, passion, and survival in the Midwest."--Jeremy W. Kilar, author of *Michigan's Lumbertowns: Lumbermen and Laborers in Saginaw, Bay City, and Muskegon, 1870-1905* About the Author Raymond Goodwin went back to college after his stint in lumbering. As a manager of human resources at Central Michigan University, he now helps a new generation of young people find work.