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# Still Searching For Pipe Dreams

## STILL SEARCHING FOR PIPE DREAMS



by Rick Newcombe



## **Synopsis**

Still Searching for Pipe Dreams is the second in a series following Rick Newcombe's first book, the best-selling In Search of Pipe Dreams. Why would anyone still smoke a pipe in the 21st century when all forms of smoking are being banned around the world? Why are so many young people drawn to pipe collecting and artistic pipemaking with such intensity and passion? And why are pipe shows suddenly sold out, with waiting lists for tables? These young pipe enthusiasts are from America, Germany, Russia, Japan, China, Italy, Denmark and all over the world. Unlike mass-marketed cigarettes, pipe smoking has a rich tradition that goes back many centuries, and the author predicts it is the only form of smoking that will last many centuries into the future. He contends that moderate pipe smoking, without inhaling, promotes relaxation and clear thinking, and it serves as an ideal antidote to stress that is much safer than the tranquilizers that are so freely dispensed today. Unlike cigar and cigarette smokers, pipe collectors actually save their pipes. They clean and polish them and put them in racks or display cabinets. If they are broken, they have them repaired. Most pipe smokers remember when they bought each pipe in their collection, and every time they take a pipe out, it is a reminder of the past, to be enjoyed in the present, for many years into the future. This book also is inspiring because of Rick Newcombe's enthusiasm and optimism, which shine through in every chapter and make it a fast-paced and enjoyable listen.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

After finishing the first book, (In Search of Pipe Dreams), you are left wanting a bit more. So from time to time, i visit certain chapters as you would a good book. I was glad that this came along, it is

like catching up on an old friend, who shares his/her latest experience with the hobby. Today, you can instantly go to youtube videos, chat rooms, and forums about pipes. but like pipes, nothing beats sitting down, chilling, and having a book you like in your hands, and having further insights about the different aspects of Pipes.

With great anticipation I ordered Mr. Newcombe's "Still Searching for Pipe Dreams". I like to read about pipes and pipe smoking, tobaccos and such, but after the first few essays, I found myself skimming paragraphs, and eventually, whole pages. I would like to have the wherewithal, and time, to travel to Europe, meet and have lunch and dinner with the famous pipe artisans, and other members of the pipe hierarchy. I would also like to visit pipe shows, and, along the way, routinely shell out \$1,000.00 or more for their beautiful custom pipes. It seems that Mr. Newcombe does this on virtually every page. Mr. Newcombe writes about a world that is foreign to 99% of pipe smokers. While he waxes poetic about the "beautiful straight grained briar" made by so and so that he just bought to add to his immense collection, there is very little mention of John Doe who finally saves up enough money to splurge on a once in a lifetime \$200.00 "factory made" pipe. Mr. Doe's pipe dreams are not a concern here. One thing Mr. Newcombe and I do have in common is the recognition of the ongoing campaign to eradicate smoking in any way shape or form, and the little smokers can do about it. Overall, the book might have been titled, "Memoirs to the Good Old Boys Club".

I started pipe smoking in 1973, enjoyed it on and off for about 4 years. About 3 years ago, I thought I would give it a try again, this time with the internet as a source for knowledgeable purchases, I bought 4 books, one of which is Rick Newcombe's book. This author has the unique ability to take the science, yes, the science, and art of pipe making to a level not achieved by others. I hardly read the other books, just not an interesting writing style and no where the information in this book. Rick writes in a fashion that allows you to experience all that he has learned not by reading, but by experiencing his travels around the world meeting these artists and explaining in the most enjoyable way, what makes up the world of pipes. His conversations with the carvers themselves allows you to be there, learning! For me, this was a one evening read, yet I do go back and reread sections. It is terrific and I loved it so much that I have purchased the audio versions for his 2 books; I strongly advise you to do the same. Using his guidance, I have purchased very inexpensive, wonderful pipes that smoke better than many that cost hundreds and even thousands of dollars. Yes, I have one expensive pipe but the others are inexpensive, great smoking pipes; I learned all of this from his

book, if only I had this book years ago! If you have been smoking pipes for years or just starting, you must have this, it will take your hobby to a new level.

A lot of the same type of essays which appeared in the first "...Pipe Dreams" book, and not particularly well written either. I wouldn't bother with it unless you're starved for books about pipes and pipe smoking.

Classic Rick Newcombe! He puts you in a great mood with his positive outlook on pipes and life. He is a pure joy to read and his book offers a great insight into the world of pipes. I highly recommend this book to all who enjoy pipes.

The follow up to Mr. Newcombe's "Searching for Pipe Dreams". Just as well written, and just as humorous. But, you have to understand Rick. He can come off a little pompous or self absorbed but it's just not so. He's very entertaining and informative too.

Rick Newcome's new book is an outstanding treatise on pipe smoking. This book is a wonderful, continuing and updated version of his first book In Search of Pipe Dreams and confirms my decision 35 years ago to take up pipe smoking.

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