



# The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000

*Richard Davenport-Hines*

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000

*Richard Davenport-Hines*

## **The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000** Richard Davenport-Hines

Davenport-Hines' landmark book draws on a dazzlingly wide range of sources to show how narcotics such as opium, morphine, cannabis, heroin, cocaine, amphetamine, LSD and ecstasy came to have such an impact on Western society and how, in turn, that society has attempted to cope with the arrival of each. Although it should become the standard account of the subject, this book is no dry academic tome: Davenport-Hines is one of the great historical story tellers and *The Pursuit of Oblivion*, though serious in purpose, contains a dazzling array of strange, amusing and macabre stories. It reveals the intimate drug habits of Sir Christopher Wren, Sir Walter Scott, Dickens, Gladstone, Freud, George IV, Queen Victoria, Marilyn Monroe, W. H. Auden and Anthony Eden (to name just a few); the role of enterprises such as the East India Company and Glaxo in distributing drugs (especially opiates); the part played by war in expanding drug use; the origins of the different policies of Britain and the United States, Holland and Switzerland, Thailand and Indonesia; the routes by which narcotics are transported around the world (including a brilliant account of the murderous career of the Colombian cocaine warlord, Pablo Escobar); and the evolution of attitudes towards, and taboos about, illicit substances. Spanning centuries, continents and empires, wars and revolutions, immigrants and aristocrats, *The Pursuit of Oblivion* neither celebrates nor condemns the use of narcotics. It concludes with an assessment of why, despite increasingly harsh sanctions, illegal drug use continues to increase and considers where law-makers go from here.

 [Download The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narco ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Nar ...pdf](#)

## **Download and Read Free Online The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000 Richard Davenport-Hines**

---

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Jeffrey Richard:**

The book *The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000* make one feel enjoy for your spare time. You can use to make your capable considerably more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting anxiety or having big problem with the subject. If you can make reading through a book *The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000* for being your habit, you can get much more advantages, like add your current capable, increase your knowledge about a number of or all subjects. You can know everything if you like start and read a publication *The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000*. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science book or encyclopedia or other people. So , how do you think about this book?

#### **Robert Burke:**

Precisely why? Because this *The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000* is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap it but latter it will jolt you with the secret that inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who have write the book in such remarkable way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any longer or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book get such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking means. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I were being you I will go to the reserve store hurriedly.

#### **Mary Bunch:**

*The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000* can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to place every word into delight arrangement in writing *The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000* however doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource details that maybe you can be one of it. This great information can easily drawn you into brand new stage of crucial pondering.

#### **David McCabe:**

Reading a book to become new life style in this calendar year; every people loves to study a book. When you study a book you can get a lot of benefit. When you read books, you can improve your knowledge, because book has a lot of information on it. The information that you will get depend on what forms of book that you have read. If you would like get information about your analysis, you can read education books, but if you act like you want to entertain yourself you are able to a fiction books, such us novel, comics, as well as soon. *The The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000* offer you a new experience in

reading a book.

**Download and Read Online The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global  
History of Narcotics, 1500-2000 Richard Davenport-Hines  
#X2379SWQLZV**

## **Read The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000 by Richard Davenport-Hines for online ebook**

The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000 by Richard Davenport-Hines Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000 by Richard Davenport-Hines books to read online.

### **Online The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000 by Richard Davenport-Hines ebook PDF download**

### **The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000 by Richard Davenport-Hines Doc**

**The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000 by Richard Davenport-Hines Mobipocket**

**The Pursuit of Oblivion: A Global History of Narcotics, 1500-2000 by Richard Davenport-Hines EPub**