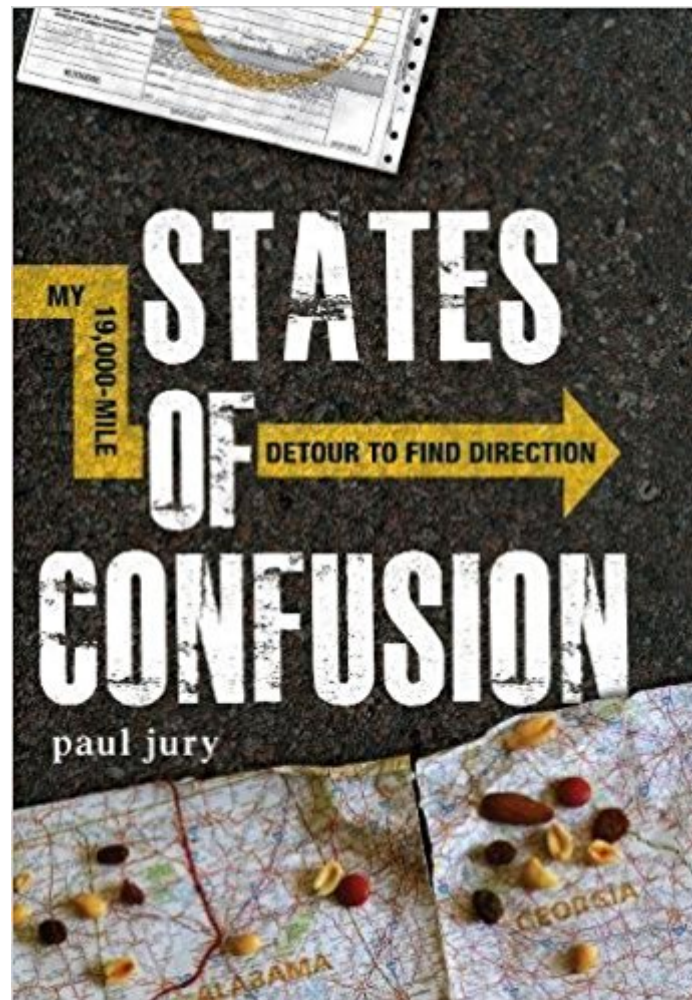


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# States Of Confusion: My 19,000-Mile Detour To Find Direction



## Synopsis

Rather than deal with the problems he was facing as a recent college grad, Paul Jury decided to leave them in his rearview mirror. He might not have known the direction his life was headed, but he knew the route he was taking to hit all forty-eight contiguous states on one epic road trip. Filled with plenty of adventure and the unforeseen obstacle (or twelve), *States of Confusion* puts you in shotgun to see where the road takes Paul. All he knows--after crashing on the beer-soaked couch of his younger brother's frat--is that there's no going back.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Paul Jury graduated from Northwestern University and headed on a road trip before finally getting a gig as a writer in LA. Now, he writes and produces viral videos, and runs a tutoring program for kids looking to make the leap to college.

I really tried to like this book but just couldn't. The author has graduated from college and decides to take an all over the country trip to find direction? Some of the stories were mildly amusing, but mostly the book was pretty much a big yawn. I felt sorry for the girl friend. Here's her guy wondering all around the country trying to find himself while she continues to wait and wait and w....well, you get the picture. Then there's his mom and dad who are repairing "the real car" he wanted to use for the trip setting up connections to get it to him so he can continue his journey. I just wonder if he ever grew up and found his direction. If he were my kid, I'd be very sad and very worried.

This book is a must read for anyone who has not yet figured out what they want to do with their lives AND for those who thought they had it all figured out, but are not happy. As someone who was taken on an Adventure like this when I was 13, and who has longed to do a similar one as an adult, I was totally wrapped up in the adventure. Thanks, Paul, for taking me on another circuitous trip around our great country!

I am not as enthusiastic over this book as so many of the other reviewers, perhaps because I am older than they. While the book is well-written (also well-formatted and a Kindle freebie), I could not relate to the angst of what to me seemed to be an over-indulged, self-obsessed young college-graduate, touring the country to find himself, seeing very little but writing daily blogs about it [SPOILER ALERT], treating his long-suffering girlfriend with disdain and dumping her over the telephone, and finally moving to LA to become a writer (where he still acts like an immature undergrad)--as if, by this point, we still care. At least that's how this seems to someone of an earlier generation whose view of life, inter-personal relationships, and the work ethic are obviously different from this gentleman's. And apart from his search for self and his desire to find his place in this world (as must we all), the book is unsatisfying as a travelogue and is hardly exemplary as anything else. I did not care for it. [UPDATE: Since I wrote the above I notice it is no longer free. I would certainly not recommend paying ten dollars for it.]

This is an easy, but meaningful read. Each chapter is devoted to Paul's adventures in one of the 48 contiguous states. In each, he learns something new, has a meaningful conversation, or finds himself in a precarious situation--all of which add up to his figuring out some things about himself and making decisions about his future based on this new awareness. It would be a great gift for high school or college graduates, but is a fun read for those of us who are a bit older (but remember what it's like to be Paul's age....) as well.

I got this book as a freebie on . I really enjoyed the story - its something different to read, and the fact that it's mostly based Ina true story made it more interesting. I thought the book rambled in some places and glosse over some places where I would have liked to read more, but it was a great book. Paul's writing reminds me a lot of David Sedaris, and he had me literally laughing out loud in some spots. Love the Lake Wappapello story - the best in the book in my opinion even though it made me a little squeamish.

I have no idea where my life is taking me. This book just gave me the affirmation that not knowing is half the fun. Seriously. This book was wonderful and inspiring (and hilarious)! One problem: The state shapes in the beginning of the chapters for Illinois and Indiana were mixed up! Whoops! Otherwise, a very entertaining book that I highly recommend.

I downloaded this book during a promotion and am so glad I did. It's a great read with great humor. I felt like I was riding along on the road trip of a lifetime, transported back to my 20s wondering if I made the right choices and how I would know if I made the right choices. Hilarious. Introspective. Makes you think without being at all sappy. Loved this book!

Overall, I was not expecting this book to be as good as it was. The authors discussion about his personal journey of finding himself and needing to explore the country makes it worth while. I only wish he had included what he wrote in his blog at times.

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