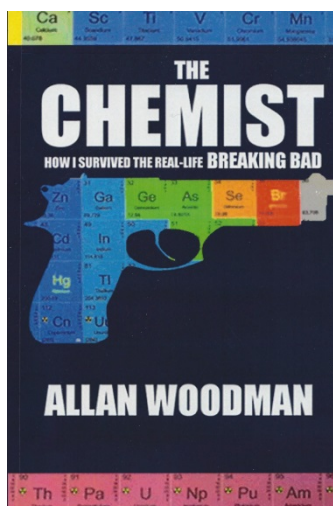


For immediate release:  
January 7, 2015

### Real-life “breaking bad” chemist writes his tale of crime, betrayal and salvation.

When do you start to “break bad”: as a child, an adolescent, a teen, an adult? Walter White, the high school chemistry teacher in award-winning TV series *Breaking Bad*, turned down the slippery slope when he learned of his terminal cancer and the advent of an unexpected, but much wanted, new child.



Allan “Woody” Woodman began breaking bad in his early teens when he perfected home-made gunpowder and began to blow things up – abandoned cars, deserted buildings. From the fun of pipe bombs, Woody evolved over the next ten years into a valuable mob asset. Along the way, he earned a chemistry degree from North Adams State College, at the same time enjoying the laid-back 60’s. He and his college pals made easy money selling marijuana on campuses. There were 150,000 students, many of them wanting to get high, in central Massachusetts. Then, a large shipment under Woody’s watch disappeared and with it his status as a trusted dealer.

Woody began the first of many attempts to go straight, only to be seduced back to the dark side through his old network and the need for money. Along the way, he vowed never to be involved in sales and distribution of illegal substances again. With money from the mob, he used his chemistry knowledge to set up massive labs where he manufactured pure meth. “I made enough 93% pure PCP, to make 21 million pills”, commented Woody. Later, when that became too risky, he made the ingredients for others to use in the manufacture of meth and pills.

In *The Chemist: How I Survived the Real-Life Breaking Bad* (CreateSpace, 2014), Woody tells a story that will amaze you, make you laugh and show you how bad it gets working with the mob, with narcos, with people you thought were friends, with family that abandon you, and ultimately, with the DEA. Though not every aspect is identical to Walter White’s tale, Woody’s is a similar story of how to put career skills, in this case manufacturing chemicals, to work in a life of crime. It shows the value that the mob and the narcos put on the ability of highly trained chemists to manufacture the purest illegal products that can be diluted at street level, increasing profits. A DEA chemist validated Woody’s abilities to a skeptical FBI agent, “You think he can’t make PCP? This guy can turn water into ... gold!”

Ultimately, it was his brother-in-law, seeking a reduced sentence for dealing, who turned Woody into the DEA. At the time of their arrest, a spokesman for the federal Drug Enforcement Administration said agents seized or purchased materials for 1.5 million pills with a street value of about \$10 million. The seizure was described as the largest in New England history. To reduce his own life sentence, Woody spent the next two years helping the DEA capture an even bigger fish, Roger “Doc” Campbell, a PhD. chemist. Woody’s sentence was reduced to three years at Federal Correctional Institution, Ray Brook. A cast of characters as nefarious as those on the outside, pepper those years. While at Ray Brook, Woody set up a GED program, helping equip felons with a degree that would qualify them for

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work programs upon release. “While I was fortunate to put my prison time to good use”, said Woody, “these were hardened criminals in my classes. One Russian mobster threatened to kill me over the solution to a math problem. He won that argument!”

Today, Allan “Woody” Woodman lives with his second wife in South Florida. His first wife divorced him to run off with his advisor, Iron Mike Khoury, after Woody was imprisoned. He is close with both of his children and his step-daughter. He owns a water treatment company in Massachusetts that more than keeps him afloat.

To review ***The Chemist: How I Survived the Real-Life Breaking Bad*** (CreateSpace, 2014), please contact Ann Boland for a review copy. Mr. Woodman is available for local interviews in person, or via Skype.

For more information, including photos and newspaper clippings referring to Woody’s criminal career, visit <https://woodythechemist.wordpress.com/>.

#### **Book Details**

- **Paperback:** 240 pages
- **Genre:** True Crime
- **Publisher:** CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform (November 13, 2014)
- **Language:** English
- **ISBN-10:** 1503183548
- **ISBN-13:** 978-1503183544