

New Australian Author Book Release

# DAZZLER DUNLOP

KEN DUNLOP

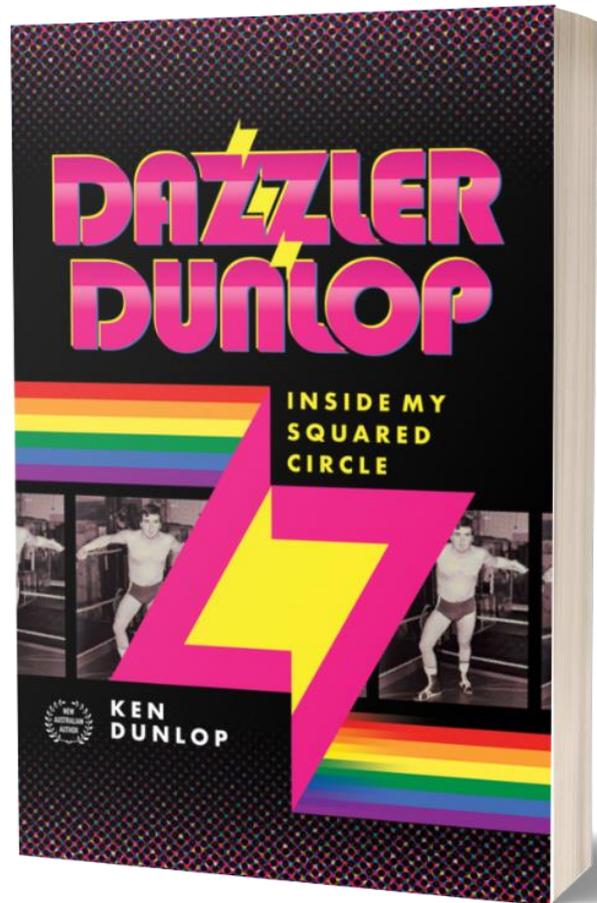
***WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE OPENLY GAY IN THE HYPER-MACHO WORLD OF PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING?***

Just ask Ken “Dazzler” Dunlop, whose Australian professional wrestling career coincided with the AIDS crisis and when homosexuality was not only still taboo but also a criminal act. In the first ever autobiography by an Australian professional wrestler, the life and times of an out-and-proud wrestling legend and a member of the Australian professional Wrestling Hall of Fame are candidly laid out in this wonderful new memoir.

Ken “Dazzler” Dunlop is a man who dedicated 24 years to the sport of professional wrestling. Despite his small stature, Ken proved his toughness and resilience by body slamming and clotheslining his way to a memorable 24-year Hall of Fame career in Australia and abroad with superstars the likes of Andre the Giant and Mario Milano. Always striving to be the best that he could be, no matter what...Every decision centred around his wrestling career and those who supported him...During his career he also taught many young men to wrestle and became a mentor in their lives as they excelled beyond even their own expectations.

From his humble beginnings as a mummy’s boy in rural Victoria to his crazy life as an out-and-proud gay man in Australia’s Sin City, there were moments of triumph, laughter, mayhem, and plenty of tears. These are the no-holds-barred stories of a bona fide wrestling pioneer who did it all with passion, loyalty, and a no-nonsense honesty.

***This is the autobiography of Australian Wrestling Legend and Hall of Fame Inductee, Ken “Dazzler” Dunlop.***



**S | L | P**  
**SHAWLINE  
PUBLISHING  
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RRP: \$24.95  
Trade Price: \$11.48  
ISBN: 9781922444813  
Genre: Non-Fiction, Memoir  
Format: Paperback  
Audience: General  
Location: Wolli Creek NSW

# A Conversation with Ken “Dazzler” Dunlop

**What was an early experience where you learned that language had power?**

*Being in the public spotlight from an early age, people seem to hang off of every word you say.*

**How long do you spend researching before beginning a book?**

*Weeks, before I started I hand wrote everything down and triple checked everything*

**What was your hardest scene to write?**

*Talking about loved ones who have passed and my days of fighting my depression*

**What is the most difficult part of your artistic process?**

*My memory. Some days it's great and everything just flows, other days my mind is a blur. I do suffer from short term memory loss which is connected to all my concussions that I suffered during my wrestling career*

**If you had to do something differently as a child or teenager to become a better writer as an adult, what would you do?**

*I would keep a more detailed diary of events*

**When did you first realize you wanted to write?**

*About 6 or 7 years ago. When I was with my wrestling friends, we would sit around and tell stories and they would all say to me you should write a book. So since then, it was always in the back of my mind. And as soon as I retired from work I thought, “right I have the time to finally do it”.*

**What is your work schedule like when you're writing?** *I like to sit down and plan what I will do that day. Go through my notes, have a coffee, there must be no noise around and then start.*

**Where do you get your information or ideas for your books?**

*All in my head, I just check dates and facts with some friends and discuss with them some of my ideas.*

**What are your plans for your future books?**

*None at this stage, although I have written a plot for a comedy TV series based on retired wrestlers.*

**Why did you write ‘Dazzler Dunlop’? What were your inspirations?**

*I started writing this book as I feel I have had a very successful career in the wrestling business. I have a lot to say and there are no books on pro wrestling in Australia since 1978. There are some amazing people in this business. Sadly, many have passed away, but I had the pleasure and honour of knowing them and hearing their stories which have all made me the best version of myself.*

*I always wanted to be the best wrestler that I could, and it took me years of hard training and suffering injuries, but I finally got there. I feel that I am deeply respected in the business and I am very proud of what I achieved.*

**Did you have any interesting experiences while researching, writing or publishing the book?**

*One good thing is that I have caught up with some people that I haven't seen or heard from for nearly 20 years. We connected straight away.*

**Visit [shawlinepublishing.com.au](http://shawlinepublishing.com.au) for more details on the author, Ken Dunlop.**

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