



The Accountant's Story: Inside the Violent World of the Medellín Cartel

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Arguably the largest and most successful criminal enterprise in history, at times the Medellin drug cartel was **smuggling 15 tons of cocaine a day**, worth more than half a billion dollars, into the United States. Roberto Escobar knows - he was the accountant who kept track of all the money.

How much money? According to Roberto, he and his brother's operation **spent \$1000 a week just purchasing rubber bands** to wrap the stacks of cash -- and since they had more illegal money than they could deposit in the banks, they stored the bricks of cash in their warehouses, annually writing off 10% as "spoilage" when the rats crept in at night and nibbled on the hundred dollar bills.

At the height of this cartel's reach, in order to help them deliver their goods, the Escobars purchased thirteen 727 airliners from Eastern Airlines when that airline went bankrupt. They also purchased six Russian mini-submarines. Roberto knows - he did the books.

In short, this is Pablo Escobar's story in the words of one of his closest confidants, his brother Roberto. It's all here -- the brutal violence inside the world of the drug cartel, dealing with American drug forces and the CIA, the problems the Escobars faced when going up against the Colombian mafia, even Pablo's moments of kindness and compassion towards less fortunate countrymen in Colombia. others. As Roberto points out, although many people view Escobar as a monster, thousands still visit his grave every year to mourn him, and revere him as a savior.

Now in his 60s, Roberto, who has served 10 years in Colombian jail for his part in the Medellin cartel, now wants to set the record straight, once and for all.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Roberto Escobar provides an intimate portrait of his brother, Pablo Escobar, the infamous leader of the Medellín drug cartel. He makes a strenuous—if not entirely persuasive—effort to reveal his brother's more sensitive side and to argue that the Colombian and U.S. governments exaggerated the degree of Pablo's involvement in the cartel. The book's organization is spotty and the familial bias often frustrates—listeners will likely crave a more unvarnished biography—but Ruben Diaz provides an unimpeachable performance. With an authentic, never grating accent, he narrates so sincerely that the audience might believe they are listening to Roberto himself. *A Grand Central hardcover. (Feb.)*

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From [Booklist](#)

By the time of his death at the hands of a special squad of Colombian police in 1993, Pablo Escobar controlled a multibillion-dollar cocaine-based empire that corrupted police, the military, and high-ranking politicians. His older brother, Roberto, served as the financial guru of this empire, deciding how to save, hide, and distribute vast sums of cash to maintain and nurture the so-called Medellín cartel. Escobar, who served a 10-year prison sentence for his cartel activities, certainly provides a unique and often deeply personal perspective. His description of his childhood with Pablo may help explain but does not justify the way Pablo consistently resorted to unrestrained violence against any opposition. Colombia in the 1950s was in the throes of chronic political violence on a massive scale, with roving factional gangs engaging in murderous raids and counter-raids. Still, Escobar's frequent efforts to "explain" (or even justify) Pablo's outrages that killed numerous innocents quickly become tiresome and morally repugnant. When his narrative sticks to the nuts-and-bolts process of his brother's relentless, ruthless construction of a gigantic and effective criminal organization, this is an engrossing and morbidly fascinating tale filled with intrigue, betrayal, and stunning amounts of cash. At its best, this is a real-life story of the rise and fall of a violent and vile man. --Jay Freeman

Review

"Narrator Ruben Diaz's bilingual skills allow him fluency with the mixture of English and many Spanish names, phrases, and locations. His English has a hint of a Latin accent, adding a linguistic authenticity to the story of a simple Colombian man who loved his family, killed his enemies, and lived in the shadows." (*AudioFile* 2009)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

John Oliver:

Book is definitely written, printed, or illustrated for everything. You can recognize everything you want by a guide. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important issue to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading proficiency was fluently. A e-book The Accountant's Story: Inside the Violent World of the Medellín Cartel will make you to become smarter. You can feel considerably more confidence if you can know about every thing. But some of you think this open or reading a new book make you bored. It's not make you fun. Why they are often thought like that? Have you in search of best book or

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Michael Joslyn:

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Randall Briggs:

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Eric Sanders:

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