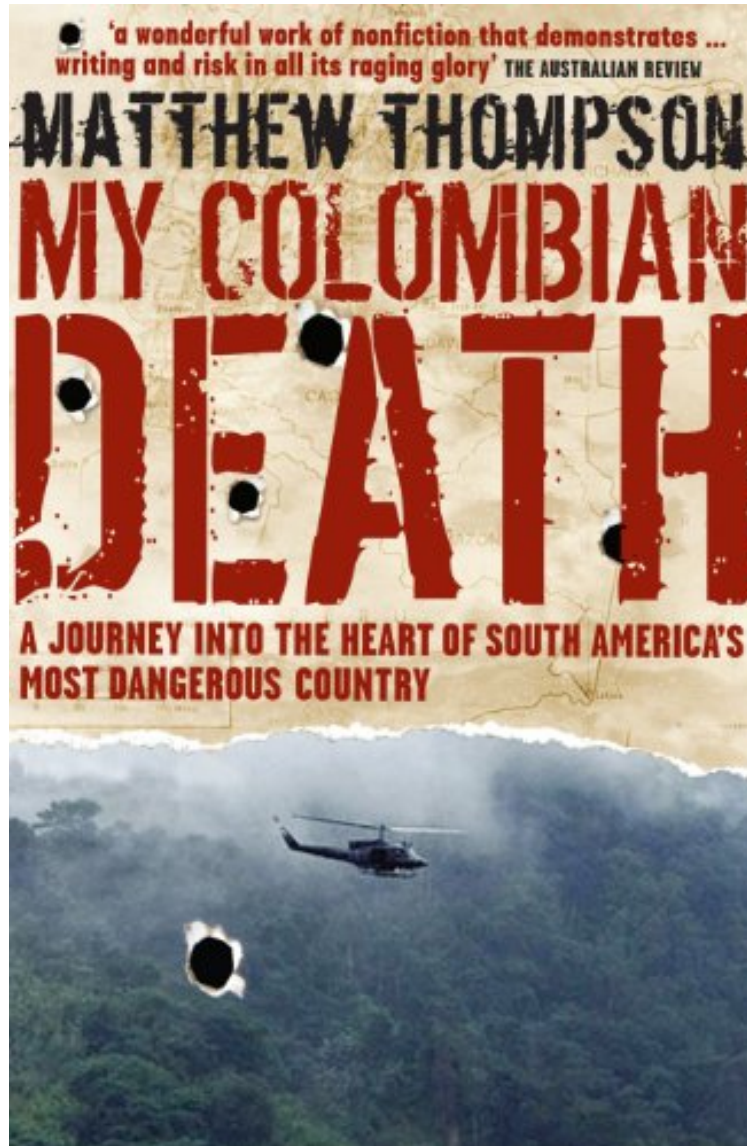


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My Colombian Death

Matthew Thompson

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Matthew Thompson : My Colombian Death before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised My Colombian Death:

0 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A little disappointed By Pen Name Couldnt agree more with the first review. I decided to read this book as I leave for Colombia in a few days. The selfishness and arrogance of this man is quite frustrating. He is selfishly exploiting this country's pain and misery for his own satisfaction, because he is "bored" of having a well-paying and secure job. The simple fact that this man goes on this trip, decides to take unbelievably dangerous risks whilst his wife is struggling with a newborn child at home, spells out how selfish he

is. This man's attitude is blatantly disrespectful to the people of Colombia and his family. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Sickening and self-indulgent. By Peter. If true, this well-written but incredibly self-indulgent story by a foul-mouthed, drug-riddled, boozy Australian, who takes extraordinary and foolish risks in Colombia, in spite of a wife and young baby back in Australia, who are rarely mentioned in his book, makes me ashamed to call myself Australian. I wonder how many young Aussies might try to emulate this man, and end up either dead or in gaol in a foreign country. There are plenty of great young Australian adventurers who don't need to sink to Thompson's level to have exciting and rewarding lives. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Superbly written and sometimes astounding. By Charlie. It's unusual to come across a book as beautifully written as this: the graceful and often sensual descriptions, the ambiguous realism of characters and situations, the intimacy, the revelations about the main character as well as about Colombia, the action - I was engrossed and left with much to think about. Matthew Thompson may not be the nicest or best motivated person around (or maybe he's just more honest than other nonfiction writers) but that doesn't stop the book from building and building with its own compelling logic to a heart-rending climax involving a shamanic ceremony with yage/ayahuasca. I put the book down feeling like I'd lived through everything in the book and was as attached to the characters, (Diana, the grungy Colombian known as El Gringo, etc) as Thompson seems to have been. I hope this author from rural Australia (as the author note says) keeps writing - he's unique.

Kidnappings, car bombs, cocaine, paramilitaries, bullfights, the Amazon and madness. Welcome to Colombia, where life is cheap and so are the drugs. In 2006, Matt Thompson travelled to Colombia in search of the life he might have led. Born to American parents, Matt's father was offered a post which would have taken the family to Bogota, but he turned it down because it was too high risk. Instead they came to Australia - low-risk, even paradisaic - and the land that nearly drove Matt to a slow death from boredom. One day he quits his job, picks up his bag and decides to go experience life in the country that's not only the most dangerous in South America, but possibly the world. This is the story of what happened next. Part Heart of Darkness, part Marching Powder, My Colombian Death is a wild ride to the edge and beyond.