



Short Walks From Bogota

By Tom Feiling

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Short Walks From Bogota By Tom Feiling

For decades, Colombia was the 'narcostate'. Now it's seen as one of the rising stars of the global economy. Where does the truth lie? How did a land likened to paradise by the first conquistadores become a byword for hell on earth? And how is it rebuilding itself after decades of violence? Writer and journalist Tom Feiling has journeyed throughout Colombia, down roads that were until recently too dangerous to travel, talking to people from former guerrilla fighters to nomadic tribesmen and millionaires. Vital, shocking, wry and never simplistic, *Short Walks from Bogota* unpicks the tangled fabric of Colombia to create a stunning work of reportage, history and travel writing. Books of the Year 2012 Boyd Tonkin, *The Independent* 'Creates a portrait of Colombia that is perceptive, unsensational, and full of humanity ... Feiling is a brilliant reporter, lucid, unflinching, morally engaged, and with an occasional deadpan sense of humour .. one of the most consistently intelligent and compelling books to have appeared on any South American country in recent years' Michael Jacobs, *Independent* 'Tom Feiling takes us on an enlightening journey through a changing country that few understand' Rachel Aspden, *Observer* 'A deeply political account of one man's journey to the violent heart of modern, rural, Colombia ... a must read' Kevin Howlett, *Colombia Politics* 'Feiling... venture[s] into areas that have been off limits for decades ... the sense of a vibrant nation worth discovering peeks out' Siobhan Murphy, *Metro* 'The best British travel writers like Norman Lewis or Bruce Chatwin give the reader more than simple travellers' tales. Feiling is of their company ... a brilliant, penetrating and highly readable account' Robert Carver, *Spectator* Some of the best insights in the book come from the people Feiling meets, and memorably portrays ... a well-written, thoughtful book David Gallagher, *Times Literary Supplement* Dramatic and captivating Wanderlust 'Elegantly written and knowledgeable. Feiling writes with the eye of a seasoned journalist and the style of a travel writer' Carl Wilkinson, *Financial Times* Tom Feiling spent a year living and working in Colombia before making *Resistencia: Hip-Hop in Colombia*, which won numerous awards at film festivals around the world, and was broadcast in four countries. In 2003 he became Campaigns Director for the TUC's Justice for Colombia campaign, which organizes for human rights in Colombia. His first book was *The Candy Machine: How Cocaine Took Over The World*, which was based on over sixty interviews with people involved in all aspects of the cocaine business and the 'war on drugs,' and was published by Penguin in 2009.

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Review

Books of the Year 2012 -- Boyd Tonkin The Independent Creates a portrait of Colombia that is perceptive, unsensational, and full of humanity ... Feiling is a brilliant reporter, lucid, unflinching, morally engaged, and with an occasional deadpan sense of humour .. one of the most consistently intelligent and compelling books to have appeared on any South American country in recent years -- Michael Jacobs Independent Tom Feiling takes us on an enlightening journey through a changing country that few understand -- Rachel Aspden Observer A deeply political account of one man's journey to the violent heart of modern, rural, Colombia ... a must read -- Kevin Howlett Colombia Politics Feiling... venture[s] into areas that have been off limits for decades ... the sense of a vibrant nation worth discovering peeks out -- Siobhan Murphy Metro The best British travel writers like Norman Lewis or Bruce Chatwin give the reader more than simple travellers' tales. Feiling is of their company ... a brilliant, penetrating and highly readable account -- Robert Carver Spectator [Praise for The Candy Machine] The Candy Machine is highly addictive Metro A vivid, argumentative, arresting book Sunday Telegraph I've read a few documentary accounts of the rise of cocaine, and this might be the best of them. It's clear, sharp and solid. Very well told Evening Standard

About the Author

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