



# Jackal: The Complete Story of the Legendary Terrorist, Carlos the Jackal

*John Follain*

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**Jackal: The Complete Story of the Legendary Terrorist, Carlos the Jackal** John Follain

Now in paperback, the biography of the 20th century's most potent and ruthless terrorist -- Carlos the Jackal. With exclusive revelations about his life, his missions, and his ultimate capture.

## Jackal: The Complete Story of the Legendary Terrorist, Carlos the Jackal Details

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## From Reader Review Jackal: The Complete Story of the Legendary Terrorist, Carlos the Jackal for online ebook

### **Pablo says**

A pretty decent overall look at this guy. A lot of information from beginning to end and certainly gives you the broader picture. The deeper look at who he really was seems to be a difficult task to ascertain. True revolutionary or playboy gunslinger for hire? All seemed to have a different or opposing view but it's hard not to view him with contempt in the end. Too much senseless death and destruction left in his wake. This is no story of a Che or even a Fidel!! His story leans much more toward a wannabe who lost his way.

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### **bernard underwood says**

#### **Wow**

the jackals is a great book about the history of Carlos and how he was caught this in the 3rd book and best book of all

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### **Wendy says**

Interesting read about so-called "professional revolutionary" Carlos the Jackal. I had some previous 'brand awareness', if you will, of this guy, but this book did a good job of fleshing his whole story out. Venezuelan-born Ilich Ramirez Sanchez turns out to have been much more of a playboy mercenary than an ideological mastermind, but the world of state-sponsored, Cold War era terrorism of the 1970s and 80s is as fascinating to read about as his life. As a sidenote, I really REALLY appreciated that the author/journalist did not make himself and his research any part of the story (unlike, say, Riccardo Orizio in "Talk of the Devil").

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### **M says**

Generally interesting but a tad boring. I enjoyed the evolution of the washed up revolutionary. Carlos is a pretty silly character. The book also made me realize that frank is a fucking turd. And that planes were hijacked a lot in the 70s

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### **Ethan Harris says**

I registered a book at BookCrossing.com!  
<http://www.BookCrossing.com/journal/11595061>

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### **Elie says**

entertaining, sheds the light on some underworld connections that are not so obvious. through the life of Carlos you can grasp an idea of the complicated world of terrorism.

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### **Travis Kendall says**

Pretty interesting read. Gives a lot of insight into the origins, rise, and eventual fall of one of the worlds most notorious terrorists. Dispells a lot of the myths surrounding Carlos and what he did and did not do. A really good read.

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### **Jake Shaw says**

Informative read about Carlos, it wasn't total propaganda like I expected. I went into this book with the intent of reading it from a Marxist perspective to see how much there is to respect about Carlos. The author presents him as a reckless, vain, professional mercenary whose politics are confused at best, a facade at worst. Perhaps in his youth he was sincere about revolution, but by the end of his career it's obvious that he is in it for the glory and the money, and to save his own skin. This is the image the author intends you to see, and even with a good dose of skepticism and reading between the lines, he is probably right. It's possible that there is more to Carlos than this book would suggest, but I doubt it. Carlos is basically an adventurist opportunist Che wannabe.

Probably the most interesting parts of this book from a leftist perspective is the picture it paints of the constant terrorism from Palestinian liberation groups in the 60s and 70s. It's amazing how little security there was on airplanes for instance. This book also tarnishes the myth of Carlos using extreme cunning to evade capture. Carlos was basically reckless and stupid, and the only reason he wasn't arrested sooner is because he had the protection of governments, and the extreme tension of the Cold War caused government agencies to tread very lightly when it came to matters diplomatic.

This book covers everything shown in the miniseries about Carlos, so I would recommend it to anyone curious about the details of events, or interested in knowing more precisely who all the characters are.

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### **Muhannad says**

Infatuated with himself, and living the delusional idealisms he shared with his father, Carlos the Jackal executed poorly planned 'acts of terrorism' and lived under the protection of governments who believed he could be used to do their dirty work. He wanted the world to see him as a revolutionary, in the same sense Che Guevara was seen. He wanted it so bad he did not care about any cause or revolution. His indulgence in his image, his bad-body appeal to young women, his love for guns and alcohol, and boasting his 'world revolutionary' experience, meant more to him than any cause. His means were criminal in nature. His cause was a front for psychopathic narcissism. The irony is that his demise came about when the governments who would have liked to use his services realized that even as far as terrorists go, he was useless.

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## **BoekenTrol says**

Read this long time ago. Liked it, but it is too long ago for a proper review. Going to read it again soon.

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## **Marc Dukes says**

Effing awful. Just terrible. At times the author seems to be transcribing travel itineraries with no analysis. Don't even go near this book.

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## **Kris says**

I had seen documentaries on Carlos and read some other books about Carlos but I don't think I ever had read what the eventual outcome was for Carlos. This book provides that information. I hesitate to call it an ending because although Carlos is currently incarcerated in France, he will be eligible for parole in 2020.

Ilich Ramirez Sanchez a.k.a Carlos the Jackal, is a Venezuelan national who inspired by all of the student uprisings and nationalists movements in the 1970's, joined Palestinian terrorist training organizations in order to foment what he called an International Socialist Revolution.

What was most surprising was how little success he actually had – he caused a lot of injury, death and havoc without achieving much in the way of personal or political change. I guess given the legend, I expected so much more. It seems like a life wasted since he spent almost all of it on the run.

In the end, much of the book shows how political machinations and considerations behind the scenes play such an important role in how terrorists are handled. For example, while Carlos was in Khartoum, France wanted to extradite him or grab him but due to considerations and relationships with the Sudanese government, it took quite some time to happen.

Carlos also was sheltered by East Germany, Syria and Libya during the Cold War years but as the Iron Curtain fell and relations thawed between East and West, he found it increasingly more difficult to find places to hide. It is amazing that he managed to evade capture while at the same time living a jet setting lifestyle.

A good, easy to digest book that provides insights into terrorism and the reasons why individuals choose to involve themselves in it. It also gives succinct answers to why releases of hostages and political negotiations take so long and are so complicated. What really hit home for me is how little value is placed on victims and how difficult it is for victims to get any justice. The book outlined how utterly devastated victims ended up: economically, physically, mentally and emotionally.

For those interested in this topic and this individual, this book is a great, easy, succinct biography. I enjoyed it and it did provide me with some new insights and the story....so far.

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## Jason says

This is a meticulously researched and entertainingly written account of one of the cold war period's most infamous villains. The thing that stood out for me was due to the crazy socio-political climate at the time, he could intimidate powerful governments into supporting his cause. Lots of surprises in this book - including the hilarious (for me) origin of his nickname. You just can't make this stuff up.

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