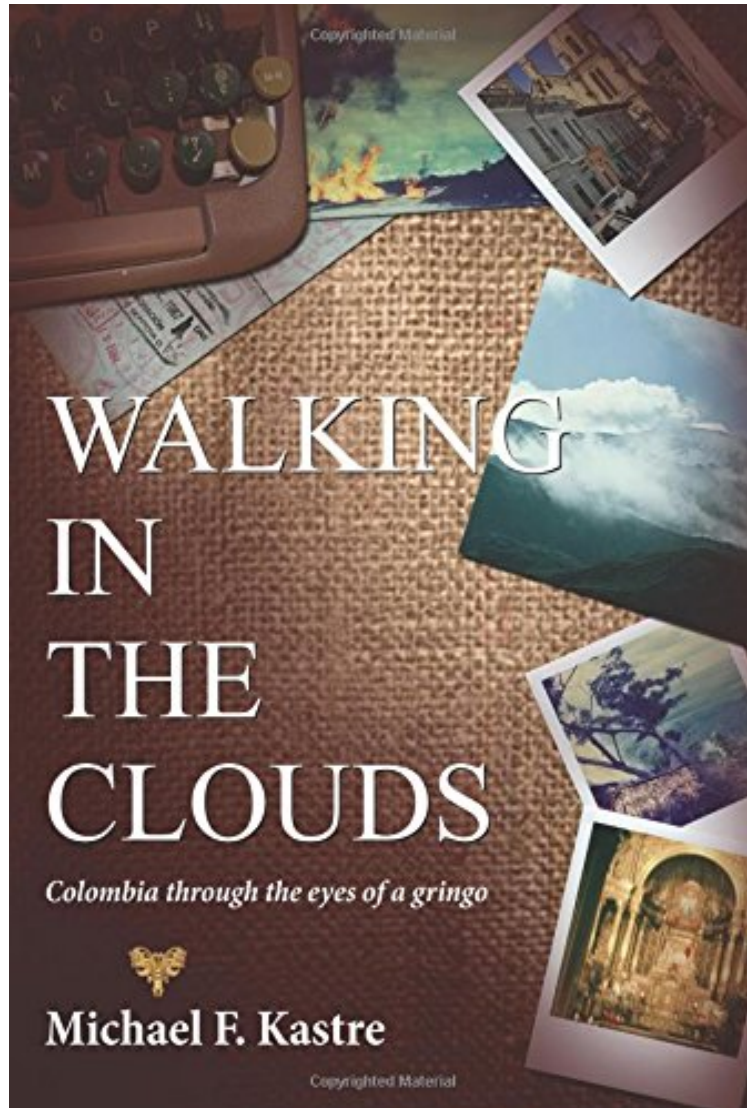


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Michael F. Kastre

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Michael F. Kastre : Walking in the Clouds - Colombia Through the Eyes of a Gringo before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Walking in the Clouds - Colombia Through the Eyes of a Gringo:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Thought provoking snapshots of 1980s Colombia By Octavia I'm a sucker for historical fictions. This book is unique in that it reads as a historical fiction, however, nothing about it is fictional. Written in simple, conversational style, Kastre captures the dark and complex times of 1980s Colombia

through his first-hand experiences as a freelance journalist. Without the constant backing of any large news syndicate, his collection of stories are independent and sincere which made me feel as if I was receiving direct information from a close friend. His style of writing and refreshing sense of humor makes this book an easy read but simultaneously juxtaposes the severity of the times when the reader pauses to internalize the event's nuances. The result is a collection of genuine stories that gave me the extraordinary opportunity to walk in someone else's shoes and relive an American's experience in a far away land. On a somewhat shallow end... I'm excited to know I have a scoop on such an interesting period and looking forward to throwing it in at a cocktail party conversation :) 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Love This Book!! By Nchavez Having been born in the US but raised in a Colombian Family, I really loved this book. I loved how the author spoke about the beauty of Colombia, of its people, its history and cities that I didn't even know much about. Much is said about Colombia and it was great to see the country explained from a "Gringo's" perspective and who has truly lived and experienced Colombia for themselves and that Colombia was not stereotyped like it sometimes is. This is the author's personal story but I believe anyone can relate to it on some level what Michael Kastre lived through during his time in Colombia. The book is beautifully written. It's about living in Colombia during the 80s when there was violence because of the cartels and what that time period meant not only for Colombia but also for the US. This book is also about the love a family has for one another and to value and cherish each adventure you have with them and to make memories so all of us can have our own story to tell one day. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting book containing info of interest. By Dan in AZI know very little about Colombia. Interesting book and some insights to that country other than the usual drug traffic items. Sounds like a beautiful country. Has Michael F. Kastre done any newer books?

Walking in the Clouds is a true story about events experienced by an American writer who lived and worked in Colombia in the 1980s, a painful period of political upheaval, violent cocaine wars, and leftist guerrilla uprisings. As a freelancer, Michael Kastre's livelihood depended on finding relevant stories; on a personal level, he integrated himself deeply into his new environment. Becoming a local meant that he was no longer an outsider looking in, but a character within the stories themselves. Just like Colombia, the stories vary in their cast of characters and the events and emotions they cover. After moving to Colombia, it was only a matter of time before Michael found himself engaging in political debate with a guerrilla leader, having a unique encounter with the Pope, and interviewing the head of Colombia's Anti-Narcotics Force. The photos he was given during this interview have never been publicly available until the publishing of this book. Most people know little about Colombia beyond its notoriety for drugs. The continent's oldest surviving democracy, Colombia combines the splendor of colonial Spain with the energy of modern Latin America. Its demographics are as diverse as its majestic terrain and as complex as its history. The vignettes and articles in Walking in the Clouds provide a unique glimpse into the history, politics, and culture of this remarkable country, its complex psyche and rich contradictions captured through the humble eyes of a gringo.