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On December 2, 1993, members of the Search Bloc—a special police unit tasked with finding Pablo Escobar—tracked him to a home in Medellin, Colombia. The notorious drug trafficker was killed on the roof of the house as he was trying to escape. Image copyright Sipa Press/Rex, all rights reserved. Image provided here as fair use for educational purposes.

In the end, it was the Colombians who got him in December, 1993.

Using a system to trace Escobar's cell phone (which he constantly used to talk with his family, especially his son Juan Pablo), Lt. Hugo Martinez, Jr. tracked the world's most wanted fugitive to a Medellin house. Escobar immediately knew he'd been spotted.

Jumping from his window to an adjacent roof, the escaping kingpin was preceded by his bodyguard who was killed first. Wearing jeans and a dark blue shirt, Escobar was shot next. He died on the rooftop.

Both the Colombians and Americans were jubilant. Immediately after his death, authorities made videos of his palatial estate with its children's zoo.

Mark Bowden, in his book *Killing Pablo*, documents what happened as Escobar lived his final year. He reviewed thousands of documents and interviewed both Colombians and Americans to piece together the final, bloody moments.

Sixteen years after his father's death, Pablo's son - Juan Pablo Escobar (who changed his name to Sebastian Marroquin) - agreed to participate in a documentary entitled "Sins of My Father." Called "Pecados de Mi Padre," in Spanish, the film allows Pablo's son to publicly seek forgiveness from people whose family members were murdered on the orders of his own father.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:  
<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/PABLO-S-END-Blow>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:  
<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/PABLO-S-END-Blow>

## Media Stream



### Death of Pablo Escobar in Medellin

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View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Death-of-Pablo-Escobar-in-Medellin>



### Colombian Police Operation - Pablo Escobar

Image of the police operation against Pablo Escobar, online courtesy Info Imagination.

PD

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<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Colombian-Police-Operation-Pablo-Escobar>



### Pablo Escobar - On the Roof

Image online, courtesy U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

PD

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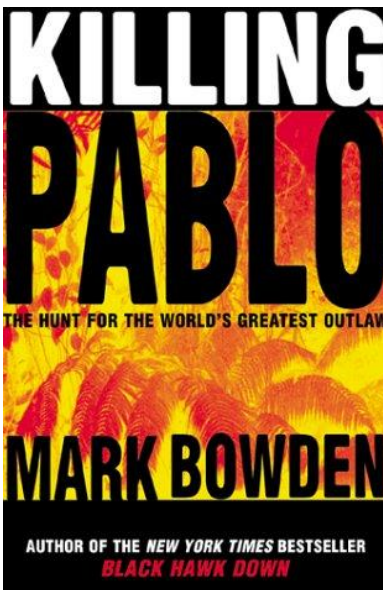
### Colombian Police with Pablo's Body

Image online, courtesy U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

PD

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### Killing Pablo by Mark Bowden

Image online, courtesy the [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) website.

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<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Killing-Pablo-by-Mark-Bowden0>



### Last Hours of Pablo Escobar

Video clip, from *The King of Cocaine* (1998), a television documentary aired by the Learning Channel for its series, "Legends." Copyright, Parco Films, all rights reserved.

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## Pablo Escobar - Death on a Rooftop

The Colombian police have tracked Pablo Escobar's location to his aunt's home in Medellin. An unsuspecting Pablo is reportedly having spaghetti for a late breakfast. When the police storm the house, Escobar and his bodyguard try to escape from the rooftop. Neither of them make it.

Pablo dies, but here's an important question. Who killed Pablo Escobar?

The news media reported that the police killed Pablo, and that's what the official version of the take-down says, but Escobar's family disagrees. There is a reason they disagree, and it has everything to do with what Pablo told them before he died. If he were ever forced to take his own life, he would put the bullet in a particular place (and he would use a specific gun to do it). Pablo's body had the fatal bullet in that particular place (and his specified weapon was laying at his side, while another gun was still in his holster).

Then ... there is the belief, which some Colombians hold, that Pablo was killed by members of *Los Pepes*.

Who (or what) is *Los Pepes* ? *Los Pepes* is an abbreviation for *Los Perseguidos por Pablo Escobar* (meaning, in English, "People Persecuted by Pablo Escobar"). Pablo was convinced that *Los Pepes* would kill his children.

At the beginning of this video clip, a journalist tells us about a conversation that she'd had with Escobar. He told her that he was extremely worried about the "civil rights" and, indeed, the lives of his children who were threatened by *Los Pepes*.

No one, Escobar told the journalist, was the slightest bit concerned about stopping *Los Pepes*—except for Pablo. No one was the slightest bit concerned about keeping his children safe—except for Pablo.

Instead of attacking and killing his children, did *Los Pepes* kill Pablo? *Los Pepes*—people who'd been persecuted by Escobar—certainly had the motive to kill the drug kingpin. They clearly were assassinating people close to Pablo.

Did *Los Pepes* have the wherewithal to kill Pablo? Did they have the access?

The answer to that question—according to some Colombian nationals—is "Yes."

So ... who is right about how Escobar died? Does the evidence point to the police, to Pablo himself or to *Los Pepes* ?

To see these recreated scenes, and hear how the surprise attack took place, move the cursor ahead to 4:00 in the clip at the top of this page (which is from *The King of Cocaine* documentary).



### **See, also:**

#### **Pablo Escobar's Home and Private Zoo**

#### **Pablo Escobar Avoids Arrest**

#### **Pablo Escobar's Last Hours**

#### **Pablo Escobar - Narcos**

#### **Steve Murphy - Real DEA Agent in Narcos**

Clip, from *The King of Cocaine* (1998) television documentary, aired by the Learning Channel for its series, "Legends." Copyright, Parco Films, all rights reserved. Clip provided here as fair use for educational purposes.

#### **Director and Writer:**

Steven Dupler

#### **Producer:**

Alexandra Middendorf

#### **Executive Producer:**

John Parsons Peditto

#### **Production Company:**

Parco International

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