

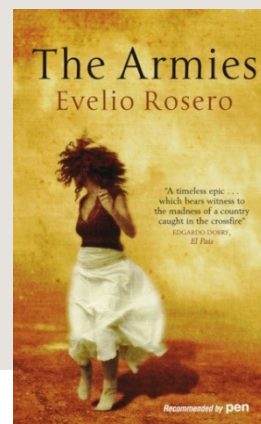


The Armies

Evelio Rosero

Translated from the Spanish by Anne McLean

Title	The Armies
Author	Evelio Rosero
ISBN	9781847244864
Imprint	Quercus
Binding	Demi Paperback
Extent	330 pages
Dimensions	216 x 135mm
RRP	\$29.95
Release Date	January 2009



Description

An old Colombian man bears witness to the senseless violence engulfing his country in an immensely disturbing book where every detail is true to life.

Ismael is a retired school teacher in a small Colombian village. He gathers oranges, admires beautiful women and has an idyllic everyday life. When the village is ransacked by an anonymous army, he is thrown into the fray and his mental stability collapses.

The tragedy which engulfs the inhabitants of this village has indeed become an everyday occurrence in this country. People are kidnapped; killed; they disappear at the hands of unidentified groups such as the armies of the title: guerillas, paramilitaries, narcotics traffickers.

Instead of describing the reality of an unpredictable violent world, Rosero imitates it – with the dense, confused prose of a man going mad. Instead of portraying violence, he has created a violent novel. In this story, no one is spared, no one is protected.

Sales Points

- Recommended by PEN, the international association of writers fighting for freedom of expression and human rights
- Awarded the Premio Tusquets Editoriales de Novela (Tusquets International Novel Prize) in 2006
- Reminiscent of JM Coetzee in content and style
- 'Unquestionably one of the most important Latin American novels of the last few years' – *El Universal*
- 'Los Ejercitos is a timeless epic ... which intends to bear witness to the madness of a country adrift in the crossfire' – *El Pais*

Author Profile

Evelio Rosero studied Social Communication at the Externado University of Colombia. He is the author of seven novels and two collections of short stories, as well as books for children and young adults.

Anne McLean has translated the novels of, among others, Javier Cercas, Julio Cortázar, Ignacio Padilla and Tomás Eloy Martínez. Her translation of Javier Cercas' *Soldiers of Salamis* won the 2004 Independent Foreign Fiction Prize and the Premio Valle Inclán.