



Nemesis: One Man and the Battle for Rio

By Misha Glenny

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The astonishing story of an ordinary man forced to make a decision that would turn his world upside down

How did Antônio Francisco Bonfim Lopes, a hardworking young father, become the king of Rocinha, the largest slum in Rio; the head of a drug cartel; and perhaps Brazil's most wanted criminal, known to all as "Nem"? *Nemesis* is the riveting account of his ruthless ascent in Rio's terrifying underworld, his sway over its anarchic outlaw culture, and his accidental fall. Nem tried to bring welfare and justice to a playground of gang culture and destitution, but he quickly found himself embroiled in a world of gold hunters and evangelical pastors, bent police officers and rich-kid addicts, quixotic politicians and drug lords with math degrees.

Spanning rainforests and high-security prisons, filthy slums and glittering shopping malls, *Nemesis* chronicles Brazil's journey into the global spotlight—and the battle for the beautiful but damned city of Rio as it struggles to break free from a tangled web of corruption, violence, drugs and poverty. Nem is held at the center of it all, locked in a fight for his country's future.

From the Hardcover edition.

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Editorial Review

Review

“Fearlessly reported with impressive detail....Mr. Glenn doesn’t preach or moralize. He shows that law enforcement in Rio is as problematic as the criminals, and in doing so, he paints what seems to be a true picture. This is a balanced book in the best sense.”

“In 1999, with no criminal background, Antonio Francisco Bonfim Lopes was a typical resident of Rocinha, trying to figure out how to survive and support his family in one of Rio de Janeiro’s largest favelas. Less than six years later he was known as Nem, in charge of the large criminal organization unofficially ruling over Rocinha. The story of Nem acts as the glue for this title, in which journalist Glenn successfully explores the history of Rio de Janeiro, focusing on the violence, drug trade, politics, police forces, and related corruption within Rio’s favelas since the 1960s....Glenn employs a writing style that both keeps the story moving and the reader wanting more.”

“His name is Antônio Francisco Bonfim Lopes. But you can call him Nemesis, everyone else does, and he was the don of Rocinha, the largest of Rio’s slums, known as favelas. He is also the protagonist of Misha Glenn’s fine book, the grim, elucidating *Nemesis: One Man and the Battle for Rio*.... For all the tale’s vileness, it is very skillfully told and a very strong piece of journalism.”

“A balanced, but ultimately sympathetic, biography of the leader of a relatively small local drug cartel. Nem’s personal story anchors more profound reportage about Brazil’s parallel economic and political systems?specifically, Rocinha’s existence as a largely autonomous urban community and what happens when the government attempts to destroy, substantially reduce, or otherwise encroach on that autonomy.”

“Incredible.... an epic, painstakingly detailed story about the rise of a favela kid to king of an empire.... what Glenn does so well is explain the context for Rio’s drug world, and the battle to contain and (to use the word local officials concerned about Rio’s global image employ) “pacify” it. What emerges is not just a study of one man and how he came to control a cartel, but a portrait of a city bursting with new arrivals from poorer parts of Brazil, unfortunates who wind up clustered in shantytowns that lack adequate water, electricity and, crucially, economic opportunity.... Without glorifying Nem or trying too hard to justify his bitterly violent enterprise, Glenn humanizes a kind of person we tend to see drawn as a two-dimensional character. And he shows how the fortunes of Rio ? to say nothing of its reputation on the world stage ? are tied to its ability to do well by its poorest and most marginalized citizens.”

About the Author

Misha Glenn is the author of *Dark Marked McMafia*, *The Rebirth of History*, *The Fall of Yugoslavia* (which won the Overseas Press Club Award in 1993 for Best Book on Foreign Affairs), and *The Balkans: Nationalism, War and the Great Power, 1804-1999*. He was a BBC Central Europe correspondent-he covered the fall of Communism and the wars in the former Yugoslavia-and has been regularly consulted by the U.S. and European governments on major policy issues.

Zach began pursuing the creative life early on in his mother's dance studio. He upped his artistic ante by transferring to Interlochen Arts Academy where he began to study acting. Zach Villa has acquired considerable acclaim as an actor, musician, vocalist, dancer & songwriter. A 'jack of all trades,' Zach appeared on Broadway and at Carnegie Hall before re-locating to the West coast

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Amy Hewitt:

Do you have favorite book? When you have, what is your favorite's book? E-book is very important thing for us to understand everything in the world. Each book has different aim or perhaps goal; it means that publication has different type. Some people feel enjoy to spend their a chance to read a book. They are really reading whatever they have because their hobby is reading a book. Why not the person who don't like reading through a book? Sometime, man feel need book after they found difficult problem or exercise. Well, probably you will need this Nemesis: One Man and the Battle for Rio.

Bernice Fugate:

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Janelle Garrity:

The guide untitled Nemesis: One Man and the Battle for Rio is the book that recommended to you to learn. You can see the quality of the guide content that will be shown to an individual. The language that author use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The article author was did a lot of study when write the book, therefore the information that they share for you is absolutely accurate. You also could possibly get the e-book of Nemesis: One Man and the Battle for Rio from the publisher to make you more enjoy free time.

Jessica Duncan:

Playing with family in the park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with good friends is thing that usually you have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. One particular activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love Nemesis: One Man and the Battle for Rio, you can enjoy both. It is fine combination right, you still want to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout men. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

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