

DAVID CABRERA

David Cabrera (Barcelona, 1975) is a journalist and a director of documentaries. He is the child of immigrants. He has always lived on the outskirts. He is interested in stories of losers, of neighbourhood superheroes and the unusual lives that unfold in ordinary places: a bar with oilcloths on the tables, an internal courtyard that smells of cauliflower, a gloomy living room with crocheted covers on the arms of the sofa. Nowadays he works as a creator of non-fiction series.



After years of detailed interviews and investigations, David Cabrera signs an absorbing police and psychological drama, which is read in a state of maximum tension.



The Shadow

*Spain / 2022 / 256 pages / Literary Journalism, Chronicle / Territory: World
Primary publisher: Libros del KO*

This book tells the story of a shadow who stabbed a man to death, was sentenced to twenty years in prison but escaped before he started serving his time. Rather than hiding away in some remote village or fleeing to another country, he camouflaged himself among the crowds in his home city of Barcelona, where he spent the next thirty years perfecting the art of hiding in plain sight: behind the bar, collecting his daughter from school, going on trips at the weekend.

The secret of his anonymity was not to conceal himself but simply to go unnoticed. He became an ordinary man, consumed by paranoia, always on the lookout, a citizen who had no ID card, no health card, no social security number – something that was not so unusual in Spain in the 1980s and 1990s, in a country in which, as long as they were properly oiled, the wheels kept turning.

La Sombra is a reflection on guilt, punishment and the pitfalls of memory, but also a devastating account of the violence and corruption of a society and its institutions.