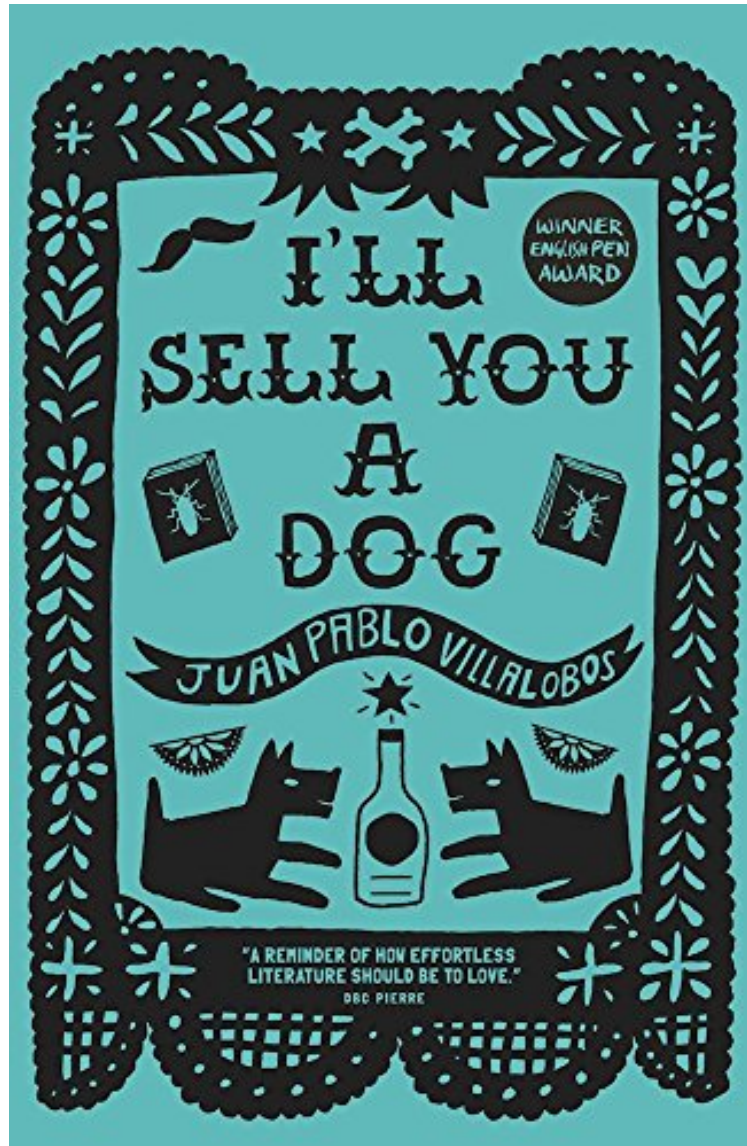


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## I'll Sell You a Dog

Juan Pablo Villalobos

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**Juan Pablo Villalobos : I'll Sell You a Dog** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised I'll Sell You a Dog:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful BookBy Brett FischerA great read filled with Juan Pablo Villalobos' typical cast of characters that began with Down the Rabbit Hole and continued with Quesadillas. Teo lives in a retirement home and gets involved with CIA agents, an innocent Mormon missionary, a government agent and his literary salon neighbors in a way only a drunk ex-taco seller/disgruntled artist can. Absurdism, intrigue and reality

blended perfectly. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I love this book  
By clarinda I love this book. It is fascinating in its exploration though a wonderfully rueful narrator of a weird little boarding house, its manners and mores, as well as absolutely hilarious. The explosively comic ending is. . .but I don't want to spoil it for anybody. If you ever got involved with a Reading Club that seemed increasingly crazy, this book is for you. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One Star  
By J.A.M. Rambling story with no point.

Long before he was the taco seller whose 'Gringo Dog' recipe made him famous throughout Mexico City, our hero was an aspiring artist: an artist, that is, till his would-be girlfriend was stolen by Diego Rivera, and his dreams snuffed out by his hypochondriac mother. Now our hero is resident in a retirement home, where fending off boredom is far more grueling than making tacos. Plagued by the literary salon that bumps about his building's lobby and haunted by the self-pitying ghost of a neglected artist, Villalobos's old man can't help but misbehave: he antagonises his neighbors, tortures American missionaries with passages from Adorno, and flirts with the revolutionary greengrocer. A delicious take-down of pretensions to cultural posterity, *I'll Sell You a Dog* is a comic novel whose absurd inventions, scurrilous antics and oddball characters are vintage Villalobos.

Praise for *I'll Sell You a Dog*: "*I'll Sell You A Dog* is a reminder of how effortless literature should be to love. This unexpected ride through a character's second childhood, his building, neighbourhood and history is so magically twisted that it could be real. As ever Villalobos writes a peephole through politics and time, to simply watch us dance in all our lurid whimsy." ?DBC Pierre "*Villalobos* subjects the colourful and at times very funny plot to a rigorously, gracefully applied style, which never projects reality but rather, sentence by sentence, constructs a parallel reality upon it . . . Nothing is real and yet at the same time, everything is recognizable . . . Villalobos has found a tone and a rhythm all his own, unlike anything else in Mexican fiction today. He makes the reader laugh at the absurd and as he does so, he reveals the senselessness of the world." ?Fernando García Ramírez, *Letras Libras* "With this, his third novel, Villalobos is confirmed as the definition of new Mexican literature." ?Matías Néspolo, *El Mundo* "*Villalobos's* farce spares no one. And with the laughter there emerges a compassion for people living marginal lives which positions the novel on the side of the unexpected and unknown, as the novel demands the imagination's autonomy over reality, thus rebuking the conventions of fiction in a way that is as stimulating as the novel's humor." ?Francisco Solano, *El País* Praise for Juan Pablo Villalobos and his other works: "Short, dark, comic, ribald and surreal . . . manic-impressive." ?Dwight Garner, *New York Times* "Pure fantastical rapture." ?Julie Morse, *The Rumpus* "A vibrant, comic novel." ?Leigh Newman, *Oprah.com* "Riotous . . . Villalobos has inaugurated a new kind of avant-garde novel, one whose grasp of certain dehumanizing political realities never erodes the power to dream something better." ?Kirkus, starred review "It's a trick to use the f-word three times in a novel's first sentence and still be as charming and disarming as Juan Pablo Villalobos manages to be . . . frequently laugh-out-loud funny." ?Nick DiMartino, *Shelf Awareness* "If you haven't expanded your horizons by reading literature from around the globe in 2014, Juan Pablo Villalobos might be your best place to start." ?Jason Diamond, *Flavorwire* "Fast-paced and colloquial; it is troubling and funny all at once . . . an unusual and important novel that deserves to be read." ?Arthur Dixon, *World Literature Today*