

The SUGAR KING of HAVANA

JOHN PAUL RATHBONE

READ BY SIMON VANCE

"Beautifully written; a stunning achievement."

—JON LEE ANDERSON, bestselling author of *Che Guevara*

Fifty years after the Cuban revolution, the legendary wealth of the sugar magnate Julio Lobo remains emblematic of a certain way of life that came to an abrupt end when Fidel Castro marched into Havana. Known in his day as the King of Sugar, Lobo was for decades the most powerful force in the world sugar market. He twice cornered the international sugar market, faced a firing squad only to be pardoned at the last moment, and later survived a gangland shooting. Lobo was also a progressive and a philanthropist, and his genius was so widely acknowledged that Che Guevara personally offered him the position of minister of sugar in the Communist regime. When Lobo declined out of a difference in worldviews, his properties were nationalized, his fortune vanished overnight, and he left, never to return to his beloved Cuba again.

Written by *Financial Times* journalist John Paul Rathbone, *The Sugar King of Havana* is a captivating portrait of the glittering end of an era, but also of a more hopeful Cuban past, one that might even provide a window into the island's future.

John Paul Rathbone is the deputy head of the *Financial Times's* prestigious Lex column. He has worked as an economist and a journalist, as well as at the World Bank. His articles have appeared in many publications, including the *Wall Street Journal*, Britain's *Sunday Telegraph*, Colombia's *El Espectador*, and *Esquire*. John lives in London.

Simon Vance has recorded over four hundred audiobooks and has won three Audie Awards and nineteen *AudioFile* Earphones Awards, including one for *The Lodger Shakespeare* by Charles Nicholl. His recent audiobooks include the *New York Times* bestseller *Parisians* by Graham Robb and *Inside the Red Mansion* by Oliver August.



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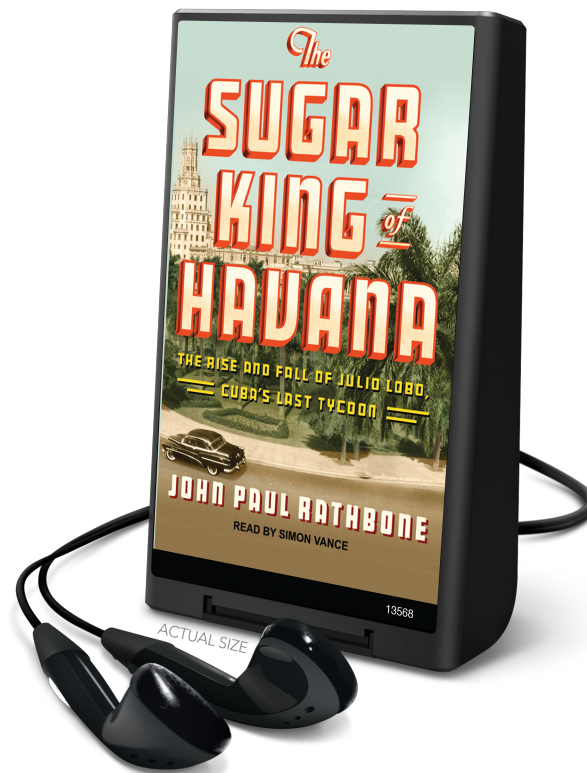
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