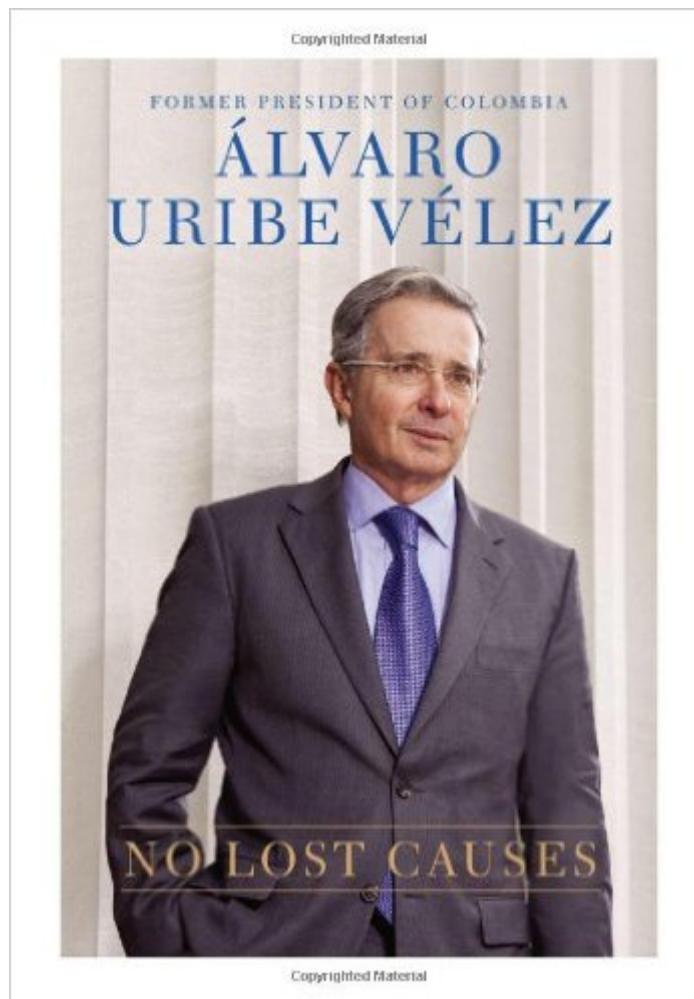


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# No Lost Causes



## Synopsis

One of the most inspiring and successful global leaders of the early 21st century explains how bold, imaginative leadership can solve even the most intractable problemsâ "and why there is no such thing as a lost cause. Â Itâ ™s one of the great, unexpected turnaround stories in modern history: Just a decade ago, Colombia was regarded as a â œfailed state,â • besieged by megalomaniacal drug kingpins, ruthless terrorist groups, and abominable poverty. But since 2002, it has been dramatically transformed into a far more peaceful, stable modern democracy with a promising future. Now, the man who led the transformation, former Colombian president Alvaro Uribe Velez, offers the untold story of how, at enormous personal risk, he refused to accept Colombiaâ ™s perilous status quo. Extremely captivating, *No Lost Causes* reveals how President Uribe severely weakened the neo-terrorist group, the FARC, which held Colombia captive and caused the brutal murder of his father. It relates the gripping account of how President Uribe staged the daring (and bloodless) jungle rescue of Ingrid Betancourt in 2008, and eventually restored the rule of law across the country. It also explores practical lessons of hands-on managementâ "relevant to both political and business leadersâ "and provides a thrilling behind-the-scenes look at newsmaking U.S. foreign affairs and never before discussed details and dealings with various world leaders. Unlike any other presidential memoir, *No Lost Causes* is not only a compelling story of leadership, but an epic, heart-racing account of how bravery and hope gave a failing nation a brighter future.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Until Alvaro Uribe was elected as its president, Colombia was a country in name only. It was a land of isolated cities surrounded by an almost impenetrable terrain of mountains and jungles where FARC and ELN leftist guerillas, paramilitary vigilantes, narco-traffickers, and other outlaws reigned supreme. Citizens put their lives in danger as soon as they passed the checkpoints around the towns and ventured into the country. Almost every Colombian family has a member who was kidnapped or murdered by one or another of these terrorist groups. Try to imagine this incident happening almost EVERY DAY in America: A family driving from Atlanta to Nashville gets stopped at a guerilla roadblock on I-24. They get dragged out of their cars and watch the guerillas machine-gun their elderly grandparents with AK-47s, then carry the children off to a mountain hideout, saying they will murder them if the parents don't return with a ransom. This barbarity was a NORMAL part of life in Colombia prior to Uribe being elected president. For over a century the national government, holed up in the cities, had taken a hands-off approach to the reign of terror in the countryside. Uribe explains the essence of life in Colombia that he knew growing up:=====For as long as I can remember, there has been a paradox at the heart of Colombian life. On the one hand, our country suffers from its well-known maladies and afflictions. On the other, it is a country that is also capable of stunning, almost inconceivable goodness-- a place where the laughter seems heartier, the food tastes better, and the sun shines brighter than anywhere else. The overwhelming majority of our lives take place in the latter place.

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