# Surfers, Scammers, and the Untold Story of the Marijuana Trade

The marijuana trade is a multi-billion dollar industry that has been shaping the world for decades. But the untold story of this trade is often overlooked: the role of surfers and scammers in its origins.

In the early 1960s, a group of surfers in Southern California began smuggling marijuana from Mexico. They were motivated by a combination of factors: the high demand for marijuana among their friends and acquaintances, the opportunity to make easy money, and their own love of surfing.



# Thai Stick: Surfers, Scammers, and the Untold Story of the Marijuana Trade by Christopher Van Tilburg

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The surfers' smuggling operation was successful, and they quickly became known as the "Malibu Mob." They were able to smuggle large quantities of

marijuana into the United States, and they made millions of dollars in the process.

However, the Malibu Mob's success was short-lived. In 1965, they were arrested by the FBI. The arrests led to a series of trials that ended with the conviction of several members of the mob.

The Malibu Mob's arrest sent shockwaves through the surfing community. It also marked the beginning of a new era in the marijuana trade. The surfers who had pioneered the smuggling operation were replaced by more organized and ruthless criminals.

In the 1970s and 1980s, the marijuana trade became increasingly violent. Cartels and other criminal organizations began to take over the industry. They used violence and intimidation to control the flow of marijuana, and they made billions of dollars in the process.

Today, the marijuana trade is a global industry that is dominated by cartels and other criminal organizations. The surfers and scammers who pioneered the trade are long gone, but their legacy lives on. The marijuana trade is still a dangerous and violent business, and it continues to shape the world in ways that we are only beginning to understand.

#### **The Surfers**

The surfers who pioneered the marijuana trade were a unique group of individuals. They were young, adventurous, and willing to take risks. They were also highly skilled surfers, and they used their skills to their advantage when smuggling marijuana.

The surfers' smuggling operation was simple but effective. They would paddle out to sea on their surfboards, and they would meet with Mexican fishermen who had marijuana for sale. The surfers would then load the marijuana onto their boards, and they would paddle back to shore.

The surfers' smuggling operation was successful because it was discreet and efficient. The surfers were able to smuggle large quantities of marijuana into the United States without being detected by law enforcement.

#### The Scammers

In addition to the surfers, a number of scammers also played a role in the early marijuana trade. These scammers were often involved in the sale and distribution of marijuana. They would often sell low-quality marijuana at inflated prices, and they would sometimes use violence to intimidate their customers.

The scammers were a major nuisance to the surfers. They would often try to muscle in on the surfers' territory, and they would sometimes steal their marijuana. The surfers were often forced to use violence to protect their business.

#### The Cartels

In the 1970s and 1980s, the marijuana trade became increasingly violent. Cartels and other criminal organizations began to take over the industry. They used violence and intimidation to control the flow of marijuana, and they made billions of dollars in the process.

The cartels are the most powerful players in the marijuana trade today. They control the production, distribution, and sale of marijuana around the world. They are also responsible for much of the violence that is associated with the drug trade.

#### The Future of the Marijuana Trade

The future of the marijuana trade is uncertain. The United States is slowly legalizing marijuana, and this is likely to have a major impact on the trade. It is possible that the cartels will lose some of their power as marijuana becomes more widely available.

However, it is also possible that the cartels will adapt to the new legal landscape. They may find new ways to smuggle marijuana into the United States, and they may continue to use violence to protect their business.

The marijuana trade is a complex and ever-changing industry. It has been shaped by a variety of factors, including the surfers and scammers who pioneered it, the cartels who now control it, and the legalization of marijuana in the United States.

The future of the marijuana trade is uncertain. However, one thing is for sure: the cartels are not going to disappear anytime soon. They are a powerful and ruthless organization, and they are likely to continue to play a major role in the marijuana trade for years to come.

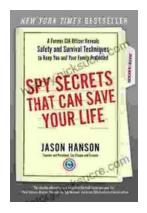


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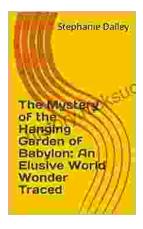
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