The Little Red Book of Loco Paco

Chairman Mao Tse-tung produced perhaps the most famous 'Little Red Book' and its subsequent effects were profound, for good or bad, on the people of the newly formed People's Republic of China. Loco Paco's 'Pequeño Libro Rojo' may have slightly different effects.

It wasn't Paco's idea. He didn't have ideas just a collection of random inconsequential and ridiculous notions which have nothing to do with the real world or any accepted reality. This of course made Paco, if he wanted to pursue such a career of course, the archetypical politician. One wonders at the sanity of anyone even wanting to ask Paco about his thoughts, then to have the courage to sit and listen to them and then to publish the gibberish. It could perhaps be the greatest literary feat of all time or it could send an entire generation running to the psychiatrist's door.

The consequences of allowing the thoughts of someone who is clinically insane, addled and completely barmy such as Paco free reign within a susceptible society are to say the least indeterminate.

The book's production was fraught with problems from day one. A dozen proof readers sought professional help while others regarded Paco as a cult figure and initiated the 'Church of the Divine Paco'. They worshipped him, 'Benjy', his Saharan Dung Beetle and even his imaginary five-foot tall rodent called 'Bert'. Those associated with the project arrived ashen faced and shaken for their morning's work. They left dazed, confused and suicidal at the end of the day.

Work however progressed and 'El Pequeño Libro Rojo de Loco Paco' was eventually ready for its launch. Loco Paco, resplendent in Alqueria Unido football shorts, sequined halter necked top and DMS army boots duly arrived for the book signing. Whether Paco was conscious of the occasion is debatable as he scrawled all sorts of

inane messages across the fly sheets of his work. He signed whatever name came into his head including Adolf Hitler, Marilyn Monroe and the Dalai Lama.

Gems of wisdom for all occasions sprung forth from the publication.
Of sport and in particular football came. 'It is better to equalise before the other side score'.
Of holy-wedlock he said. 'Marriage is like a glorious landscape: a vast empty expanse with little humanity'.
Of artificial stimulants he was quoted as saying. 'The effects of alcohol to sustain, lift the spirits and inspire wisdom are only temporary if one stupidly ceases to drink.

So did Paco's book inspire a generation?
You try buying a copy from Amazon.