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From Ediciones El Chamuyo : MATABURROS LUNFARDO/ENGLISH Dictionary before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised MATABURROS LUNFARDO/ENGLISH Dictionary:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This handsome, smallish, and well designed book is ...By LanceB
This handsome, smallish, and well designed book is important to anyone who is studying or curious about tango, or Argentina. Lunfardo is a language of thieves and tango dancers, pimps and layabouts. Should be read along with Borges first book, a biography of a tango composer. Many of the men (and some of the women) carried knives to milongas (a get-together where tango is danced.) in the early days of tango. Why did they do that? If you read carefully through this book, you'll begin to understand why. LanceB
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Hours of geekish fun
By David M. Giltinan
Sometimes I'm ashamed at just how little it takes to bring me hours of delirious fun. This slim paperback volume, which I came across while looking for a city guide in Buenos Aires, is a case in point. A "mataburros" (literally, 'donkeykiller' or 'duncekiller'), or dictionary, of Lunfardo, the local Buenos Aires patois, it promises to bring me hours of geekish pleasure. Lunfardo has its origins in prisoners' argot, and the language of the tango, as well as incorporating some elements similar to those of pig-Latin, or the French Verlan. Thus, for instance, "tordo" means "doctor", by an inversion of the syllables of the latter, and elision of the c, a process known as "vesre", by inversion of the syllables of "revs". Some of my favorite words thus far include: raviol: a small packet of cocaine (I'll never think of eating ravioli in quite the same way again) fangushes: shoes manyapapeles: a lawyer (obviously derived as 'someone who eats documents') Of course, as in any dictionary, there are hazards. For example, the sheer multiplicity of the listed meanings. For instance, this entry: papa: cancer, a hole in one's sock,

something beautiful, a young beautiful woman, drugs. A word for foreigners to avoid, I'd have to say. Or how about pamele: a flat woman's hat, a prostitute. morcilla: a d*ck, an actor's adlib when he has forgotten his lines. OK, those are probably guessable from the context. Another major plus is the amusement provided by the dictionary's occasional earnestly hilarious mistranslations. plata: money, fortune, shine, green, duckets, dead presidents, skrilla. (You gotta love that perfectly placed "duckets"). But my favorite so far has to be this expression, and its priceless translation: darle(s) margaritas a los chanchos: You or I might reasonably think that this means "to cast pearls (margaritas) before swine". But no. The dictionary earnestly informs us that the meaning is "to waste something on someone" - literally - "to feed margaritas to the pigs". If that indelible image of inebriated, tequila-swilling porkers doesn't make you crack a smile, I'm not sure what will.