

# The Cistercian Informer

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*Image via Variety, courtesy of Sean Penn*

## Guzman of the Year

On July 11th, 2015, a man took a shower. But why should you care? Well, because that man was Joaquin Guzman “El Chapo” and that shower was an escape tunnel out of the highest security prison in Altiplano, Mexico. It was not until January 8th of this year that he was recaptured, following and perhaps directly related to his interview with Sean Penn.

This is not the first time that El Chapo has escaped from prison. Back in 2001, when we were all too young to know who El Chapo was, he was 47 or 44, depending on the birthday you choose. El Chapo escaped and was on the run until February of 2014. So, besides the corruption of the Mexican government and the ineffectiveness of its prison system, what do El Chapo’s multiple escapes and recaptures mean in the context of global politics?

In his interview with Penn, Guzman states that drugs are, in Mexico, one of the only ways to make a living. When asked if he is responsible for the high level of drug trafficking, he responded that he couldn’t possibly be. And he’s right: the opium trade is what...

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## BY THE NUMBERS

Number of Words in Sean Penn’s Article on El Chapo

11,000

Number of phones brought on Junior retreat

“0”

Cost of your own G5 private jet

\$72,000,000

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