In The Fist Of The Revolution Life In Castros Cuba

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arrested in 1960 for being philosophically and religiously opposed to communism armando valladares was interned at cuba s infamous isla de pinos prison from whose barred windows he watched the failure of the bay of pigs invasion his life in castro s gulag was a hell of violence and disease putrid food and squalid living conditions forced labor and solitary confinement and hazardous escape attempts valladares survived by prayer and poetry his writing smuggled out to europe and the u s made him one of the world s most celebrated prisoners of conscience as a result of pressure from international human rights organizations the castro regime finally released him in 1982 when against all hope first appeared it was immediately compared to darkness at noon and other classic prison narratives about the resilience of the human spirit in the face of totalitarianism now with a new prologue by the author which tells of his life since prison and brings the story of cuban dissidence up to the case of elian gonzalez this story of strength and survival is more relevant than ever

fidel castro took control of cuba in 1959 and for the last 44 years he has presided over the transformation of cuban economics politics and society the collapse of the soviet union in 1991 necessitated the return of some features of capitalism and today castro s cuba is a fascinating social laboratory where capitalism and communism are both evolving

inside el barrio charts the legacy of fidel castro through the unique lens of cuban household life during the el perodo especial the special period taylor traverses the neighborhoods and residential developments of havana between 1989 and 2006 the final and most complex period in the age of castros cuba to uncover the hidden vibrancy of cubas streets and citizens in doing so he acquires a deeper understanding of cuban society by exploring what it means to live in a people centered nation and the importance of neighborhoods in shaping everyday life and culture

this new book provides a first hand grassroots look at life in cuba including very vivid descriptions of its people and places real life in castro s cuba illuminates the human face of cuba which over the years has largely been hidden in the shadow of fidel castro real life in castro s cuba is written by catherine moses who lived and worked in cuba as a press secretary and spokesperson for the united states from 1995 to 1996 this compelling compassionate portrait contains personal observations about the cubans struggles triumphs hopes and daily compromises to survive the cuban population lives with a deteriorating infrastructure forcing many hardships on the people including a scarcity of food fuel clothing medicines and other basic needs the author s detailed cultural account of cuba introduces the reader to everyday cubans from party officials to dissidents to everyone in between it shows how cuba s socialist system works and gives reasons why fidel castro is still in power real life in castro s cuba also describes the significant role of religion and spirituality in the life of cubans although moses expresses regret over the state of u s cuban relations the purpose of the book is not to choose up sides instead the book is designed simply to introduce readers to real life in cuba the book s unique approach allows an intimate picture of life in a faded marxist regime as the author writes cuba is a curious mixture of spanish caribbean socialist ideals gone awry memories of what was and a desperate need to survive this fascinating new book will appeal to all readers who are interested in getting a closer look at what life is like in cuba today

fidel castro is perhaps the most charismatic and controversial head of state in modern times a dictatorial pariah to some he has become a hero and inspiration for many of the world's poor defiantly charting an independent and revolutionary path for cuba over nearly half a century numerous attempts have been made to get castro to tell his own story but only now in the twilight of his years has he been prepared to set out the details for the world to read drawing on more than one hundred hours of interviews with journalist ignacio ramonet a knowledgeable and trusted interlocutor this spoken autobiography will stand as the definitive record of an extraordinary life lived in turbulent times from publisher description

early in ann louise bardach s cuban voyage she came across cartas de presidio or the prison letters of fidel castro edited by luis conte aguero who was the recipient of most of these letters they are cited in every important work from hugh thomas opus cuba to tad szulc s fidel biography and everything in between and since these twenty one letters nine to conte aguero six to his late sister and close collaborator lidia one to his wife mirta one to his comrade in combat melba hernandez letters one to the great scholar jorge manach are regarded as the single most valuable and revelatory document regarding fidel castro and the cuban revolution never before published in english these letters were written when castro was imprisoned for his failed attack on the moncada from 1953 to 1955 and reveal a man of spectacular ambition and steely determination a man who despite being incarcerated to serve a lengthy prison term never wavers in his confidence that he will one day rule cuba

americo castro and the meaning of spanish civilization offers a systematic exploration of castro s ideas organized to trace the evolution and impact of his theories on spanish history and culture more than a typical festschrift or homage the book brings together contributions from scholars friends and former students who engaged closely with castro s work their essays are intended to provide english speaking audiences with insights into castro s unique interpretations of iberian civilization emphasizing the distinctiveness of spanish culture s contributions to western history the book includes castro s seminal lecture the meaning of spanish civilization a pivotal work that laid the groundwork for many of his later theories the collection begins with castro s 1940 princeton lecture followed by guillermo araya goubet s essay the evolution of castro s theories which charts the development of castro s thoughts and ideas highlighting their innovative aspects stephen gilman s literature and historical insight rounds out the volume with an examination of castro s critical work on el libro de buen amor bringing castro s historical and literary analysis into a broader context these essays along with additional pieces from other contributors aim to offer a cohesive view of castro s enduring legacy and scholarly influence on both historical and cultural studies gratitude is extended to many individuals and institutions for supporting this publication including castro s family who provided permissions and materials and the del amo foundation which helped make the project possible the combined efforts of translators editors and castro s close colleagues ensured that his complex ideas could be conveyed effectively to a new audience the book serves

both as a tribute to castro and as an accessible introduction to his profound insights into the spanish speaking world s unique cultural identity this title is part of uc press s voices revived program which commemorates university of california press s mission to seek out and cultivate the brightest minds and give them voice reach and impact drawing on a backlist dating to 1893 voices revived makes high quality peer reviewed scholarship accessible once again using print on demand technology this title was originally published in 1976

fidel castro was born on 13th august 1926 near biran in the south eastern oriente province of cuba his father angel castro y argiz was a wealthy sugarcane planter and migrates to cuba from galicia northwest spain at 17 years age fidel was formally accepted by his father and his name was changed from ruz to castro at 6 years age castro went to live with his teacher in santiago de cuba he then went to the privately funded jesuit run dolores school in santiago although he disliked the strict discipline in the school fidel soon proved that he was very smart and intelligent for more interesting facts you must read his biography grab your biography book now

the secret fidel castro is neither a history of the cuban revolution nor a biography of fidel castro the book was written following what intelligence services call a cpp short for comprehensive personality profile similar to the ones intelligence services keep on foreign leaders it focuses on different aspects of castro s actions and personality which for some reasons have been either ignored misunderstood or misrepresented the main thesis of this book is that there are many different castros the most widely known is the symbolic public one as it has been portrayed in official cuban propaganda castro friendly biographies and mainstream american media but there are also many secret castros highly different from the public one the secret fidel castro focuses on little known aspects of castro s personality important in the better understanding of the man and his actions what really makes him tick

this work examines california s history from 1520 to 1890 it also contains a ethnology of the state s population economics and politics

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