Este libro, que se podría definir como un auténtico thriller político, a medio camino entre la canción de gesta y el realismo mágico, es el resultado de largos años de investigaciones, de cientos de entrevistas y de la recopilación de testimonios inéditos sobre Fidel Castro. El periodista Serge Raffy desvela detalles de su vida personal, de sus amores, tanto los oficiales como los secretos, y rastrea las causas de su odio visceral hacia la familia y los homosexuales. Descubre las relaciones de Castro con los servicios secretos soviéticos, describe su aterrador sistema represivo, su actuación durante la ‘crisis de los misiles; no elude hablar del asesinato de Kennedy o la muerte del Che, del papel de Cuba en el golpe de Estado en Chile que acabó con la caída de Allende, sobre el asunto Ochoa, o el miedo de Gorbachov de morir víctima de un atentado en Cuba, o de los tortuosos manejos de la política estadounidense respecto a la isla.

ENGLISH DESCRIPTION This book, which could easily be defined as an authentic political thriller, is in reality, the result of many long years of research into the life of Fidel Castro. Hundreds of interviews and unedited testimonies paint a portrait of Fidel’s intimate life, uncovering his love affairs: official as well as the ones he kept secret, leading us to the very core of his hatred towards homosexuals and the social structure of a family. It also covers topics such as Castro’s ties to the Soviet secret service, his terrifying system of repression, the death of Che Guevara, Cuba’s role in Chile’s coup d’etat and the death of Allende, and U.S. policies with respect to the island.

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Customer Reviews

This is the first book to nail down precisely Castro’s early background and its enduring influences on the dictator’s tendencies and insecurities. This carefully researched work provides photocopies of baptism, name change, and marriage documents. Since publication of the book in 2003, these records have disappeared in Cuba and several "official" versions of Castro's background were commissioned out of Cuba attempting to confuse the facts and spin Castro's versions of his childhood and his parents. Raffy's book describes the elder (Angel) Castro's extramarital relations with a 14-year-old house servant, Lina Ruz, Fidel's mother. Lina Ruz was nearly 40 years younger than Angel Castro at the time she became pregnant with the first of six illegitimate children. The book explores in detail Castro's illegitimacy, his baptism as a 6-year-old as Fidel Ruz (children in Catholic nations typically are baptized shortly after birth, using their father's surname), his subsequent name change at age 17 (when he also added "Alejandro" as a middle name, after reading about Alexander the Great in school, and listing Castro as his surname) and subsequent recognition by his father. Amazingly, all previous biographers missed all of these facts, unquestioningly reporting what Castro had fed them about his childhood. Just for the childhood sections, this book is worth it.

I am the grandson of Fidel Castro's father's best friend, Fidel Pino Santos. This book is 99.99% factual. Nothing but the truth, and easy to verify. I have read the comments against the book. They are, like usual, the continued attempts to discredit anything and anyone who tells the truth about the Castro brothers. Everything in this book can be proven to be true.

Independently of whatever feelings one may have towards Fidel Castro, one cannot deny his importance as a political figure for the past 60 years or so. Today, the resurgence of leftist movements all over Latin America, from the autocratic Hugo Chavez in Venezuela to more moderate figures like Da Silva in Brazil, shows that Castro is still relevant. Yet, most of us do not really know any details about Fidel Castro’s life. Serge Raffy tries to fill that information vacuum with this book. Raffy conducted a thorough investigation on Castro’s life including both documents and interviews with many direct witnesses, many of whom were key in helping Castro to reach power and to establish his lifelong dictatorship. The result is this book that shows us a very intimate look into Castro’s personality. Raffy walks us through Castro’s childhood and adolescence showing us the making of the monster in clear detail. Later chapters focus on his revolution and how he got to power eliminating and stepping over those who he felt were an obstacle to his personal project. I find
this book excellent. My only wish is for a second volume exploring in more detail the later history of Castro’s regime.

Un libro muy interesante donde se aprende mucho sobre la vida de Fidel Castro, todo el que le interese el caso de Cuba debe de leer este libro.

Este libro constituye la biografí- a po- lí- tica novelada más apasionante que se ha escrito sobre el carác- ter y los tiempos del Á- Ñ«hombre-poder Á- Ñ», ese då spota de poderos Ñ- sima personalidad sicopátí- ca, mezcla abigarrada de Mitrã- dates, Herodes, Robespierre, Hitler o Stalin, quien ha convertido Cuba, a fuerza de falacia, traici Ñ- n y terror, en un extenso Gulag al aire libre donde el pueblo cubano ha interpretado a su pesar, el triste e infame rol del bÁ rrego adscrito a los rigores del yugo.

Excelente, Entretiendo, fácil de leer. Verdades escondidas pero confirmadas por muchos q conocen la verdad. El libro q cada persona ya sea admirador o detractor de Fidel Castro debe leer. Definitivamente lo recomiendo.

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