

Killing the Butterfly: A Cuban Memoir of Democracy's Demise

Book Background: KILLING THE BUTTERFLY: A Cuban Memoir of Democracy's Demise describes life in Havana, during the 1950's, a turbulent decade that ended with the rise of Fidel Castro. Olga, an eighty-five-year-old woman, is retelling her life as a teenager in Havana. Through exquisite storytelling, blended with magical realism, the reader is transported to Olga's childhood home, her parent's rocky divorce and her courtship with Carlos, a young lawyer whose father is a political figure. In the backdrop is the political deterioration of the island, and the rebel movement led by Fidel Castro and Che Guevara. Using testimonies from his family members, Márquez-Sterling transports the reader to an island where the interests of the American mafia, corrupt politicians, and revolutionary figures like the Che Guevara collide, illustrating the socio-political conditions that created the authoritarian government of Fidel Castro.

Biography: This compelling story describes life in Havana during the 1950's, a turbulent decade that ended with the rise of Fidel Castro. Olga, an eighty-five-year-old woman, is retelling her life as a teenager in Havana. Through exquisite storytelling, blended with magical realism, the reader is transported to Olga's childhood home, her parent's rocky divorce and her courtship with Carlos, a young lawyer whose father is a political figure. In the backdrop is the political deterioration of the island, and the rebel movement led by Fidel Castro and Che Guevara. Using testimonies from his family members, Marquez-Sterling transports the reader to an island where the interests of the American mafia, corrupt politicians, and revolutionary figures like the Che Guevara collide, illustrating the parallels between our post-Trump reality and the socio-political conditions that created the authoritarian government of Fidel Castro.

This novel, KILLING THE BUTTERFLY: A Cuban Memoir of Democracy's Demise, is a North American Book Award winner.

Endorsements: "A beautifully written novel with a powerful punch on multiple levels: as a family saga, a fact-based historical epic, and a meditation on the effects the destruction of a vibrant nation can have on individual lives. Killing the Butterfly captures the essence of Cuban culture brilliantly while bringing to life the most misunderstood revolution in modern history. It is a work of universal significance, a profoundly moving exploration of the human condition."

- Carlos Eire, *Waiting for Snow in Havana*.

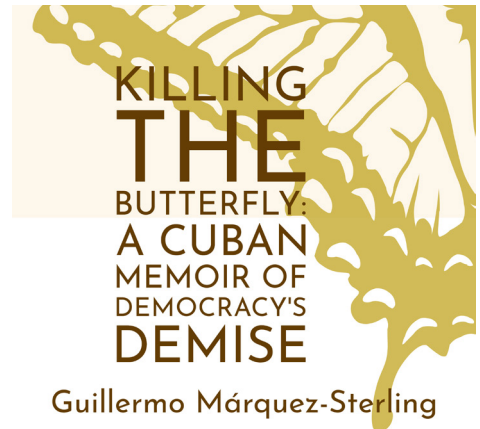
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