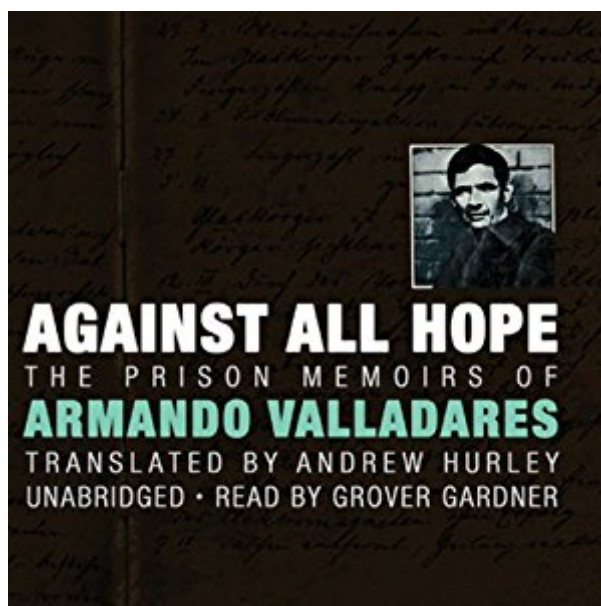


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Against All Hope: The Prison Memoirs Of Armando Valladares



Synopsis

This is a history of the Cuban revolution viewed from within its dungeons by Armando Valladares, arrested for being philosophically opposed to Communism. --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Customer Reviews

I gave this book 4 stars mainly because it was not a book I enjoyed reading. The constant privations and injustices seemed unending. It revealed the brutality of Castro's totalitarian regime and the cruel nature of some individuals when put in charge of others. I guess I do not have as strong a will as Armando and would not have picked some of the fights he chose to pick, such as what uniform to wear. But I admire his indomitable power of will, and am grateful he lived to tell the story. It highlighted for me the pampered life we live on the other end of the spectrum in America.

A must read for anyone who has a doubt about Castro and his utopian socialist society. Castro/Che Guevara/Chavez supporters in the US would not dare read this book because it conflicts with their blinkered view of these socialist heroes. A friend in Ann Arbor recently bloviated that in his view "Castro should be President of the World." Another, an admitted "Trotskyite", told me not to believe the negative press about Hugo Chavez who in fact is doing wonders for the oppressed of Venezuela. Being "in denial" is understatement for these fools. In the end they would not object to Gulags in the US, and if they are real "true believers" they would not object to being imprisoned themselves if it would help advance their vision of social justice. I have read a lot of gulag books and

this is one of the best. Everything Valladares describes about his imprisonment in Cuba is consistent with Stalinist methods, and for good reason, all Stalinist-influenced leaders copied his methods even though they were outrageously cruel and inhumane. What I will never understand is why socialist "true believers" will shun the truth if it conflicts with their faith-based adherence to socialism. One reviewer on this site dismisses the work with one star based on the claim that the author has no credibility because he allegedly faked paralysis to get freed from prison. This reviewer obviously did not read the book because it makes clear that Castro had the author physically rehabilitated before releasing him to the world. What this review does reveal is that she is a "true believer" willing to lie to discredit anyone standing in the way of the socialist cause and its leaders. It is because of people like her that gulag systems exist. Reading this book will help you understand that the fight for individual freedom is never over. Highly recommended.

A living proof of what Castro's Brothers had been doing in Cuba for more than half a century. Valladares shows heartbreaking, courage, resistance and a great sense of union to fight against a tyranny that many try to ignore.

"Those who do not know history are doomed to repeat it." Today, in 2016 the romance of Cuba is in full display. Hollywood actors wearing Che shirts while taking vacations in Cuba, demonstrate the willful ignorance of Castro's evil. The ignorance is not limited to Hollywood's elite. President Obama's failure to discuss imprisoned dissents and many human rights violations during his trip is further proof of that deeply ingrained ignorance. The truth is found in these pages.

The book documents conditions within Cuba's gulags directly after the Castro takeover. It is a translation and simply a documentary of the utterly inhumane existence political prisoners suffer(ed) inside - no more, no less. There is no beautiful imagery, symbolic references, or "literary brilliance." The story and details ARE a gulag; and effective for what he intended. This read is an attack on the soul of the reader that is very difficult to finish; and I mean NO disrespect to the author, for I could NEVER imagine surviving what he did. For us that have known nothing other than freedom, this is almost unimaginable. I thank the author for my better understanding and appreciation of the freedoms I enjoy and take for granted. Communist, etc., sympathizers should be REQUIRED to read this book. For those "enlightened ones" who do NOT think, this book will penetrate. And for those who DO, there is no escape from the barbarism of their arrogance. And for Castro (and others..), I find it disappointing that he still walks this planet. No language exists to describe people(?) of this

sort. All I can muster is evil. What is truly amazing is that the author seems to harbor little ill sentiments. Do yourself and those around you by enduring this man's story. Read and learn.

This book tells a story that needs to be heard. The truth about the brutal tyranny of "socialism" in Cuba.

startling look at Castro's regime imprisonment policies. one man's trip to Hell. could be shorter, but a well written bio...

I was a youngster during the Cuban rebellion and not at all political or even a bit aware of the atrocities occurring just ninety miles off the coast of Florida. As I read this book I was sickened by the treatment of these humans yet in absolute awe of their determination. I am convinced that GOD and only GOD kept these men going. I don't recall anything about conflict in Cuba until the Cuban Missile Crisis and with a teenage mind I didn't concern myself about it after all I had abase all game that same day. In the last few months much of what we hear about torture is mild compared to what the men in Cuba went through. This story is compelling and should be read by all to understand the plight communism will force on the populace if it is free to do as it wishes. I proud country is being challenged with the Socialist agenda which is how Cuba was initially challenged, are we going to be fooled or are we going to take a stand now rather than wait for persecution, it's our choice, I know what I'm going to do. IN GOD WE TRUST

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