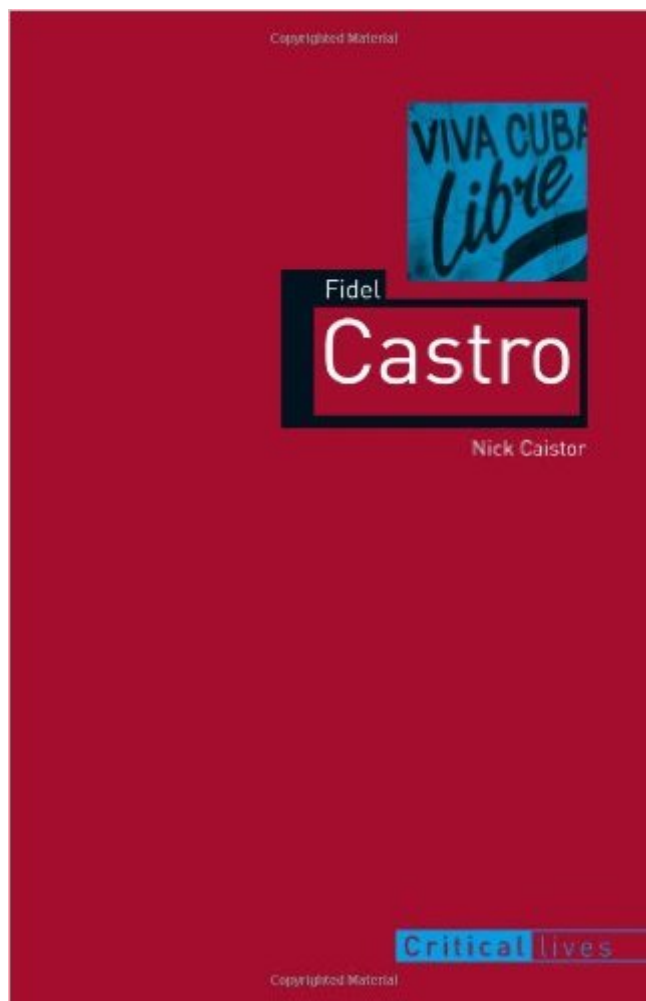


The book was found

# Fidel Castro (Reaktion Books - Critical Lives)



## Synopsis

Fidel Castro had ruled the island of Cuba for fifty-two years when ill health forced him to step down in 2008. Over the course of that time, he changed Cuba from a republic to a communist state and became one of the most divisive leaders in the second half of the twentieth century. For some, he is a champion of humanitarianism, socialism, and environmentalism. For others, he is a monster and dictator who perpetuated human rights abuses at home and abroad. Providing a rare, evenhanded account of Castro's life, journalist Nick Caistor brings together interviews with people who have known Castro with discussion of the ideas that drove him. Caistor follows Castro's life from his birth as the illegitimate son of a wealthy farmer in 1926 to the developing of his leftist, anti-imperialist ideas at the University of Havana and his primary role in the Cuban Revolution in the 1950s. He explores Castro's economic and military alliance with the Soviet Union and his hostile relationship with the United States while also looking at how he simultaneously introduced free health care and education while squelching freedom of the press and suppressing dissidents. As Caistor shows, Castro's numerous writings on politics, capitalism, and other topics have influenced leaders from Nelson Mandela to Hugo Chávez, but allegations of corruption, human rights abuses, and dictatorship never ceased during his long career. Using stories and opinions to enliven the debate about Castro's choices, strengths, and weaknesses, this concise biography gives readers the opportunity to judge for themselves how they feel about the former Cuban president.

## Book Information

Series: Reaktion Books - Critical Lives

Paperback: 157 pages

Publisher: Reaktion Books (March 15, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1780230907

ISBN-13: 978-1780230900

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.5 x 7.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,332,701 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #444 in Books > History > Americas > Caribbean & West Indies > Cuba #4022 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Presidents & Heads of State

## Customer Reviews

Over the past 50+ years, Cuba and Fidel Castro have excited both passion and vitriol in the United States, Latin America, and the world. But who is Fidel Castro? Is he a true believer in communism, a liberator or an opportunistic dictator? While unable to answer those questions definitively, this book is definitely a good place to start. It goes back to his father, who probably was a soldier in the Spanish colonial army during the revolution of 1895-1898, all the way to the present era, where Fidel has handed over power to his younger brother and is in his twilight years. It is a good thumbnail sketch of the man, but what is also interesting is how this short biography talks a lot about his relationships with other Cubans and revolutionaries, particularly his relationship with Che Guevara. Thus, this little book avoids the trap that so many other short biographies fall into and places its subject firmly in the middle of the times he lived through and not treating him like an animal in a glass case, separated from everything and everyone. Like I said before, though, this book won't answer all of your questions about Fidel, and after the Cuban Missile Crisis hard facts about Fidel start to become a little sparser. But for those who are interested in getting to know the man a little bit more, this is a great place to start.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Fidel Castro (Reaktion Books - Critical Lives) Cuba: Cuba On My Mind: Cuba From Columbus To Fidel Castro (Cuba, Fidel Castro, Cuba straits, Cuba travel guide, Cuban missile crisis, Havana storm, Havana bay) Sin Fidel: Los ultimos anos de Fidel Castro, sus enemigos y el futuro de Cuba (Spanish Edition) Fidel y Raul, mis hermanos [Fidel and Raul, My Brothers]: La historia secreta Despues De Fidel/ After Fidel (Spanish Edition) The Double Life of Fidel Castro: My 17 Years as Personal Bodyguard to El Lider Maximo Inside the Cuban Revolution: Fidel Castro and the Urban Underground Fidel Castro (Sutton Pocket Biographies) Fidel Castro: My Life: A Spoken Autobiography La revolucion granadina, 1979-83, Discursos por Maurice Bishop y Fidel Castro (Spanish Edition) La vida oculta de Fidel Castro (Spanish Edition) Alina: Memorias de La Hija Rebelde de Fidel Castro (Spanish Edition) Fidel Castro (Best Seller (DeBolsillo)) (Spanish Edition) Yo fui la espÃ- a que amÃ al Comandante: Una vida de pelÃ- cula: de los campos nazis a Fidel Castro, la CIA y el asesino de Kennedy (Spanish Edition) Fidel Castro, "La Historia me Absolvera" y la ensenanza de la Criminalistica en Cuba (Spanish Edition) Champagne: A Global History (Reaktion Books - Edible) Paul Delvaux: Surrealizing the Nude (Reaktion Books - Essays in Art and Culture) A History of Writing (Reaktion Books - Globalities) Jokes For Kids - Joke Books : Funny Books : Kids Books : Books for kids age 9 12 : Best Jokes 2016 (kids books, jokes for kids, books

for kids 9-12, ... funny jokes, funny jokes for kids) (Volume 1) LIST SERIES: JAMES ROLLINS:  
SERIES READING ORDER: SIGMA FORCE BOOKS, THE BANNED AND THE BANISHED  
BOOKS, GODSLAYER BOOKS, JAKE RANSOM BOOKS, TUCKER WAYNE BOOKS,  
STANDALONE NOVELS BY JAMES ROLLINS

[Dmca](#)