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Cuba Details

Date : Published (first published August 5th 1999)

ISBN :

Author : Stephen Coonts

Format : Kindle Edition 481 pages

Genre : Fiction, War, Military Fiction, Thriller

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From Reader Review Cuba for online ebook

Dad4525 says

enjoyed this book

Nik Markevicius says

Cuba is a solid action novel for people who like the genre. I wouldn't say it's for everyone, but it's not trying to be. That's gotta factor in the way, say, a couple looking for a romantic comedy to see in the theater wouldn't consider something like The Expendables.

The tension and suspense are almost always at the forefront of events, and for this kind of novel, that's exactly what a fan wants. Counts knows how to take big, world-changing action and bring it down to the people involved, on all sides of a complex situation, and that, along with the intense action, is where the novel really shines. I cared about the characters, the angles, and I believed that they believed in what they were doing - even the bad guys. Nobody is cardboard here, and for plot-driven fiction, that's one of the major separators between the wheat and the chaff.

Bottom line: not bad. Fun. It's a good distraction, even if the author's version of events doesn't quite match up to the realities of current American events.

Dennis says

This is another good book in the Jake Grafton series. I've enjoyed all of the books I've read by Stephen Coonts and this is no exception. Good read.

Dark-Draco says

It's funny, but the last Coonts book I tried to read, I couldn't get into - this is in the same series, with the same heroes, and I loved it. Go figure!

In this one, Fidel Castro is about to die of cancer. Alejo Vargas wants to take his place as dictator of Cuba and has few scruples about how to go about this. Meanwhile, Jake Grafton has been given the task of clearing some biological weapons from the Gitmo base, except one of the ships unloading the stock goes missing and winds up grounded just off the one of the Cuban islands. Then America finds out that there are a battery of Russian missiles that are pointed at America ... and each one could be refitted with the biological agents stolen from them. So as Castro dies and Cuba erupts into violence, Grafton is left with few choices but to send in the marines and destroy the lot.

Fast paced, fantastic characters and an authentic feel to the whole thing. I really enjoyed reading this and couldn't wait to go on break so I could open it up again. Well worth reading.

Kevin Koppelman says

I thought it jumped around too much from story to story.

Ken Schloman says

A solid techno thriller. Just in hindsight, it also can be classed as alternative history. As with many of the books in the series, the author takes current events and spins a well thought out yarn that follows one "possibility". Castro's death did not result in events similar to the story line, but at the time written it was a possibility. Still if you like the genre, it's worth the read. Personally, I like the way the key characters have evolved throughout the series.

Lorraine says

I haven't read any books in this genre, spy/action. I decided to read this one 'cos of the talks between the Cubans and Americans to ease relations between the two countries. I wanted to see how an American writer of this genre would treat the subject. Just as I thought. Rah! Rah! America! We can beat those nasty corrupt commies. None of the Cuban characters are trustworthy, either plotting to take over from Castro, or against each other or acting as agents for the Americans. The book is full of an alphabet soup of military acronym, not surprising since the author is a former member of the military. The book did not have the finesse of British espionage spy thrillers like those by Le Carre. Now I can say I've read one but I don't think I will read another unless it comes VERY highly recommended.

P says

Reading Stephen Coonts for the first time. Plot was okay, a quick read for those who enjoy military thrillers. At least it wasn't more "Islamic Terrorists Attack" (part 6)!

I blame my knowledge of Latin American history, but I had to suspend disbelief quite a bit to go along with this storyline. It seems more alternative history--the second Cuban Missile Crisis. CIA finds out that Cuba is working on prepping ICBMs from the 1960s to be fitted with biological weapon warheads aimed at the southern United States (and they are still going to work?). U.S. Marines and CIA ops invade the island with air support from F-14s (what are those? :)) and F-117s. One of the book's heroes grips an ICBM--as it is taking off and going through a barn--so he can try to disable it AND SURVIVES; right! His wife gets shot down in an Osprey--with a head injury--and is cleared to fly another vital mission within 24 hours; cheap way to keep her in the vital scenes of the story!

As for Ocho Sedano, why did Coonts feel the need to write pages and pages of his ill-fated voyage from Cuba? So readers could appreciate the plight of Cuban migrants?? Lots of superfluous description that could have been cut--did not contribute to the story that much.

Jason Brewer says

Definitely a believable back story of politics in Cuba, and hero's and anti-hero's for which to root. Some excitement as the story builds.

Linda says

This Coonts novel is in the Jake Grafton series, but takes place before the Grafton/Oregon Files series. It gives us the back story on the characters from the Oregon Files and is a typical Coonts military thriller. I enjoyed the fast-paced story and learned a lot about the history of Cuba under Fidel Castro in the process. My one complaint is that it's not very easy to separate fact from fiction in his books. While that does make for a realistic story, it can be somewhat confusing. This book is a fictional account of the death of Castro, events leading up to it, and the hypothetical effects on the U.S. I must give Stephen Coonts props as I never would have thought that I would be reading military thrillers, especially with all the technical details of nuclear weapons and fighter planes.

Dale says

Good thriller plot overcomes other issues

Just so you'll know, I am reviewing *Cuba* as an audiobook - I listened to it as an audiobook and as an audiobook it was pretty good, meaning that I never really wondered if there was something else on the radio that was better.

As to the plot - I found it to be especially interesting to have the book focus on the presence of Weapons of Mass Destruction in Cuba, considering our current situations in Iran and North Korea and the ongoing search for WMD in Iraq. The descriptions of the power of these weapons and the reasons that tin-pot dictators and superpowers possess them was informative.

As always, Coonts writes wonderful action sequences. His characters are sometimes...

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Hilary says

Military is not my usual genre but I was drawn in and intrigued from the first page. Although, towards the end, the military descriptions got a bit much for me, I enjoyed this much more than I thought I would. An interesting interpretation on Cuba's "future"

Lisa says

Traveling to Cuba is like going back in time. This book was written in 1999, probably on the cusp on when everyone thought that sooner rather than later, Fidel would die and the place would become a free for all. Well, it's now 2012 and if he's dead, they've done a bang up job of hiding it and even though some travel and some minor free enterprise is allowed it's not yet the new Cancun. They deserve the most basic human rights, but do I want to get off the plane and see Starbucks and McDonalds? Absolutely not. When change does to Cuba, I hope it comes over time and they take the time to preserve the character of the island that has gotten them this far.

I had just returned from a trip to Cuba when I bought this for \$2 and no dust jacket so I had no idea what it was about. If alternate historical military fiction is your flavor, you'll probably like it. I thought the latter half was weighed down with too much military jargon and technical phrasing so I pretty just skimmed over what was supposed to be the most exciting scene. Almost like an action movie, too much build up and the "battle" still went way too long. Plus there are too many characters who get introduced who are not always relevant.

H. Brandon says

Another enjoyable Jake Grafton with more character development for Toad, Rita and Tommy.

Joe says

Good beach read.
