



Telex from Cuba: A Novel

Rachel Kushner

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Rachel Kushner has written an astonishingly wise, ambitious, and riveting novel set in the American community in Cuba during the years leading up to Castro's revolution -- a place that was a paradise for a time and for a few. The first novel to tell the story of the Americans who were driven out in 1958, this is a masterful debut.

Young Everly Lederer and K. C. Stites come of age in Oriente Province, where the Americans tend their own fiefdom -- three hundred thousand acres of United Fruit Company sugarcane that surround their gated enclave. If the rural tropics are a child's dreamworld, Everly and K.C. nevertheless have keen eyes for the indulgences and betrayals of the grown-ups around them -- the mordant drinking and illicit loves, the race hierarchies and violence.

In Havana, a thousand kilometers and a world away from the American colony, a cabaret dancer meets a French agitator named Christian de La Mazière, whose seductive demeanor can't mask his shameful past. Together they become enmeshed in the brewing political underground. When Fidel and Raúl Castro lead a revolt from the mountains above the cane plantation, torching the sugar and kidnapping a boat full of "yanqui" revelers, K.C. and Everly begin to discover the brutality that keeps the colony humming. Though their parents remain blissfully untouched by the forces of history, the children hear the whispers of what is to come.

At the time, urgent news was conveyed by telex. Kushner's first novel is a tour de force, haunting and compelling, with the urgency of a telex from a forgotten time and place.

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Carla McFarlin:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book can be option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the reserve untitled Telex from Cuba: A Novel can be fine book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Sunday Richey:

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