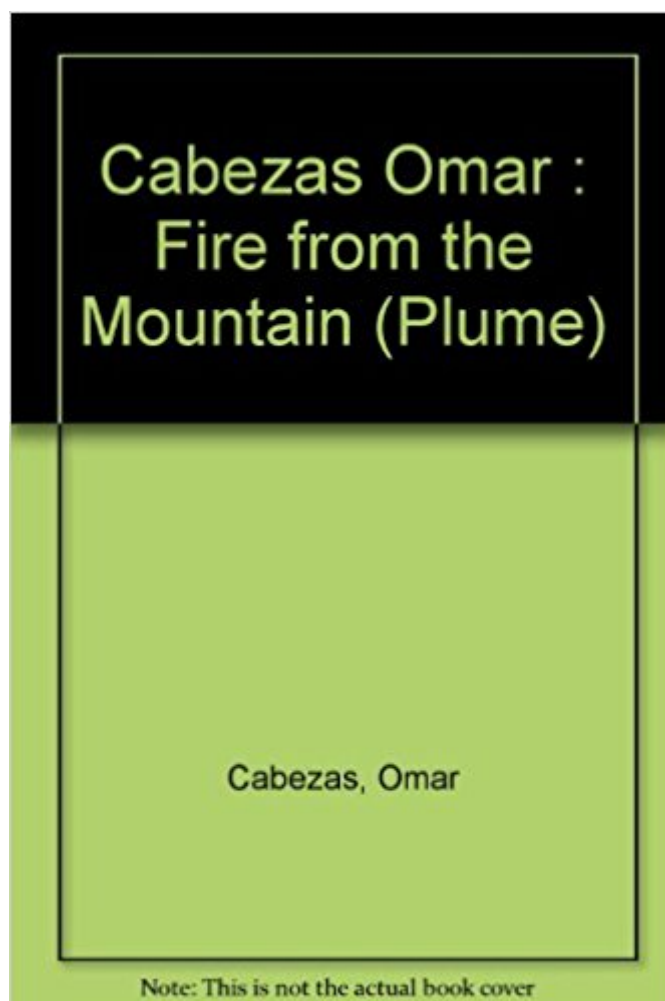


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Fire From The Mountain: The Making Of A Sandinista



Book Information

Paperback: 233 pages

Publisher: Plume (June 1, 1986)

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Customer Reviews

Text: English, Spanish (translation)

Omar Cazebas is a funny man. His testimony "Fire From the Mountain" shares his Sandinista experiences in a candid, humorous, and engaging fashion. Don't be fooled -- this book isn't a comedy. There are moments of true gravitas in the book. I'd recommend this book to anyone seeking a primary source document on the political and military history of Nicaragua in the 1970s. Some readers might object to this book for various reasons. For example, Fire From the Mountain is not a particularly comprehensive novel. The scope and depth of the book is limited to Omar's personal experiences. He only gives little detail on the Somoza regime, the Sandinista movement as a whole, and the overall impact of the Sandinista revolution. Additionally, there are issues of veracity. There isn't a convenient way for the reader to know whether the story, or any of its smaller elements/anecdotes, are actually true. Other readers might object to the mere fact that Cazebas was part of a militant left-wing socialist organization. So really there are complex problems of political leanings, bias/truth, and overall scope. But the same can be said of any primary-source in history -- it's unlikely that there ever was a primary source that covered the entirety of its subject, incorporated corroborating alternative sources to verify its truthfulness, and contained zero subjectivity. If you read this book with an open mind, you can easily overcome its limitations. And who knows, you might enjoy the perspective of a man with a unique life and innate sense of humor.

Great book that is a real easy read that talks about a guerilla. As others have said it isn't gruesome it goes into the mind of the guerrilla. Great chapter near the end but the rest just goes into great detail of event

Important perspective in history of the Sandanista movement in Nicaragua. It's interesting that we did not ever receive a more complete picture of this important liberation effort.

Omar Cabezas makes light of his personal journey from student activist mobilizing against the Somoza regime in Nicaragua to underground struggle and finally armed resistance. "Fire from the Mountain" underplays the real danger which accompanied him and of the sacrifices he would have made. Cabezas gives a rather prankish account of the early days of revolutionary training and the boredom of life in guerrilla camps, but his own narrow escapes and the violent deaths of many of his comrades tell another story. The book ends before the success of the Sandinista revolution, his rise to political office and subsequent parting of ways with the revolutionary government, so there is an understandable freshness and youthfulness to his writing which age may have tempered. It also seems he was writing for a local audience as much of the background detail which would have been helpful to a foreign reader is missing. Nonetheless it is an informative read and significant for it being the first work from Nicaragua in the vernacular rather than formal Spanish.

Read this book in high school, like others have said, easy and enjoyable read. Just found a signed copy 1st edition.. what?! I love it

1985 foreword by Carlos Fuentes; "his first weapon is a language as fresh, funny, direct, and irreverent as any produced by Latin American literature in its history" a rare insider's view into a revolutionary army whose only enlistment criteria are deep reserves of patience, a white-hot outrage and the (perhaps) naive belief that one can overcome shocking odds and upend the entrenched...a song of morality and optimism and gritty idealism sure to raise the spirits and set an example for those fighting the good fight vs the evil empire...

I'm a college student and last year I made a Presentation about Nicaragua In my class of Latin America studies. I had this book over six months, but I never read it. To me it did not have material I need it. This past weekend I started to read and my surprise was, that it's full of so many emotions and information material. It explained the whys and doubts of the people to change the Somoza

government and How big part the college students played in this amazing revolution movement to made it come true. It's one of the best bood I had read about the Guerrilla war in Latin America.

This autobiographical novel by a fighter in Nicaragua's revolution is engaging, sometimes funny and very readable. It is the personal tale of his experiences in the revolution, notably in the mountains and thence the title. Don't worry, it is not polemical, he tells it like it was.

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