



## 90 Miles to Havana

By Enrique Flores-Galbis

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*90 Miles to Havana* is a 2011 Pura Belpré Honor Book for Narrative and a 2011 Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year.

When Julian's parents make the heartbreaking decision to send him and his two brothers away from Cuba to Miami via the Pedro Pan operation, the boys are thrust into a new world where bullies run rampant and it's not always clear how best to protect themselves.

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## 90 Miles to Havana By Enrique Flores-Galbis Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #55088 in Books
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- Published on: 2012-09-18
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## Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 4-7—Based on Flores-Galbis's experiences, this novel is deeply affecting. In 1961, Julian and his two brothers leave Cuba with 14,000 other children, in what is known as “Operation Pedro Pan.” History comes alive through the author's dazzling use of visual imagery and humor, which ranges from light to dark. This book is sophisticated, but can be read on many levels. Most children will be able to relate to the terror and excitement that Julian feels when he is separated from his brothers and all alone in an orphanage in Miami. The writing is poetic, yet clear as glass, and the gorgeous sentences do not slow down the briskly paced plot. Julian emerges as a more endearing, likable character with every page, and readers will be fully absorbed in his journey. The only minor disappointment is toward the end, when the narrator's heroism in helping strangers distracts readers from the more meaningful, long-awaited reunion with his family. Reluctant readers might need some help in early chapters, but once Julian's adventure begins in earnest, it's hard to imagine any child putting this book down. *Jess de Courcy Hinds, Bard High School Early College Queens, Long Island City, NY*

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From [Booklist](#)

Drawing on his own experience as a child refugee from Cuba, Flores-Galbis offers a gripping historical novel about children who were evacuated from Cuba to the U.S. during Operation Pedro Pan in 1961. Julian, a young Cuban boy, experiences the violent revolution and watches mobs throw out his family's furniture and move into their home. For his safety, his parents send him to a refugee camp in Miami, but life there is no sweet haven. He tries to avoid the powerful camp bullies (“the big eat the small”) while he waits in anguish for his parents, and in a wrenching parting, his two older brothers are sent away to a harsh orphanage in Denver. The messages get heavy at times about the meaning of democracy, at odds with the political and the camp power games. But this is a seldom-told refugee story that will move readers with the first-person, present-tense rescue narrative, filled with betrayal, kindness, and waiting for what may never come. Grades 5-8. --Hazel Rochman

Review

“Flores-Galbis ably portrays the harsh realities these young Cuban immigrants faced: little hope of reunification with family members, dwindling resources, and insufficient government support, while also conveying their resilience in the face of emotional upheaval.” *?Publishers Weekly*

“Inspired by Flores-Galbis' experiences as a Pedro Pan refugee, the fast-moving story should easily hook both historical-fiction and adventure readers.” *?Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*

“It's hard to imagine any child putting this book down.” *?School Library Journal*

“It will introduce readers to a not-so-distant period whose echoes are still felt today and inspire admiration for young people who had to be brave despite frightening and lonely odds.” *?Kirkus Reviews*

“Drawing on his own experience as a child refugee from Cuba, Flores-Galbis offers a gripping historical novel about children who were evacuated from Cuba to the U.S. during Operation Pedro Pan in 1961. . . . This is a seldom-told refugee story that will move readers with the first-person, present-tense rescue narrative, filled with betrayal, kindness, and waiting for what may never come.” *?Booklist*

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Jerry Day:**

In this 21st one hundred year, people become competitive in each way. By being competitive now, people have do something to make them survives, being in the middle of the actual crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that at times many people have underestimated the item for a while is reading. Yep, by reading a guide your ability to survive improve then having chance to stand than other is high. For you personally who want to start reading a new book, we give you this 90 Miles to Havana book as starter and daily reading book. Why, because this book is usually more than just a book.

#### **Christopher Larsen:**

Information is provisions for folks to get better life, information these days can get by anyone with everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even a concern. What people must be consider while those information which is within the former life are challenging be find than now's taking seriously which one is acceptable to believe or which one the particular resource are convinced. If you get the unstable resource then you get it as your main information we will see huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen within you if you take 90 Miles to Havana as your daily resource information.

#### **Margaret Walker:**

People live in this new day of lifestyle always try and and must have the spare time or they will get lot of stress from both everyday life and work. So , if we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely without a doubt. People is human not only a robot. Then we request again, what kind of activity have you got when the spare time coming to you actually of course your answer can unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, the actual book you have read is definitely 90 Miles to Havana.

#### **Allen Lutz:**

The book untitled 90 Miles to Havana contain a lot of information on the idea. The writer explains your ex idea with easy means. The language is very clear to see all the people, so do not necessarily worry, you can easy to read that. The book was published by famous author. The author brings you in the new era of literary works. You can easily read this book because you can continue reading your smart phone, or product, so you can read the book within anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can available their official web-site in addition to order it. Have a nice learn.

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