

Tropical Night Falling

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From one of Latin America's most celebrated writers--author of *Kiss of the Spider Woman*--comes his poignant yet hard-edged final novel. At the heart of the story are two elderly Argentine sisters who share a life of gentle gossip. But through their conversations, Puig reveals the chaotic, violent lives of their neighbors.

Tropical Night Falling Details

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Author : Manuel Puig

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Flor says

No tenía muchas expectativas con este libro y me terminó encantando.

Las protagonistas Luci y Nidia mantienen largas conversaciones sobre buenos y malos recuerdos, pero sobre todo, chismean sobre la vida amorosa de la vecina.

Se les toma cariño rápidamente, ya que Manuel Puig logra retratar esas típicas conversaciones de adultos ya bastante mayores, esos chismes contados sin malicia.

Me gustó mucho un recurso con el que nunca me había cruzado, y es que este libro no tiene narrador.

Cae la noche tropical es un libro perfecto(corto y entretenido) para leer en cualquier momento. Pero si estas de visita en Río de Janeiro, mucho mejor.

Ray says

A novel of language that flows with such fluidity and beauty that which is flawless. A story of two elderly sisters that spend their days and nights in gossip and conversation about all that is around them. A neighbor that holds much of their attention, loved ones that have passed, loneliness, morality, love death, politics.

Reading this book is like meeting your soul mate and talking all night on the phone til the sun arises and you both reluctantly hang up after many of, " no you firsts." A poetic success.

Jahair AB says

Una novela muy chismosa.

Ayleen Julio says

Cinco estrellas y muy bien merecidas porque en *Cae la noche tropical* Puig despliega de forma magistral su habilidad para entretejer tramas a partir del diálogo de los personajes. Algo que aprecio mucho de este escritor es además, su capacidad de crear casi a partir de la nada: no hay muchas descripciones de los personajes ni de los entornos, pero ello no impide que el lector se sienta seducido tanto por las intrigas, pasiones y secretos de sus personajes como por el querer saber lo que pasa y lo que pasará más adelante, aunque al principio se sienta algo desorientado por caer en medio de una acción que parece ocurrir desde hace tiempo.

¿Qué más decir? Pues que Puig fue un maestro del guón cinematográfico; y ello se demuestra en cada una de sus novelas; motivo por el que lo leo lento y siempre es un placer leer su obra.

Julio César says

Siempre me impresionó la voz de los personajes de Puig. Es de esos escritores que basta apenas un diálogo para identificarlos, un párrafo. La historia es muy emotiva, toca las fibras más sensibles. Uno de los verdaderamente grandes.

Luz Osman says

Muy buena novela de Puig. Lo más destacable: la construcción de la voz de los personajes a través de los diálogos y las cartas (pareciera que escuchamos hablar a Nidia, Luci o "esta Silvia" en cada párrafo); los giros en la trama de la historia son la otra genialidad, el lector nunca sabe qué es lo que va a suceder y cuando todo parece ir hacia una dirección, Puig cambia el rumbo sin pedir permiso.

Felipe says

Puig es siempre genial. Acá, como siempre, explora el diálogo desde varios recursos, pero quizás de una forma un poco más conservadora que otros libros. Por momentos parece que faltara cierta chispa, pero el libro, luego de un momento en que se ameseta, crece y crece. El final, la hoja final, es simple y maravillosa.

Eddie Watkins says

Though Puig's books are often (always?) conveyed via dialogue, letters, newspaper articles, police reports, etc. , giving them the appearance of experimental literature, they are relatively easy reads and concern themselves with the emotional lives of rather ordinary people. Granted, these "ordinary" people often have odd obsessions and sexual proclivities, but they are nevertheless ordinary in that they could be anyone - a neighbor, a family member, ourselves. In this way his novels have the power to throw some light on shadowy processes and impulses coursing beneath our social networks, and so add some wonder, however perverse, sad, or tragic, to our daily lives.

Tropical Night Falling is no different, and in fact of the three I've read so far it's characters are the most normal, their concerns the most mundane, yet the constant current of sexual oddity and relentless desire remains, in the midst of the lives of the two octogenarian sisters through and by whom this story is told.

It is a gossipy story – two cohabiting elderly sisters chattering - that slowly evolves into a story of death, disillusion, common tragedy, and everyday sexual perversion. Though I'd have to reread to determine if the first section is too long, there is no doubt that the slow build-up helped provide the latter third with an emotional wallop. As well as getting more emotionally and thematically tangled toward the end, it also obliquely explores themes of the afterlife – not that Puig purports an afterlife, but he does provide the unknowing illusion of one as one sister continues to correspond with the dead other as she thinks the other is still alive – which in turn touches on themes of reality and unreality and how our lives can be informed by one as much as the other: suspecting a good person of having evil intentions, allowing a pervert to insinuate himself into your life because you mistake him for an angel, etc. Small tragedies that are inherent threads in the fabric of our lives. As our realities are composed of personal relationships, and as people are near bottomless reservoirs of confused desires, reality itself is inextricably composed of the false and the true; our confused desires the only guiding light we have, with some untouched purity perhaps acting, through buried memories, as a cloud-covered pole star.

It sounds messy, and it is, but in Puig's world the connections made between people, however based on

errant perception or self-centeredness, are still warm and touching, probably because tinged with a desperate fragile need we all know is always there. Though *Tropical Night Falling* is in many ways a slow train wreck of random lives colliding, I came out of it feeling the need to remain attached to those people I know (and even those people I *might* know) because in this world other people are all we have, and only other people can satisfy, even if only slightly or not at all – even dissatisfaction is a form of satisfaction - the tangles of desires which compose us.

Adela says

Como siempre, Manuel Puig es brillante.

Mateo R. says

Intertextualidad:

Menciones directas:

*Cumbres borrascosas, de Emily Brontë.

*Sonatina, de Rubén Darío.

Menciones indirectas:

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Francesca Nevis says

Lucy e Nidia sono due sorelle argentine ultraottantenni. Lucy ha lasciato la sua terra natia da molti anni preferendo Rio de Janeiro mentre Nidia è rimasta a vivere a Buenos Aires. Dopo la morte di sua figlia Emilsen a causa di un cancro Nidia ha raggiunto sua sorella per riprendersi da questo lutto così difficile da affrontare. Per quanto caratterialmente diverse, Lucy più romantica e Nidia più razionale, le due riescono a bilanciarsi alla perfezione e non riescono a fare a meno della compagnia dell'altra. Trascorrono le giornate facendo lunghe passeggiate sulla spiaggia e passano molto del loro tempo a parlare evocando i ricordi del loro passato, da quelli più dolorosi a quelli più lievi e interessandosi alla vita della loro vicina Silvia.

<https://gliamabililibri.com/2016/10/1...>

Thompson says

Everything about this book was soap operish and trivial. Even the newspaper articles one of the character saves to read are about trivial subjects. Zzzzzzz...

Belinda says

This was a very interesting book. I particularly liked the second half of it which largely took place in the form of correspondence. The two elderly sisters loved each other and each others company very much. When Nilda was left alone, she tried to reach out to those around her but, unhappily, not with the results that she had hoped for.

Santiago Moreno says

I think what I liked the most of the novel is the tenderness of the voices who tell the story as they retell the hardships of life and love.

Adriana says

Para mí leer a Puig es ir a lo seguro, no defrauda nunca. Ojalá siempre me quede alguno pendiente.
