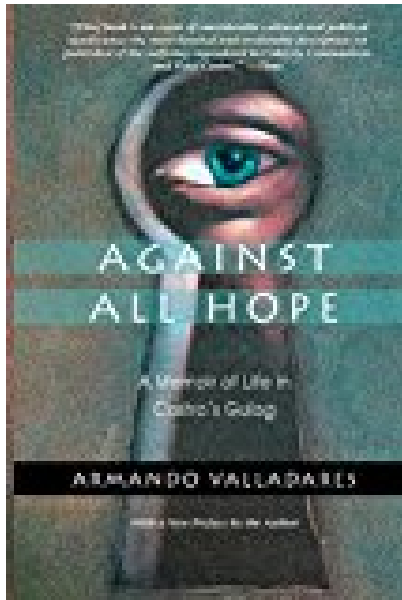


# Against All Hope A Memoir of Life in Castros Gulag

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## BOOK DETAILS

- Author : Armando Valladares
- Pages : 428 Pages
- Publisher : Encounter Books
- Language : English
- ISBN : 1893554198

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## **BOOK SYNOPSIS**

Against All Hope is Armando Valladares account of over twenty years in Fidel Castros tropical gulag. Arrested in 1960 for being philosophically and religiously opposed to communism, Valladares was not released until 1982, by which time he had become one of the worlds most celebrated prisoners of conscience. Interned all those years at the infamous Isla de Pinos prison (from whose windows he watched the failure of the Bay of Pigs invasion), Valladares suffered endless days of violence, putrid food and squalid living conditions, while listening to Castros firing squads eliminating counter revolutionaries in the courtyard below his cell. Valladares survived by prayer and by writing poetry whose publication in Europe brought his case to the attention of international figures such as French President Francois Mitterand and to human rights organizations whose constant pressure on the Castro regime finally led to his release. When Against All Hope first appeared, it was immediately compared to Darkness at Noon and other classic prison narratives about the resilience of the human spirit in the face of totalitarianism. Now, with a new introduction by the author, which tells of his life since prison and brings the story of Cuban dissidence up to the case of Elian Gonzalez, Against All Hope is more relevant than ever.

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