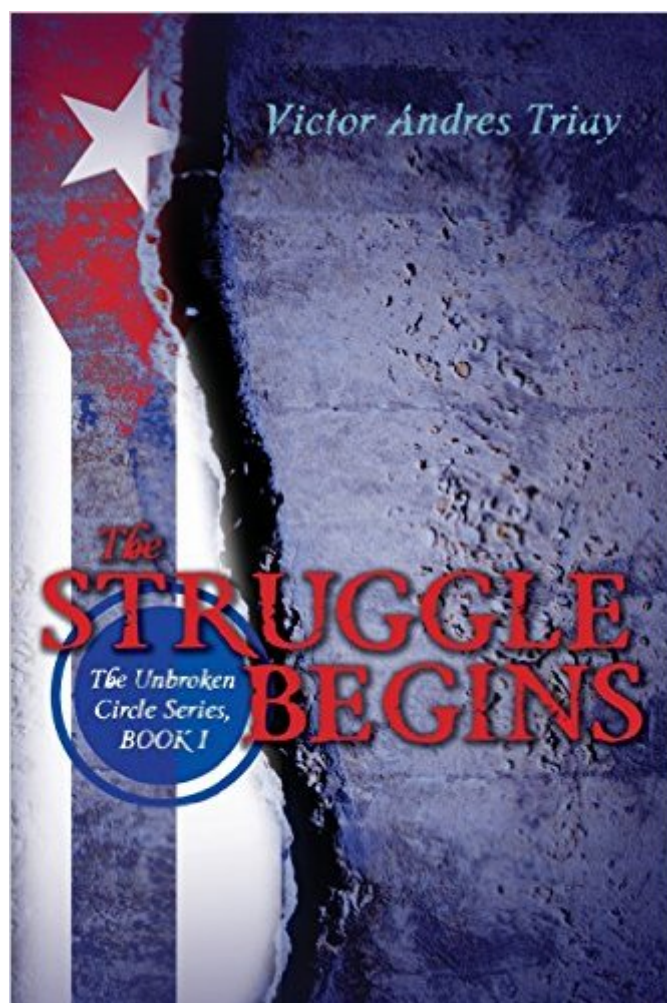


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# The Struggle Begins: The Unbroken Circle Series, Book I (Volume 1)



## Synopsis

Havana, Cuba, 1960. The euphoria following the nation's successful Revolution the previous year has waned among large sectors of the population. Cuba's new leader, Fidel Castro, after having promised to restore democracy to the troubled island, is forcibly dragging the country down the road to Communist dictatorship. As an ominous, Stalinist cloud begins to envelop the country, democratic forces launch an anti-government insurgency with the hope of saving Cuba from the totalitarian darkness that threatens her. The Unbroken Circle series is the story of the fictional LeÃn family, whose peaceful, middle class existence is swept suddenly into a tempest of warfare, betrayal, and separation during the early years of the Cuban Revolution. Told with the heart-pounding suspense of a Cold War saga and the poignancy of a family drama, *The Struggle Begins* sets the stage for The Unbroken Circle series with electrifying power. From Reader Reviews: "The Struggle Begins" is a thrilling historical novel that cannot be put down . . ." "The characters are so real that you can almost touch them." "The Struggle Begins" is presented to the readers in a scenario that combines the reality of Cuba in 1960 with fictional characters to make a fascinating novel." "Caught right away in the drama of a Cuban family in the midst of their struggles with Castro's revolution."

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

They say that a picture is worth a thousand words but using words, Triay has managed to paint a

very clear and accurate picture of what life was like in Cuba in 1960. "The Struggle Begins" is a thrilling historical novel that cannot be put down once started and it illustrates the reason why desperate parents sent their children to safety through what we now know as Operation Pedro Pan. Can't wait for book II! Carmen Valdivia President, Operation Pedro Pan Group, Inc.

Written in novel form, Victor Andres Triay, gives us a realistic narrative of the true events of the "Castro revolution" in Cuba. With an historian's view of the facts, and in this Mr. Triay is on the money, and the writer's effortless fictionalization, one finds an intriguing read. This is Volume 1 of a trilogy and I can hardly wait for Volumes 2 & 3!! Once I started reading, I couldn't put the book down...get this book! You'll be glad you did....

I just finished Dr Triay's book. Could not put it down! Truly enjoyed the development of the characters and being immersed in the Cuban Culture. You are right there with Goyo and his family living the struggles and deception of the Cuban revolution in the late 50's and early 60's. I can understand why parent's wanted to send their kids away to the safety of another country as well as wanting to stay and fight for their country. Dr. Triay combined the history of Cuba with the real life struggles of a 'typical' middle class family. Can't wait for book III!

I couldn't put this book down--and I know how the real story ends! Victor Triay has created deep characters that you love, and some, hate. The book reads so fluidly and quickly (less than 150 pages) allowing you to understand the struggle Cubans of all races, financial backgrounds, and social status went through when a man they believed in (Fidel Castro) betrayed over six million people. Through the Leon family we see what individuals went through as their schools were closed down, their businesses expropriated and their homes overtaken by the Revolution. We see struggles within families and between friends, then that struggle extends to an entire nation. The reader gets an inside view of how people really lived, and the humor, passion, and struggle of the Cuban people. Triay's voice is fresh and his story is universal.

This book, the first of a trilogy, so accurately describes the sense of betrayal, fear and intense patriotism experienced by the Cubans during Castro's "bait and switch" takeover of the country, the reader feels a part of the story. The author's vivid descriptions of everyday life as it is shattered by political drama keeps one on edge. Dr. Triay's story of one family and the tragic upheaval it experienced at the hands of Castro's goons transports the reader to the dark alleys, deserted fields

and nightclubs of Cuba as the country unraveled. I could not put this book down - and am eager to experience Book II of the Unbroken Circle Series!

Victor Triay has done it! He has told the story of the tens of thousands of Cubans who fled Castro's communism in 1960. The characters develop seamlessly as the story unfolds. Before long, you feel like you have known them all your life -- as if you were part of the Leon family. Three cousins find themselves compelled to take action against the Castro government, which betrayed the Cuban people with false promises of democracy. Their religious freedom was eroding, and soon the government intervened in their family business, taking away their livelihoods. The family is separated. Those working in the anti-Castro underground are forced into exile when they are "burned". With the excitement of a Cold War spy novel, *The Struggle Begins* is the poignant tale of a middle class Cuban family whose tranquil lives are shattered as the Castro government tightens its grip on the people of the island. Mild-mannered businessmen, professionals and University students become involved in underground activities designed to overthrow the Castro government. Their sacrifice, family values, bravery and patriotism shine through in Triay's work. *The Struggle Begins* is a masterpiece. Bring on Book 2!

Caught right away in the drama of a Cuban family in the midst of their struggles with Castro's revolution. It was very hard to put this book down. Quickly you are intertwined in their troubles and sorrows. The author shows great knowledge of Cuban history and has used this knowledge to create a vivid story. Wonderful journey, breathing characters, moving scenes and such authentic settings. Felt like I was there. Look so forward to the next one! Loved it!

Superb! Triay's book is a mesmerizing tale of love and hate, courage and deception. Triay is a first class story teller with a passion and a real understanding of the background issues that surround the characters. As a seasoned historian he knows his facts extremely well and that shows throughout the entire book. The characters are so real that you can almost touch them. The book is fast paced action at its best. Be aware that once you pick this book up you won't be able to put it down. And when you finish the first book you will be waiting in line for Book #

2.....Excellent! Carmencita Romanach Past President, Operation Pedro Pan Group Inc.,

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