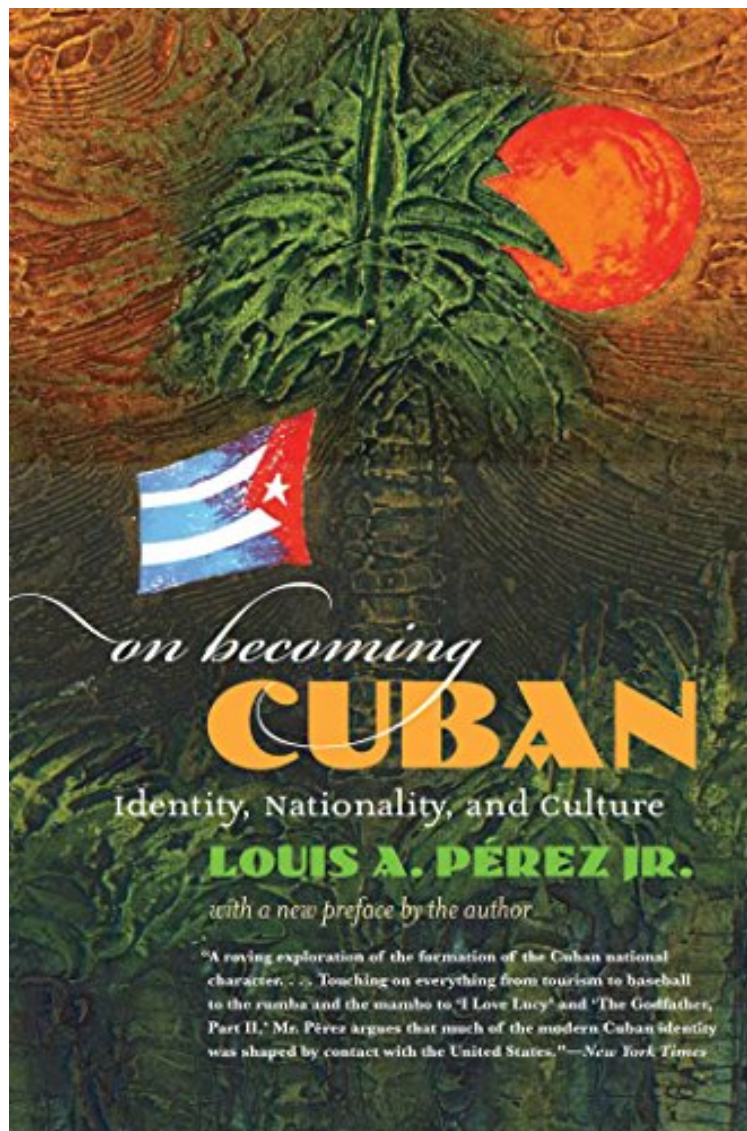


[Download ebook] On Becoming Cuban: Identity, Nationality, and Culture (H. Eugene and Lillian Youngs Lehman Series)

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Von Louis A. Prez, Jr.

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Von Louis A. Prez Jr. : On Becoming Cuban: Identity, Nationality, and Culture (H. Eugene and Lillian Youngs Lehman Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised On Becoming Cuban: Identity, Nationality, and Culture (H. Eugene and Lillian Youngs Lehman Series):

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OPENING OUR HORIZONS TOWARD U.S. AND CARIBBEAN RELATIONS Von Albert L. Garcia, Ph.D. On Becoming Cuban is more than a book about Cuban Identity. It is a well researched historical work that traces the social and cultural impact of North American culture on Cuba during the period of the 1860's to the 1950's. This is the period prior to the Spanish American War and prior to the Cuban Revolution. The author is able to show how Cubans used American culture, such as acquiring with passion the American pastime of baseball as a way of establishing Cuban identity against Spain. But the Cuban assimilation of American Culture and the period that followed the Spanish American War point also to the dominant and paternalistic role of North America over Cuba. Professor Perez points out how after the war Americans took advantage of hurting farmers and property owners by buying for a song what was worth more. Also he shows how the American companies created an elitist and discriminatory policy where English was valued more than Spanish in Cuba and where American Sugar conglomerates kept an economic and social wall between the criollos and Americans doing business and working in Cuba. Perez tracing of the development of Cuban music such as the son, rumba, conga, mambo, and cha cha cha points to the paternalistic misuse of Cuban artists for the benefit and enrichment of North American entrepreneurs. The same arguments could be made about the misuse and abuse of tourism in Cuba by North Americans. The economic power of North American citizens led to the same kind of abuse in tourism. This book also offers an important historical and social analysis on the question of race. In the early development of the Cuban identity, Cubans were influenced by their North American neighbors view on race, that to be Cuban was equivalent to being white. Fortunately in a paradoxical manner the adoption of American Baseball served as a powerful social force that helped unite blacks and whites, rich and poor in the pursuit of this sport. Since Cuba was a more egalitarian country during the period on the question of race, it opened through the participation of North American black and white baseball players the door for them to play together, to sit, to eat, to be friends in Cuba. This created with many among them a new social consciousness before the Civil Rights Movement. This book traces also the influence of the Protestant and evangelical movement in Cuba both as a source of oppression but also as a source of creating a new liberating consciousness among the native population. I believe that this book provides an excellent background to understand the developments in Cuba of the Cuban Revolution. It also provides a window to reflect on U.S. relationships with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. In light of this book I hope that many of my fellow U.S. citizens will open their horizons with their neighbors and friends in the Caribbean.

Kurzbeschreibung With this masterful work, Louis A. Perez Jr. transforms the way we view Cuba and its relationship with the United States. On Becoming Cuban is a sweeping cultural history of the sustained encounter between the peoples of the two countries and of the ways that this encounter helped shape Cubans' identity, nationality, and sense of modernity from the early 1850s until the revolution of 1959. Using an enormous range of Cuban and U.S. sources--from archival records and oral interviews to popular magazines, novels, and motion pictures--Perez reveals a powerful web of everyday, bilateral connections between the United States and Cuba and shows how U.S. cultural forms had a critical influence on the development of Cubans' sense of themselves as a people and as a nation. He also articulates the cultural context for the revolution that erupted in Cuba in 1959. In the middle of the twentieth century, Perez argues, when economic hard times and political crises combined to make Cubans painfully aware that their American-influenced expectations of prosperity and modernity would not be realized, the stage was set for revolution. Pressestimmen This is a tour de force by a great historian. #151 John H. Coatsworth, Harvard University Perez's book provides a masterly narrative supported by solid documentation framed in a coherent analysis. "Journal of American History" Perez is one of the pioneers who tenaciously continued to work on Cuba despite the obstacles posed by both Washington and Havana. "On Becoming Cuban" is a roving exploration . . . "New York Times" This is a tour de force by a great historian. John H. Coatsworth, Harvard University PAEA(c) rez's book provides a masterly narrative supported by solid documentation framed in a coherent analysis. "Journal of American History" PAEA(c) rez is one of the pioneers who tenaciously continued to work on Cuba despite the obstacles posed by both Washington and Havana. "On Becoming Cuban" is a roving exploration . . . "New York Times" This is a tour de force by a great historian. John H. Coatsworth, Harvard University This is a tour de force by a great historian. a John H. Coatsworth, Harvard University This is a tour de force by a great historian. --John H. Coatsworth, Harvard University Perez is one of the pioneers who tenaciously continued to work on Cuba despite the obstacles posed by both Washington and Havana. "On Becoming Cuban" is a roving exploration . . . --"New York Times" A thought-provoking, persuasive, enlightening, and at times humorous account. --"Diplomatic History" Perez's book provides a masterly narrative supported by solid documentation framed in a coherent analysis. --"Journal of American History" Kurzbeschreibung With this masterful work, Louis A. Perez Jr. transforms the way we view Cuba and its relationship with the United States. On Becoming Cuban is a sweeping cultural history of the sustained encounter between the peoples of the two countries and of the ways that this encounter helped shape Cubans' identity, nationality, and sense of modernity from the early 1850s until the revolution of 1959. Using an enormous range of Cuban and U.S. sources--from archival records and oral interviews to popular magazines, novels, and motion pictures--

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