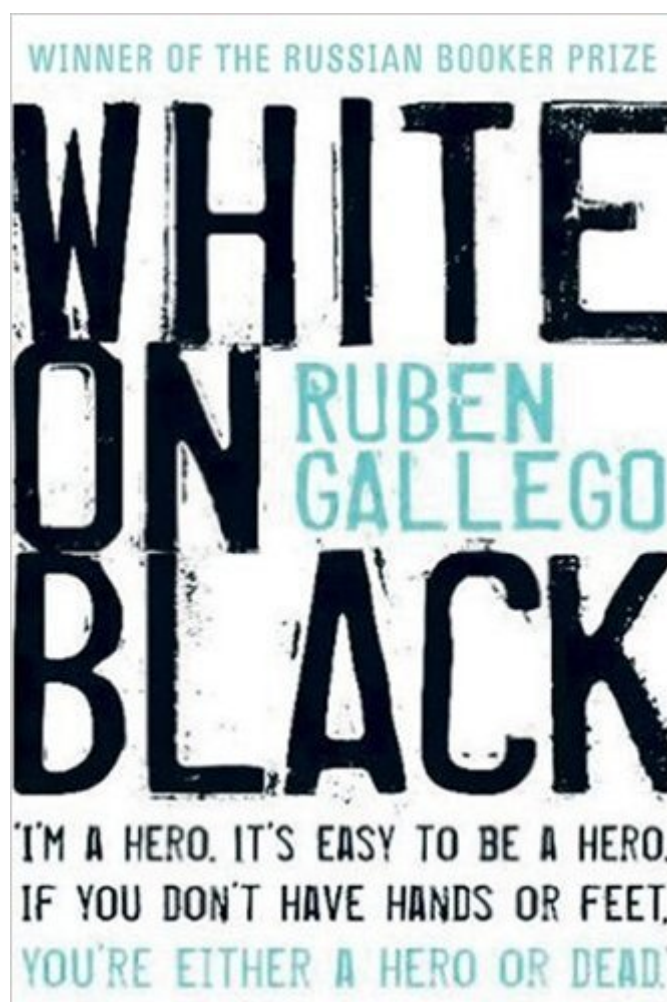


The book was found

White On Black



Synopsis

This is an extraordinary personal testament, the story of one boy's triumph in the face of impossible obstacles. Born with cerebral palsy in Moscow, Ruben Gallego was hidden away in Soviet state institutions by his maternal grandfather, the secretary general of the Spanish Communist Party in the 1960s. His was a boyhood spent in orphanages, hospitals, and old-age homes, a life of emotional deprivation and loss of human dignity. And yet there is no self-pity here, no bitterness, only an unflinching regard for the truth. Gallego's story is one of neglect and mistreatment but also of shared small pleasures, of courage, of the power of the human will, and of a child's growing fascination with books and the worlds he finds in them.

Book Information

Paperback: 180 pages

Publisher: Harvest Books; Reprint edition (January 8, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 015603235X

ISBN-13: 978-0156032353

Product Dimensions: 8 x 5.3 x 0.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #875,609 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #387 in Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Diseases & Physical Ailments > Musculoskeletal Diseases #475 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Specific Demographics > Disabled #525 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Europe > Russia

Customer Reviews

This is an excellent book and the author is very talented. It was very important reading for me both personally and professionally. I highly recommend this book to anyone who does any international humanitarian work, adoptions, or professional service working with child abandonment, disabilities, and orphanages. However, this book is much more than a professional reading. Different dimensions of life. Good book.

Ruben Gallego tells a modern version of "The Prince and the Pauper" story with unexpected twist. The story happens in the Soviet Union during a "thaw" of 70s. The Prince is a grandson of a leader of Spain communist party, who was born in Russian hospital with cerebral palsy and left to die in

Soviet orphanage. Fortunately he had a strong will to survive the ordeal of "happy childhood" of the "heaven on earth" to tell his story and escape to US. Makes you wonder about fate of thousands of orphans living in Russia currently (in 2012 "Russian Deputy Prime Minister Olga Golodets has put the number of orphans in the country today at 118,000" - See more at: [...])

It's a book which can change your personality. An orphans with cerebral palsy's struggle for life and human dignity in Soviet institutions. I am listening to it now and I cry all the time. The book is written in Russian and translated to many other languages. Read it and you will never look at physically challenged people the way you did before!

I've often seen educational research suggesting that the autistic mind is capable of learning more. This book articulates what the human mind thinks when it can finally communicate what it has experienced throughout the years. I kept thinking this the 70's? Talk about time travel; this book takes you through the thoughts and actions of educational institutions. It truly challenges my thinking and feeling to be a little kinder in every situation. I wish everyone could experience even one chapter of this easily read and understood book.

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