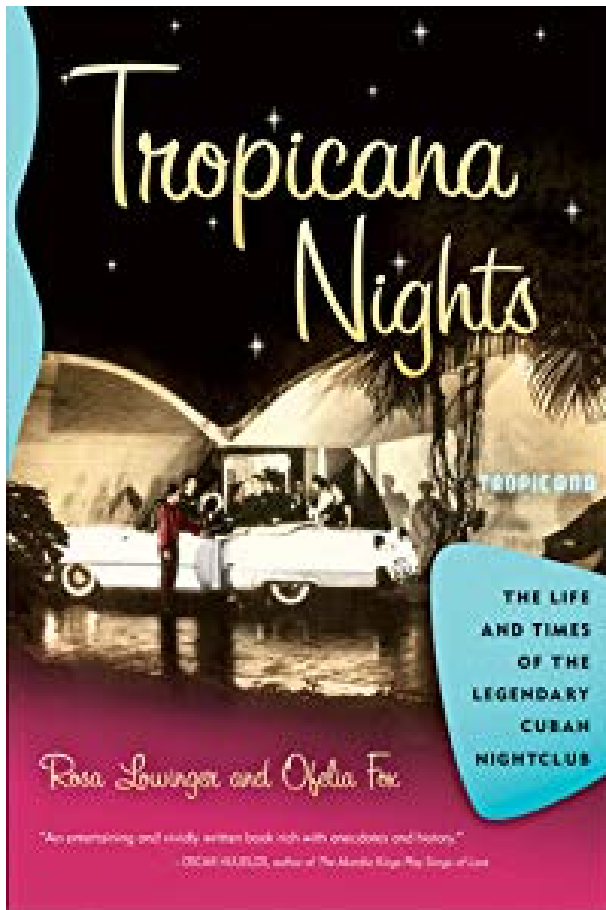


Tropicana Nights: The Life and Times of the Legendary Cuban Nightclub



Pages:	448
Genre:	Nonfiction
Language:	English
Author:	Rosa Lowinger
ISBN10:	0151012245
Goodreads Rating:	3.90
Published:	October 3rd 2005 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
ISBN13:	9780151012244

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It was to Havana what the Moulin Rouge was to Paris or the Blue Note to New York. The brightest jewel in 1950s Cuban nightlife, Tropicana was a "paradise under the stars" where you could gamble, hear the finest mambo and jazz musicians, and ogle the extravagantly risqué floorshows. Nat "King" Cole played Tropicana; so did Josephine Baker. Americans-celebrities and suburbanites both-were drawn to its kinetic sensuality and tropical setting. And Tropicana remained a uniquely Cuban institution; unlike most Havana nightclubs, it operated free from the American mob's control.

Journalist Rosa Lowinger and Ofelia Fox, widow of Tropicana's last owner, vividly portray the cultural richness and roiling social problems of pre-Revolutionary Cuba and take the reader on an intimate insider's tour of one of the world's most glamorous venues at its most brilliant moment.