

*Under the Royal Palms: A Childhood in Cuba*

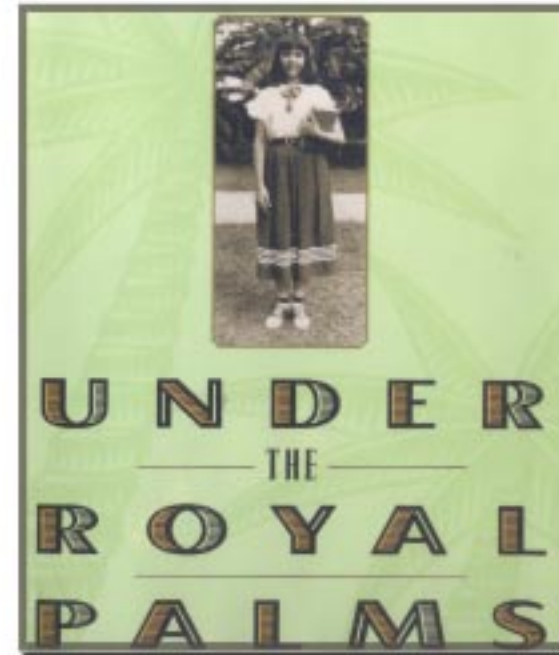
by Alma Flor Ada

**Difficulty Level: 4**

This book is about a young girl growing up in Cuba during the 1940's. She lived with her parents, her uncle, aunt, and her grandmother. She was close to her grandmother. She loved sitting on the porch in the evening listening to her grandmother sing verses of her music. Her family had good jobs and they were well off. She felt bad for people who were not well off as her family. This book was interesting to read because it's about family values and spending time with each other, and about a young girl questioning why some people were poor. We recommend this book for reading and writing classes because it's about a young girl who loved spending time with her grandmother, and the fun memories she had. Also it tells about Cuban history. Some of the challenges to using this book in a class are there are difficult words and Spanish words for beginning students.

**What we liked about this book**

- It's interesting, gets our attention
- Is not depressing or sad
- It encourages us, makes us think about our life
- It doesn't use too much slang.
- It's for adults
- It's like real life
- We can relate to it
- It teaches about history
- We feel comfortable thinking about the subject of the book
- It describes the place really well
- It's easy to follow what's happening
- It has good size print
- The sentences are not too long.
- The paragraphs are a good size
- It has pictures



**What we didn't like about this book**

- It has a lot of difficult words