

# EL NAVEGANTE DORMIDO

THE SLEEPING SEEFARER



UK panel's choice AUTUMN 2009

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October 1977. In an old hardwood house situated on a secluded beach near Havana, the women of the Godínez family cover doors and windows and prepare for the arrival of a devastating hurricane that has been announced. In the old bungalow, enjoyed as unexpected inheritance from Dr. Samuel O. Reefy by all those who were at his service, several generations live together: the old maid Mamina, who escaped from semi-slavery, Andrea, and her silent loss of some children, Colonel Gardener, the patriarch who takes care of pets, Olivero and his past as a freeloader, Uncle Mino, hooked on jazz... and the young ones, who place a curse on the city and the beach where they live but look up to the north as the Promised Land. Apparently detained, permanently waiting for something (terrible or beneficial) to happen, those lives are dragging dark tragedies, waivers and secrets which will come to light with the passage of the cyclone. It will be young Valeria who, thirty years later, will reconstruct the events of those days in October from her New York apartment in the West Side, while contemplating how the snow covers the Hudson. And she will remember seeing her cousin, a young and determined Jafet, take advantage of the calm preceding the storm and embark on an old boat, the Myflower, to flee the island towards the North.

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