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The Marquis of Pickman's mortal duel and what happened afterwards with his corpse

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(excerpt in English)

SCENE 1.

On the stage Felisa Lázaro is singing a song from the zarzuela “Gigantes y Cabezudos”. Paredes is among the audience. Rafael de León enters half way through the song (music of Gigantes y Cabezudos)

FELISA

If women were in charge
Instead of men
People and nations
Would be a smooth place.
There would never be
Hateful wars
because mothers and wives
would put an end to them.
Even if they are many
And very brave,
They finish them in a day
With tooth and nail.

Rafael de León enters wildly in the stalls looking for Captain Paredes who is watching the show from his seat. Shoving, he launched at him while the audience, whispering, complaints about the intrusion of a big violent and somewhat noisy man. He arrives at the seat and grabs Paredes shoulder. He scolds him, insults him. He tries to draw him out towards the foyer. When finally the Captain arises, the marquis gives him a smack with his huge hand. Paredes falls over the back of the seat, according to some version. Or collapses on the floor according to another. Then Pickman starts kicking him. The show stops. Screaming, uproars and upheaval at the stalls.

FELISA

(To the audience) Please, do something. Separate them!! He's going to kill him!!

Several spectators push them away. Some Pickman's friends take him out of the theatre. While all this action the zarzuela can be heard.

MAMABUELA

They must be separated
Or they will harm themselves

FELISA

Ossorio, Ossorio,
Come here at once.

MAMABUELA

Stop! Stop! Stop!

Guys! Men! Fellows!

These are devils.

PAREDES

He has just slapped me!

PICKMAN

Because of my marriage!

MAMABUELA

Why have you started

This horrible mess?

PAREDES

He's got bad temper!!

PICKMAN

He's decorated my forehead!

It serves you right.

PAREDES

I told him to stop.

PICKMAN

I don't feel like it.

PAREDES

Watch the outspoken!!

WOMEN

Calm down, don't quarrel

For a silly matter!

PICKMAN

That's not lending

PAREDES

What's it then?

PICKMAN

Stealing !!

Thief!! I kill him!!

PAREDES

Just you dare!

MAMABUELA

Rafael, keep still!

And you Vicente get out!

You want me to call the constable?

FELISA

Out! Out!

MAMABUELA

Felisa, shut up!

If women were in charge

Instead of men

People and nations

Would be a smooth place.

Men's remarks against women.

FELISA

There would never be

Hateful wars

because mothers and wives

would end them off.

Even if they are many

And very brave,

They finish them in a day.

EVERYONE

Fighting furiously

With tooth and nail.

Fighting

With tooth and nail.

Applause and Bow.

SCENE 2.

MAMABUELA, FELISA, PICKMAN, PAREDES.

MAMABUELA

Once I was the most powerful woman in Seville! And I gave orders, many, and I enjoyed it!

FELISA LÁZARO

Then tell these two that they've just ruined my show.

MAMABUELA

Vicente! Rafael! You're like children! Nobody would think of quarrelling in front of all Seville but you two. And you, Rafael!
Behave, you are a Pickman.

(He waves his hand as a salute to the audience)

PICKMAN

Mamabuela, I...

MAMABUELA

Shut up!

PAREDES

I...

MAMABUELA

And you also.

FELISA LÁZARO

May I carry on with my singing?

MAMABUELA

No. Let's start from the begining. We're going to do what we have come here for and that's to tell the story of the marquis of Pickman and his corpse. Come on. Get ready.

PICKMAN

But Mamabuela, one moment, please! You haven't even started my story and you have already killed me?

MAMABUELA

Well, this is not the story, strictly speaking, it is a kind of introduction. Therefore you can not be on yet. It is me who is now speaking ...

PICKMAN

And I am the main character!! I am entitled to have an opinión, I am not?

MAMABUELA

I am your grandmother!

FELISA LAZARO

In law!!

MAMABUELA

Felisa, leave , you've already finished. And as for you two, sit down and wait until your turn comes. He'll be, well, he's Rafael de León y Primo de Rivera that married my granddaughter María de las Cuevas Pickman y Gutiérrez in 1900...

FELISA LAZARO

(*Exiting*) Bastard daughter!!

MAMABUELA

Yes, I don't deny that, she was the illegitimate daughter of my useless son Ricardo, second marquis of Pickman and a working woman of our factory La Cartuja de Sevilla. But later we recognized her as a member of our family and that's why she inherited the title and the coproperty of the factory when her father died. In a minute I'll introduce her to you.

So Rafael de León, married my granddaughter and became a marquis. He wasn't exactly a treasure, he was spendthrift and a bit madcap. He squandered his share of my husband's inheritance, the founder of La Cartuja de Sevilla, in several foolish business. And he managed of one of his best friends Captain of the Guardia Civil Vicente Paredes, to lend him a big amount of money...

PAREDES

No, that's not true. How could I lend him any money if I have no income or properties?

MAMABUELA

Aren't you going to shut up? I wasn't there and I can not assure if I'm right but something of the kind was insinuated by the press.

PAREDES

Listen, I'm telling you I didn't lend him any money. At this stage, who can trust what the press says?

FELISA LAZARO

But are you going to let her tell the story?