

TRISTÍSIMAS LAMENTACIONES DE UN ENGANCHADO

PARA



¡Ay! onde me la iba a espantar
Lo que era ser enganchado
Creí que todo era Jauja;
Llegar y besar al santo

Pero mano ¡qué esperanzas!
Yo que pensé mejorar!
Pos ha salido el remedio,
Mas pior que la enfermedá.

¡Ah que bien me encampanaron
Para el Valle Nacional
Peso diario me ofrecieron,
Y una vida como no hay.

Es cierto que me lo dan
¡Pero qué duro manito!
Mejor estuviera en México,
Dándole recio al pulquito.

Al principio qué contento!
Hasta en coche me llevaron
Y cinco pesos me dieron
Quedando así contratado.

Se trabaja muy refuerte;
Todo el día en el tabaco,
Ya me duelen las caderas;
Me van a golver cigarro.

Y no poder repelar
Ni quejarse con ninguno,
Pos hora sí la pitamos
¿Quién me manda ser tarugo?

Hora sí que como dicen,
O se bebe o se derrama!
Que no puede uno sacarse,
¿Pos qué se entiende contrata?

Mejor me hubiera enganchado
Con gancho de carnicero!
Pos estubiera más bien
Colgado como carnero!

De la patada me va
En este lugar malvado
Pensé que esto era muy peche
Y en esto que quedé chato.

Mejor está uno en la chinche
En la cárcel de Belém
Comiendo torito en caldo
Y gamuza con café.

Siquiera allí no lo fuerzan
Al probe pa que trabaje;
Esto es lo que me rechoca,
Por lo demás... pos no le hace!

To all my Padua Hills Friends:

It's 7:30 P. M. Wednesday May 1. I sit in a beautiful modernistic bed room and look out a window in a three foot wall on the carved stone gargoyles, niches and arches and tower of the facade of the Church of San Francisco, seen through the branches of some high old orange and fig and primavera trees against the cobalt blue sky of early evening. The organ plays softly for the rosario, a few humble worshippers steal softly out from the empty Church and through the garden... And I don't believe it! It must be a dream! The telephone will probably ring and I will wake up. You can tell though. If this letter is printed on the back of a corrido (a song such as is sold everywhere on the streets in Mexico) and if it has a Mexican stamp on it you will know I am not dreaming and that we did leave Padua Hills after the buffet supper last Sunday night when everyone was so sweet to Juan and me (and we both got corsages) and did go to Glendale to take the Pan American plane for Mexico City at 4:30 Monday morning and we did actually arrive here at 7 o'clock that same evening. The plane was delayed 45 minutes in starting and with the two hours difference in time made the trip exactly on schedule in twelve hours. Anyone who has struggled from, say Monday night to Saturday morning on the train, knows that that itself is a dream. Stops at Mexicali, Hermosillo, Mazatlán, Guadalajara, (where all Juan's folks and the Neffs—twins and all were out to greet us) and here Nena and her mother and brother met us. Nena, you know, Luz María Garces has added "de Perdomo" to her name, a handsome husband, a house and a certain responsibility to herself but is the same beautiful, laughing girl who danced her way into our hearts last winter.

The Guardiola Hotel has gone "moderne" with a bang as have many other of the nice old Buildings of Mexico since I was here last year—the prices also I guess have gone "moderne".

Awfully tired Monday night but up and fine Tuesday morning—appointments all day at the Secretaría de Educación—with lovely Carolina Amor at her Galería of Modern Mexican Art for tea and Sue Perry, Secretary of the Y. W. C. A. in the evening. Sue and I were in Pomona College in the dim dark ages gone and Juan and her nephew graduated together last year from Pomona. She's made a real success of her life.

Today is Labor Day in Mexico and so a holiday. And when it is a holiday here it is one—for practically everybody. No restaurants or candy or liquor stores or dining rooms are open. Juan finally found breakfast at the Ritz. I didn't, Señor Perdomo searched the city for gasoline finally persuading a man to drain some from a bus so that he and Nena could take us to their home for lunch and to Tlalnepantla to the newly excavated pyramid, about 15 miles from the city and to Tezozotlán to see the beatiful old church there.

This morning we had box seats on a balcony of the Casa de la Marquesa de Guardiola built in 1750 to see the mamoth labor demonstration. There were supposed to be 100,000 people marching in the parade and I wouldn't be suprised if there were. Juan and I estimated twenty thousand permanents or practically one to each girl marcher. Many groups were in costume—especially the girls, lots in most attractive vari-colored hats of crepé paper. It was an orderly, well handled crowd. Many interesting types lined the side walks—as one old Indian woman stood stolid, immobile throughout the whole two hours. I did wish I knew what she was thinking.

They are singing in the church now—my door casings and all the furniture pulls are monel metal, my bed is ultra modernistic, my bath-room is luxurious—oxen still plow the fields getting ready for the planting of the corn—Indians and burros still carry their burdens down dusty paths—even more automobiles are driven impossibly with no bad results—a vender is calling piña (fresh pineapple) on the street—the "ahuehuete" tree where Cortez stopped to weep on "La Noche Triste" in 1521 still stands—at Tlalnepantla, little ragged children hunt for "recuerdos" of the ancient people who centuries ago built one sacrificial pyramig outside and above the one built by an even earlier people—people still treat the stupid foreigner with unbelievable politness—I take up the telephone and a voice says "Bueno"—"¿Le gusta?": Please look at the stamp and see whether I am dreaming! If we are really in Mexico you must all come to Padua Hills as soon as we get back, the 16th and let us tell you all about everything and show you all the things we are collecting.

Adios, amigos míos.

Yours, probably dreaming.

Bess A. Garner.

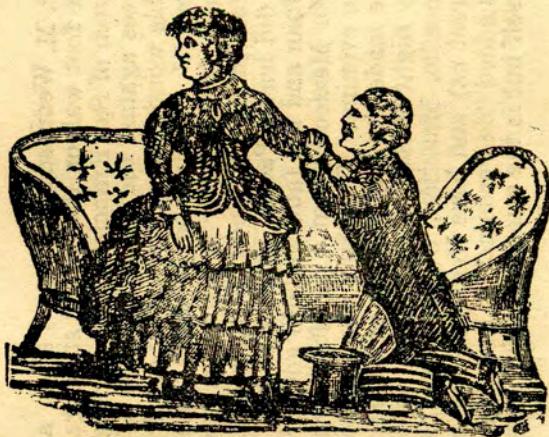
Sudo a chorros, sodo tinta
 A todita hora manarios
 Y tanto animal tan feo
 Que no para de picarnos.
 ¡Ay! ¿dónde están las medidas
 Que de púlman me encachaba
 En "La Barca" y el "Infierno"
 En "La Guerra" y "La Parranda"?
 ¿Dónde están las garbanceras
 Con quienes tanto pasié,
 Los domingos en el Zócalo,
 Y en Santanita también?
 Aquí sí que nada de eso
 Todo es puro trabajar,

Y yo que no estoy impuesto,
 Pos no me cuadra, caray!
 Mal me fué con el enganche,
 De todititos los diablos;
 Aquí voy a quedar tieso
 El día menos pensado.
 Y ni modo de fugarme;
 Si estamos bien vigilados;
 Ni **suecidarme** tampoco;
 El comer cuesta muy caro.
 Y aquí terminan, señores
 Los tristísimos lamentos
 Del pobrecito enganchado
 Que ya no tiene remedio.

TE AMO EN SECRETO.

(Nueva canción).

Te amo en secreto...
 Si lo creyeras,
 Ya no me hicieras
 Tanto desdén,
 Ni yo sufriera
 Con tus enojos
 Por esos ojos
 Que adoro yo.
 Por Dios lo juro,
 Por mi existencia:
 Tuya es mi vida
 Mi salvación,
 Para evitarlo sería forzoso
 Que me arrancaras,
 Que me arrancaras,
 El corazón.
 Yo te buscaba de amores loco
 Porque se hallaba
 Mi sér sin tí;
 Tú eres mi gloriaa,
 Mi tierno mante.
 Ciego mi corazón.
 Por Dios lo juro,
 Por mi existencia,
 Tuya es mi vida
 Para evitarlo
 Sería forzoso,
 Que me arrancaras,
 Que me arrancaras
 El corazón.
 Soy como el ave
 Que canta triste
 Y cruza el aire
 Sin dirección;
 Tú eres el hada
 De mis ensueños,
 Eres mi dicha
 Y mi adoración.



Por Dios, lo juro,
 Por mi existencia,
 Tuya es mi vida,
 Mi salvación
 Para evitarlo
 Sería forzoso
 Que me arrancaras,
 Que me arrancaras
 El corazón.

Soplan las auras
 Por los jardines;
 Entre las flores
 Va el colibrí,
 Eres el hada
 De mis ensueños
 Por la que sufre
 Y llora mi corazón.

Por Dios lo juro,
 Por mi existencia,
 Tuya es mi vida
 Mi salvación;
 Para evitarlo
 Sería forzoso
 Que me arrancaras,
 El corazón!