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La Casa De Bernarda Alba (Spanish Edition) (Cervantes & Co. Spanish Classics)



Synopsis

As he wrote *La casa de Bernarda Alba*, Federico Garcia Lorca explained: "drama is poetry that escapes the book and becomes human. And as it is being made it talks and shouts, cries and despairs". Lorca saw in theatre the most perfect means to reach people's souls, more immediate and effective than poetry, and he kindled this possibility even amidst difficult times. Lorca is, mainly, a poet, and as so his plays possess great visual as well as linguistic virtue. The last of the rural tragedies -*Bernarda Alba* was preceded by *Bodas de sangre* (1933) and *Yerma* (1934)- was finished in June 1936. It was meant to open in Buenos Aires in October, played by the Margarita Xirgu company, but Lorca was murdered in July. War events postponed the opening until 1945, but in Spain the play would stay banned until 1964. The plot is deceptively simple: Bernarda Alba exerts a tyrant control upon her daughters, who live as prisoners within her house walls. The conflict is deprivation of freedom, blown up to tragic proportions by the death of Bernarda Alba's second husband and her decision to impose eight years of strict mourning. But this mourning goes far beyond the usual black clothing: during the following eight years no one will leave the house, and no man will enter. The reclusion is the results of them being women of a certain social position. The authority/freedom conflict is visible through the submission of the feminine condition -the subtitle *Drama of women in the towns of Spain* highlights this-. Freedom is stifled by the prejudices of a social class enslaved by appearance and tortured afraid by gossip. Lorca's theatrical experience is highly noticeable in his way of highlighting the conflict without superfluous details: lighting, costumes, text and language, and the actresses' movements, everything is measured to the last millimeter. And the closing words of the main character become a remarkable premonition of what would shroud Spain during many following years. "And I do not want sobbing. Death must be stared in her face". "Â¡Silence, silence I have said! Â¡Silence! Professor Borja Rodriguez-Gutierrez adds to this edition a clear introductory essay that dismantles Garcia Lorca's clockwork mechanism, while introducing annotations that allow the reader to fully grasp the meaning of this influential cornerstone of Hispanic letters. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As someone who is trilingual; English, Spanish and French and having a double BA in Spanish and French from NYU, I've seen a lot of literature from various periods. From The Golden Age to Post Modern, there are so many aspects that make various works what they are. Of all the periods I've read, I find Lorca--who is considered to be one of the best, if not the best, writers Spain ever produced--to be quite enthralling. He did most of his writing during the Spanish Civil War, or at least that is where history places him in the large cannon of writers. The Spanish Civil War, which I've also studied extensively, happened in 1936. Although brief, like most civil wars, the country was ripped apart. Voices from that era, like from that of Lorca, are true gems to be treasured. If you speak Spanish, I would recommend this book, because it gets lots in the translation in English, like why the characters'--being all female--names are what they are. What is symbolic in the meaning of the names as it pertains to this piece? It really is a simple little book. It's not Don Quijote, not by a long shot, but a strong contender for outstanding works by contemporary Spanish writers. The English version is still good, but like I said, a lot is lost in translation. If you speak Spanish or are studying it, I would highly recommend this book.

LA LECTURA DE ESTA OBRA DE TEATRO PUEDE TENER DISTINTAS MIRADAS O PERSPECTIVAS, YO LAS ANALICE DESDE LA TRADICIÃ“N Y COMO ESTAS, TRASCIENDEN LA VIDA COTIDIANA Y SE ENCARNAN EN LOS PERSONAJES. MUY PLACENTERA SU LECTURA

When I first started reading this play on my Kindle, I was taken aback by the fact that the story was actually written like a play. Literally. I guess I wasn't expecting each scene to be described and each character to be identified. Once I got past this, I really got into it and I only have high words of

praise. It had been a long time since I had read something so high quality. It made me realize that my choices of books haven't been the best lately, and it is time I got back into reading classics such as this. A wonderful read all in all.

cheaper than college book store , thank you . The book is in good condition with no marks or bends. I hope I can use it for the term and move on to another text

If you are interested in Spanish literature, this is a must read, a classic. This story gives you a great view into the culture of Andalucia.

Foi uma leitura muito agradável e a oportunidade de conhecer mais Garcia Lorca. Uma leitura recomenda a todas as pessoas.

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