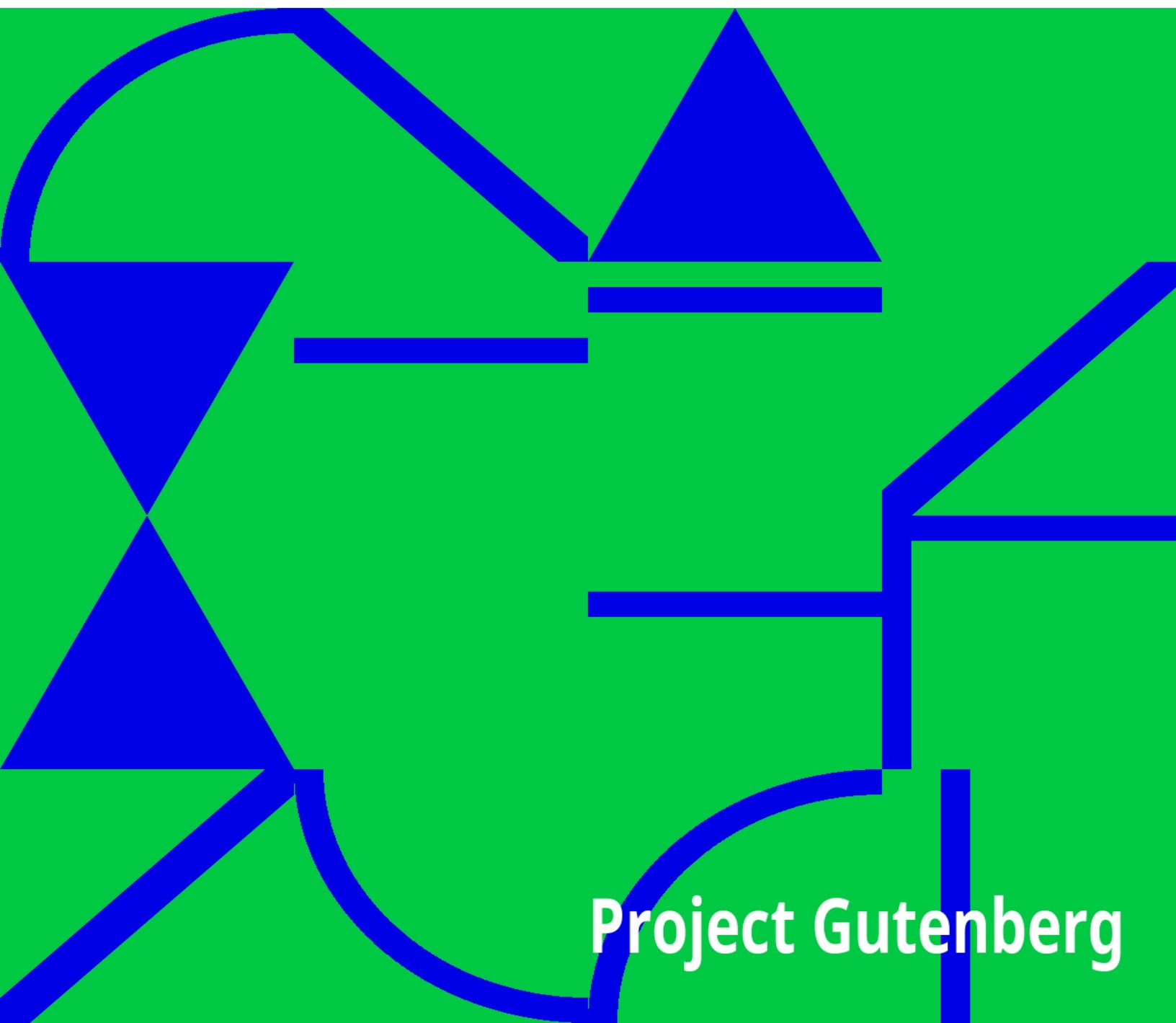


Uma scena conjugal

Luís Couceiro



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*** START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK UMA SCENA
CONJUGAL ***

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LUIZ COUCEIRO

UMA SCENA CONJUGAL

COMEDIA—lever de rideau

AVEIRO

TYP. MINERVA CENTRAL

1905

UMA SCENA CONJUGAL

LUIZ COUCEIRO

UMA SCENA CONJUGAL

COMEDIA—lever de rideau

AVEIRO

TYP. MINERVA CENTRAL 1905

Reserva-se o direito de propriedade

A

Off.^e

O auctor.

PERSONAGENS

Carlos e Bertha

Carlos está trabalhando á sua secretária.

Bertha lendo um romance junto d'elle.

Carlos (*descansando do trabalho a que se entrega e preparando um cigarro*)

Darei á penna um pouco de repouso
E descanso ao trabalho a que me prendo...

Bertha

N'esse caso estás hoje preguiçoso?

Carlos

Não; mas enquanto o meu cigarro accendo,
Vou desviar a tua vista immersa
No romance a que prestes atenção...

Bertha (*interrompendo*)

Dando-me alguns instantes de conversa?

Carlos

Se te apraz, se te agrada?

Bertha (*fechando o livro*)

E porque não!

Tambem fecho o meu livro por momentos

Carlos (*interrompendo*)

Cuja leitura acaso te aborrece
Penso eu?...

Bertha

Errados são taes pensamentos,
É bonita, e desperta algo interesse

Carlos

Ora adeus! Um romance trivial,
Muitas vezes de pura phantazia.
Mas que as mulheres acham principal
Possuir como bôa companhia,
Sim! romance d'amôr não é verdade?

Bertha

É d'amôr, com effeito; dizes bem,
E tanto assim, que na realidade,
«Meus Amores» é nome que elle tem

Carlos

«Meus Amores»!! Tem graça! Com tal titulo,
Faria eu um romance original

Bertha

Tu?!

Carlos

Eu, pois; e crê que em mais d'um capitulo...

Bertha (*interrompendo*)

Descrevias a vida conjugal?

Carlos

Tolinha!... sempre tens cada lembrança!
O casamento assumpto não daria
E nem com isso ingenua creança,
Vale a pena augmentar a livraria!

Bertha (*admirada*)

Então!?

Carlos

Então, buscava mui sómente
A historia de todo o meu passado,
Narrando o que a minha alma ainda sente...

Bertha (*áparte*)

Patife!! Todo o instante é bem azádo Para dizer-me só
palavras duras! (*alto*) De fóрма que passavas em revista?...

Carlos

Todas as minhas mil e uma aventuras,
Em que nunca deixou d'haver conquista
Nem falhou o mais duro coração...

Bertha (*áparte*)

É demais!!! Mas vingança vou jurar!
(*alto*) E no livro da sua confecção
Poderei eu também colaborar?

Carlos

Quem! tu? Da esposa, amôr e só constancia,
Tanto é o que poderás descrever.

Bertha (*altiva*)

Qual! Esse amôr jámais teve importancia,
Não acabaste ha pouco de o dizer!
Acredita meu caro, que ha de sobra
Elementos na minha mocidade,

Que possam reforçar a tua obra
E dar-lhe bem maior publicidade!...

Carlos (*ironicamente*)

Ah! eu creio. Acredito plenamente!
E podes convencer-te que não peccas,
Se quizeres expôr sinceramente
O muito que adoravas as bonecas...

Bertha (*irritada*)

Senhor! Consentir, não posso que altere
A traducção das minhas expressões!
Saiba que me melindra e só me fére,
Suppondo que sentidas vibrações
A recordar um tempo bem feliz,
Se fundam em tão simples innocencia!...

Carlos (*surprehendido*)

Perdão se a offendi!

Bertha (*continuando*)

É como diz:
E repito com muita consciencia,
Ter os dados precizos e bastantes,
Para com elles dar mais um motivo
A que o seu livro tenha assignantes
E seja digno do melhor archivo...

Carlos (*mais surprehendido*)

O que!?... pensarás tu em desvendar
Um segredo, ou talvez, algum mysterio?!!...

Bertha

Não sei; apenas julgo acrescentar,
Que só digo a verdade e fallo a sério...

Carlos (*surprezo*)

Devo então suppôr n'essa affirmativa
Que fosses n'outro tempo aventureza?!!

Bertha

Se fui!... e como tenho inda bem viva
A recordação da vida amorosa,
Tão cheia de prazer, de tanto gôzo!...

Carlos (*irritado*)

Senhora! não gracieje! e se é sincera,
Explique e narre tudo a seu espozozinho?...

Bertha

Ceus! Não queira avivar a primavera
Das minhas aventuras; por Deus peço?

Carlos (*admiradissimo*)

Das suas aventuras?! Todavia,
O fim de taes palavras eu não meço,

E desejo saber o que existia,
Que adivinhal-o, não posso, nem eu sei!

Bertha

Que havia de existir? O que? Senhor?
Digo-lhe só, que muito, muito amei
E gosei as delicias do amor!...

Carlos

Comtudo, diga de que fôrma e como?!

Bertha

Contar-lho, era fazer um bom romance
Que ao certo não cabia n'um só tÔmo!...

Carlos (*impaciente*)

Lembro que em desespero não me lance!
Exigindo me conte a sua historia!

Bertha

Ah! quer? pois bem; e visto que me obriga
A dizer-lhe o que tenho de memoria,
Vou tudo já contar
Escute...

Carlos

Diga?

Bertha

Recorda-me que outr'ora, não sei quando,
D'intenso amor minha alma despertava,
E o coração dizia palpitando,
Que d'amor, uma outra alma se aliava:
E acode-me senhor ao pensamento,
Que nunca tornará a reviver,
Nem tão incomparavel sentimento,
Nem hora que assimille esse prazer.
Era bem nova ainda, era creança,
Mas dentro em pouco, eu já comprehendia,
Que a minha vida até ahi tão mansa,
Da mais louca paixão em febre ardia
E d'outros mil affectos era preza...

Carlos (*interrompendo*)

E não ousaes Senhora vêr-me rude?!

Bertha

Não. Se d'amor é feita a Natureza,
Amar, não é peccado, mas virtude!

Carlos

Se ás vezes não reverte em sacrilegio
Findae a narrativa por quem sões!

Bertha

Ah! sim! dar-lhe-hei esse privilegio,
Eu proseguirei...

Carlos (*altivo*)

Vamos, e depois?

Bertha

Depois, senhor, se o tempo bem corria,
Bem mais depressa o meu amor galgava,
Até que em sorridente e lindo dia.
Qual vulcão, chamma intensa o inflamava.
Estavam satisfeitos os desejos
Da mulher, que contente e delirante,
Se deixou cahir sofrega de beijos,
Nos braços d'um querido e terno amante...

Carlos (*surprehendidissimo*)

Nos braços d'um amante hein!... hein! Senhora?!
E então, com que coragem inaudita,
Faz tal revelação sómente agora,
A esposa indigna, mil vezes maldicta!

.....

Nos braços d'um amante, não é assim?!!
E com que arrojo, com que atrevimento,
Procura descobrir perante mim
O seu infame e vil procedimento!

Bertha (*interrompendo*)

Chame-lhe tudo quanto bem quizer,
Se pequei, se cahi, porém, no abysmo,
A eito n'elle cahe muita mulher.

Carlos

Mas, meu Deus! É demais tanto cynismo!!

.....

De forma, que a mulher por mim sonhada,
E que eu ardentemente possui,
Denuncia, confessa, exclama e brada.
Que m'enganou?!...

Bertha

E que inda ri de si!

Carlos

Senhora! Que medonha crueldade!!...

Bertha

Que quer?! é um engano natural...
Suppoz, julgou que eu era uma beldade,
Conquistou-me como um grande ideal
Emanado dos Ceus, ente divino,
Mulher de formosura incomparavel,
De olhar meigo, suave e rosto fino,
Imagem linda, santa e adoravel,
Nympha, que a muza canta em dôce estylo,
Em poema sublime, em verso bello,
O quadro mais perfeito de Murillo,

E da sculptura, a estatua modello.
Sonhou-me assim, porém foi sonho erróneo
Hoje, eis apenas o ente que não passa
D'um objecto preciso ao matrimonio,
Sem que tenha sequer uma só graça
D'aquellas que o Senhor imaginou.
Hoje eis a mulher simples e vulgar,
Sem os dons d'outro tempo que passou,
E que ao vêr-me, pensára architectar.
Emfim: Mulher inutil, sem valor...

Carlos

E que ora transforma em atroz calvario
A vida do hymineu!...

Bertha

Oh! meu Senhôr:
Isso é tão futil, é tão secundario,
Que de f'rido, mostrar-se-me aparente,
Creia, revela em bôa consciencia,
Nem sêr constante, nem sêr coherente...

Carlos (*desesperado*)

Basta senhora, se é muita a prudencia
Minha, maior é inda a gran cordura
Com que ouço semelhante confissão,
De deshonra, de vergonha e amargura!...

Bertha (*áparte*)

E para mim, de tanta inspiração!

Carlos (*continuando*)

Basta, sim! E nem mais uma palavra
Que aggrave tão fataes desenganos,
Nem aumente a dôr que em minha alma lavra,
Sabendo que motivos bem profanos
Ao meu lár desventura agora traz:
Ao lár onde até aqui sómente via,
Ninho feito de amôr, feito de páz,
Na mais leal e santa companhia;
Ninho feito de benções infinitas,
Canto da mais risonha f'licidade
Por Deus enviada em graças bemdictas,
Berço de sã virtude e honestidade...

.....

E só agora, só n'este momento,
De tão louca illusão tenho o alcance!

Bertha (*áparte*)

Graças! e parabens ao meu talento,
Que já encontra assumpto p'ra um romance!

Carlos (*continuando*)

E só agora, apenas n'este instante,
Vem dizer, revelar, esta Senhora,
Que ousou cahir nos braços d'um amante!!

Bertha

E que a partir d'então, desde essa hora,
Sem que á minha mente outra ideia assome,
Eu nunca deixarei de bemdizer
O seu amor, a vida e o seu nome!...

Carlos (*com rancor*)

Nome que eu desejara conhecer,
Para em sangue vingar o atroz insulto
Hoje lançado ao rosto d'um marido
Cuja honra, lhe devera ser um culto!
Ah! Senhora, depois de ter ouvido
Revelações fataes e tão extranhas.
Depois de supportar tantas surpresas,
Indique-me o auctor d'essas façanhas
O seu cumplice para taes proezas?!

Bertha

Pensa então n'uma breve desaffronta?

Carlos

Nem mais, senhora, e bem depressa,
Que é esse o sentimento que desponha
N'um peito que á loucura se arremeça!

Bertha

E afinal, o que lucra, não me diz?

Carlos (*estupefacto*)

Que lucro!? Dar da minha honra um exemplo...

Bertha

Mas olhe, que o que fui, gosei e fiz
Em nada altera a paz do nosso templo!...

Carlos

Surprehende-nos a fôrma audaciosa
Como allude á baixeza do seu feito!!...

Bertha

Ouçã!... A avivar a data venturoza
Do que acabo d'expôr, pende ao meu peito
Um retrato: Quer vêr Vossa Excellencia?...

Carlos

Que a tanto não avance, eu a aconselho!!

Bertha (*mostrando o retrato*)

Pois meu amigo, tenha paciencia,
Já agora ha-de vêr-se n'este espelho...

Carlos (*surprehendido*)

An??!... Eu?!... o seu marido?!!

Bertha

Sim, pois quem?
Quem a não ser o meu real senhôr,
Se eu nunca, nunca amei a mais ninguém!
Se eu jámais conheci um outro amôr?!...

Carlos (*sem compreender*)

Mas?!...

Bertha (*interrompendo*)

Diga-me, se em vista d'esta scena,
De tanta sensação e sentimento,
Em verdade, lhe vale, ou não, a pena
Dar apreço e valôr ao casamento?...

Carlos (*com doçura*)

Eu compreendo esposa da minha alma!
É dos Deuses o gosto da vingança?!

Bertha

Que espero e creio tenha a palma,
De mais firmar o bem d'esta aliança!

Carlos (*abraçando Bertha*)

Oh! sim, minha querida, ente adorado!
Aproveito a lição de ensino duro;
E crê, que de falar-te no passado,
Nunca mais:

Eu prometo

Bertha

Juras?

Carlos (*afirmativamente*)

Juro.

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