

DELL
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THE SWORD OF

ZORRO



LUNGE AND PARRY



The rapier was undoubtedly the most popular duelling weapon in Spanish America. It is a pointed sword without any sharp edges and in use is one of the most delicate and demanding of weapons. The duellist needs absolute control of every faculty and must guard himself instantaneously because the "target" is the entire body. A "touch" may be made on a finger, in the arm or even on the sole of the foot. The fencing master trains the duellist for the rapier with a fencing sword called the *épée* which is a lighter version of the rapier.

After learning to stand and walk in the dif-

ficult fencer's positions, the student must learn a perfect lunge—something that is practised day after day. In the lunge, the sword is aimed first, the arm is straightened in a thrust and only then is the right foot moved forward. The rest of the body follows naturally until the fencer finishes his lunge with the point of his sword extended as far as is possible without overbalancing forward so that it is difficult to recover. The fencing master has parried his student's lunge perfectly and will now thrust or lunge as the student recovers.

When lunging, the chief difficulty is not to fall down. Besides this, the left shoulder must be kept back out of the reach of the opponent. At all times, a duellist or a fencer must show only one side of the body to his opponent, never the front of his chest.

The perfect parry deflects the opponent's sword just enough so that there is no "touch" yet leaves the sword in line so that a quick reply is possible.



DUST IS ON ITS SCABBARD AND
AROUND ITS HILT ARE
CORRUPT... BUT VILLANY AND
MURDER ARE SWEEPING ACROSS
OLD CALIFORNIA, FORCING OUT OF
RETIREMENT...

the Sword of Zorro















WE MUST THINK OF OTHER THINGS AS WELL, DIEGO, AND YOUR SECRET IDENTITY IS NOT KNOWN TO THE ONES WHO ARE LAUGHING AT MY BEING KEPT WAITING BY DON DIEGO!



I WILL NOT MARRY A MAN WHO DOES NOT LOVE ME ENOUGH TO PLACE ME FIRST IN HIS THOUGHTS. GOOD EVENING, DON DIEGO!



PERHAPS, DIEGO, DOES NOT REVEALS THE DANGER WE FACE.

PERHAPS EL DONDO WILL MAKE HER UNDERSTAND.



PERHAPS... BY THE WAY, VINCENTE, I HEAR YOU'RE SEEING A LOT OF CARLA MONTONA, THE MERRY WIDOW OF MONTREUX.

I DO NOT LIKE TO HEAR CARLA'S NAME USED SO LIGHTLY, DIEGO!



SEÑORA MONTONA'S REPUTATION WAS MADE BY ARABELLA VINCENTE, NOT BY ME. THEY SAY SHE IS A DANGEROUS ADVENTRESS—AS DEADLY AS SHE IS BEAUTIFUL! BE WARNED, VINCENTE!



I OVERHEARD WHAT DIEGO SAID, VINCENTE. YOU SAID YOU WERE NO LONGER SEEING THAT MONTONA WOMAN!

IF I SEE CARLA MONTONA, IT'S NOBODY'S BUSINESS BUT MINE!





BUT SHE IS A SCHEMER... SHE CARES ONLY FOR MONEY AND POWER!

SHE ALSO CARES FOR ME. IN ANY CASE, I AM MEETING CARLA IN TOWN TOMORROW NIGHT! SHE ARRIVES FROM MEXICO CITY AT NINE!!



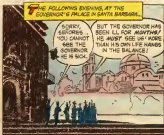
I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING WITH DON ALEJANDRO AND THE OTHER RANCHERS TO PROTEST TO THE GOVERNOR ABOUT THE NIGHT RIDERS

THE GOVERNOR IS SICK, AND HIS ASSISTANT IS INDIFFERENT. LET THE OTHERS WASTE THEIR TIME!



BUT IF THE GOVERNOR WON'T PROTECT US, WHO WILL?

A GOOD QUESTION, PRINCESSITA! ANSWER IT AND YOU CAN BE THE NEXT RULER OF ALTA CALIFORNIA!



THE FOLLOWING EVENING, AT THE GOVERNOR'S PALACE IN SANTA BARBARA.

SORRY, SORRORRE... YOU CANNOT SEE THE GOVERNOR. HE IS SICK.

BUT THE GOVERNOR HAS BEEN ILL FOR MONTHS! HE MUST SEE US! MORE THAN HIS OWN LIFE HANDS IN THE BALANCE!



WHAT HAVE WE HERE? THE WHIRLS AND SWIRLS OF ALTA CALIFORNIA AS-IN PESTERING US WITH THEIR UNIMPORTANT LITTLE PROBLEMS?

ALDON FERRELO! THEY WILL NOT GO AWAY! THEY WANT TO SPEAK TO THE GOVERNOR.



WHEN THE GOVERNOR IS AWAY OR SICK, DON NICOLAS FERRELO, HIS LIEUTENANT, AM GOVERNOR. LET THEM SPEAK TO ME!

HE DID... TWICE BEFORE--AND GOT STRONGER AND BOLDER THAN EVER!



MEANWHILE, IN ONE OF THE BURNED BUILDINGS
ON DON MIGUEL BARRAZO'S RUINED ESTATE...

NOW FOR THE TRANSFER DEEDS AND
PAPERS. YOU HAVE BUT TO SIGN YOUR
NAME, A FEW THINGS, SEÑOR BARRAZO,
AND OUR TRANSACTION IS COMPLETED!

AND I WITH
IT. IT TOOK
ME A LIFE-
TIME TO BUILD
THIS RANCH.

AND THE NIGHT RIDERS DESTROYED
IT IN A SINGLE NIGHT? WHAT A PITY,
SEÑOR BARRAZO. I AM TOUCHED
TO THE HEART...

IMPOSSIBLE,
CARO...



...YOU HAVE
NO HEART!

Zorro!



I THOUGHT YOU
WERE DEAD! NOTHING
WAS

I'M MAKING UP
FOR LOST TIME!
THE PAPERS,
PLEASE, SEÑOR
BARRAZO. ALL OF
THEM!



THE NIGHT RIDERS AREN'T
THE ONLY ONES WHO ARE
GOOD AT BURNING!

STOP
AND
STOP
AND



ARREST!
KILL THE
VILLAINS!

SO THE VILLAINS
REMYN BEING
DRIVEN AWAY
FROM THEIR
VICTIMS!

OHAY!

AS CHICO'S MEN CLOSE IN, ZORRO'S BANNER CUTS A BLAZING PATH ABOUT HIM...





AT THE SAME MOMENT, TEN MILES AWAY...

WHY CAN'T GO
ON - THE NIGHT RIDERS
ARE SAILING ON US AND
EVEN NOW THE HORSES
ARE ALMOST RUNNING
WILD!!

BUT WE MUST
GO ON! WE'LL BE
AT THEIR MORDY!

WE'RE AT THEIR MORDY
AND, SENOR! BETTER THAT
WE LOSE OUR MONEY THAN
OUR LIVES! WANDA, YOU
DEVILS! STOP!

I'M IN FOR IT! THE DRIVER DOESN'T
KNOW THE NIGHT RIDERS ARE AFTER ME!
AND WHEREVER HAPPENS, THE LETTER
MUST NOT FALL INTO THEIR HANDS!

SENORA! I BEG YOU DO NOT QUESTION ME
HIDE THE LETTER... AND WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT
SANTA BARBARA,
SEE THAT IT REACHES
THE GOVERNOR!

BUT...

YOU MUST NOT REFUSE,
SENORA! THE FATE OF
NORTH CALIFORNIA HANGS ON
THE GOVERNOR RECEIVING
THIS MESSAGE! HEAVEN
BE WITH YOU!





FROM SPAIN FOR PLOTTING AGAINST THE CROWN. ARREST HIM AT ONCE IF YOU VALUE THE SAFETY OF ALTA CALIFORNIA. (SIGNED) R. LONGO, MINISTER OF SECURITY

HAHA... HOW FORTUNATE THIS LETTER REACHED CARLA MONTANA INSTEAD OF THE GOVERNOR!





I HAVE MISSED YOU, CARLA! NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE, I MUST SEE YOU EVERY DAY!

BUT YOU CAN'T, VINCENTE. PIA...



WHY NOT? IS THERE ANOTHER?

NO, NO, DEAR VINCENTE, JUST ... *Business!* WHEN IT IS ATTACHED TO... WE SHALL BE TOGETHER.



A FEW NIGHTS LATER, AT THE FESTA BALL AT THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION...

AND DON DIEGO? DID YOU ACTUALLY SUSTAIN YOURSELF FROM YOUR POSITION TO PETITION THE GOVERNOR FOR ACTION?

PERHAPS... TELL ME, FATHER... HAS THE GOVERNOR RECOVERED FROM HIS LONG ILLNESS?



NO, DREG. HE IS STILL SICK, STILL UNAVAILABLE... AND THAT UPSTART, DON MICHAEL PEREIRA IS STILL UNWILLING TO LIFT A FINGER!

DEPLORABLE! WHAT WILL YOU DO?



HOPE THAT HELP COMES FROM AN UNEXPECTED QUARTER! I DARELAY EL ZORRO COULD FIND A WAY TO REE THE GOVERNOR.

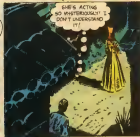
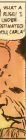
POSSIBLY... EXCUSE ME, FATHER, I SEE PANCHITO. SHE'S AS HARD TO REACH THESE DAYS AS THE GOVERNOR HIMSELF!













SO CHARLIS "HEADACHE" WAS ONLY AN EXCUSE TO MEET ZORRO!

MEET ME AT MY HIDEOUT AS WE PLANNED



AND DO NOT BE LATE!

SHE MUST BE IN LOVE WITH HIM! WHAT A TRUSTING FOOL I HAVE BEEN!



CURSE ZORRO! HE REFLECTS MY SISTER, YET FINDS TIME TO STEAL FROM ME THE WOMAN I LOVE! BUT HE WILL PAY!



LATER THAT NIGHT AT THE CASH MONTANA

SENORA, I AM HERE! NOW WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE NIGHT RIDING?

HAHENCE, ZORRO! WHAT I HAVE TO TELL YOU WILL TAKE TIME! COME, HELP ME BUILD THE FIRE A LITTLE HIGHER AND WE SHALL HAVE SOME WINE...



SENORA MONTANA, I DON'T COME TO VISIT YOU A SOCIAL CALL IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION FOR ME... BE QUICK AND GIVE IT!

WHAT! I HEAR SOMETHING OUTSIDE!



THE NIGHT RIDER!

I WASH! HE-THEYVE COME TO RAID MY LAND!





WITH THE FRONT
AND BACK DOORS
BLOCKED, I
MUST LEAVE
BY THE ROOF!

AFTER HIM!
HE ESCAPED!



THEIR LEADER'S VOICE
SOUNDED FAMILIAR! I
HAVE MET HIM SOME-
WHERE BEFORE!



THE HORSES ALSO
ARE RANGLING...

THERE
HE IS! STOP
HIM!



THERE
ARE NO
ORDINARY
BANDITS! THEY
HAVE TOO MUCH
PRECISION...
DISCIPLINE!



THE ANIMALS ARE SPOT-
LESS! PERFECTLY CURBED!
THE SADDLES GLEAM WITH
A HIGH POLISH... MORE
LIKE A TROOP OF--



TROOP! BY THE
SANTS-- THAT'S IT! THE
NIGHT RIDERS ARE A
TROOP OF CAVALRY!



NO WONDER THEY HAVE NEVER
BEEN CAUGHT BY THE MILITARY!
THEY ARE THE MILITARY! THEY
HAVE ONLY TO RIP OFF THEIR
HOOBS TO BECOME (GASP)...
AND THE VOICE I HEARD (GASP)
WAS THAT OF COLONEL
MARIANOS!



YOU'VE BLUNDERED, ZORRO! NOW THERE IS ONLY ONE THING LEFT TO DO...

AND WHAT IS THAT?



...SAY ANOTHER HADENOA AND SAY THAT ZORRO IS YOUR LEADER! MY DEWENTS WILL BELIEVE HE LED THE NIGHT RIDERS HERE TONIGHT!

YOU ARE AMAZING, SNOOKA...



TO STAND THERE GIVING ORDERS. BARBAROS ORDERS! YET I HAVE NO DOUBT YOU WILL BE GIVING ORDERS TO SON FORTNOLD BEFORE LONG!

GET RUSH! YOU HAVE WORK TO DO!



LATER THAT NIGHT AT A NEARBY RACETRACK

"YOU WILL ALL NAME ME THIS"

"WE'LL HAVE AN COMPLAINTS, NAME... TELL THEM TO OUR LEADER, IS ZORRO!!"



EL ZORRO! YOUR LEADER IS EL ZORRO!

YOU WOULD KNOW SOONER OR LATER... AND ZORRO FEARS NO MAN! DO YOUR WORST!



EL ZORRO! THE VILLAIN! HE PRETENDS TO DEFEND US. ONLY TO STAB US IN THE BACK!

THE FOOL BELIEVED ALL NOW ZORRO WILL BE HUNTED FROM TOWN! GO!! BY THE ANGEL POPULACE... BY THE NIGHT RIDERS... AND THE LAW!

THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, AT THE CASA NEGRA...

DON VICENTE CONCHALA IS DOWNSTAIRS. HE SEEMS UPSET AND ANGRY!

I CAN'T SEE HIM, BERNARDO! MAKE UP AN EXCUSE-- ZORRO HAS WORK TO DO TONIGHT!

THERE IS TALK THAT ZORRO IS THE POWER BEHIND THE NIGHT RIDERS! YOU RISK YOUR LIFE GOING OUT AS ZORRO!

MANY LIVES WILL BE LOST IF I DO NOT GO OUT! THE NIGHT RIDERS MUST BE CRUSHED! TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

WHEN WILL YOU TRAIL TONIGHT? FERRERO? CHICO? MARIANO?

MARIANO! TO TRAIL MARIANO! TO TRAIL THE NIGHT RIDERS AND PREVENT FURTHER BLOODSHED! ASHES, FATHER!

SO YOUR MASTER, DON DIEGO, HAS SOME THING TO SAY TO YOU, BERNARDO?

MR. DON VICENTE, DON DIEGO FELT BAD. SO HE RETURNED EARLY.

THEN GIVE HIM MY HOPES FOR A SPEEDY RECOVERY! ADIOS!

DON DIEGO JUST RODE BY THE WINDOW AS ZORRO! I'LL FOLLOW HIM AND SEE WHERE HE'S GOING!

I WON'T LET HIM OUT OF MY SIGHT! HE IS GOING TO ABET CARLA, OR LEAD THE NIGHT RIDERS... IF RUMORS ARE TRUE!

AN HOUR LATER, IN A SANDY CORNER OF THE DESERT

THERE GOES COLONEL MARIANO NOW... OUT TO HUNT THE NIGHT RIDERS, WHILE THEY RIDE AT HIS HEELS!

AND AS ZORRO TRAILS THE CAVALRY TROOP DON VICENTE TRAILS ZORRO...

ZORRO IS PROBABLY FOLLOWING THE CAVALRY TROOP TO SEE WHERE IT IS HEADING SO HE CAN LEAD HIS NIGHT RIDERS IN THE OTHER DIRECTION!

ZORRO FOLLOWS THE TROOP TO CASA MONTEMA...

SO THE TIGER RISK A VISIT TO THE TIGRESS? IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO HEAR WHAT THEY TALK ABOUT!

...FOLLOWED BY VICENTE...

I WONDER WHY THE CAVALRY VISITS CASA MONTEMA? PERHAPS I WAS MISTAKEN ABOUT CARLA, AND SHE IS HELD BY COLONEL BARRANCO CAPTURE ZORRO AND THE NIGHT RIDERS!

WHENWILE, INSIDE THE CASA...

COLONEL BARRANCO! WHY HAVE YOU COME HERE?

I OVERHEARD EVERYTHING THE OTHER NIGHT BETWEEN YOU AND DON FERRELO.

...AND I HAVE COME FOR THE LETTER!

NEED? AND SUPPOSE I REFUSE TO GIVE IT TO YOU?

THEN I WILL KILL YOU AND TAKE IT, FOR I HAVE NO INTENTION OF LETTING DON FERRELO OBTAIN MY FATE! IT IS I WHO SHALL DIE!

I WILL GIVE YOU THE LETTER!







48 SHORTLY AFTER, AT THE GOVERNOR'S QUARTERS...



EXCELLENCY! ALL IS LOST! ZORRO HAS TOLD THE PEOPLE OF THE PLOT AGAINST THE STATE! THE MOB IS COMING HERE! YOU MUST FLEE!

SADDLE MY HORSE, PABLO. I WILL JOIN MARIANOS AT THE EMERGENCY REUNIONS!

LOOK-PERRELO FLEES!

GOOD! HE WILL LEAD US TO THE OTHERS! HE WILL FOLLOW AT A DISTANCE!



MARIANOS WAS HIDDEN A FORTUNE IN SILVER AND GOLD! WITH THAT MONEY, I CAN GO BLOODYWHERE AND MAKE A FINE START!

LATER IN THE MOUNTAINS...

GOOD ZORRO! PERRELO HAS LOST HIS HORSE... A NATURAL PORTRESS... WHICH CANNOT BE TAKEN EXCEPT AT A GREAT COST OF LIFE!

BUT NEITHER CAN THE FLATTERS COME OUT WHILE WE'RE HERE! IT IS A STALE MATE... WITH TIME IN OUR FAVOR!



EXCELLENCY! WE ARE SURROUNDED! ZORRO NOWS OURS! IF WE RUSH THE PASS, BLOOD WILL FLOW LIKE WATER!

GOOD! ZORRO HAS BEATEN YOU! NOW YOU WILL BE PUNISHED!



SILENCE! YOU WILL BE DEAD IN ANY CASE!

TUT! THERE IS A TIME FOR VIOLENCE AND FOR CRAFTINESS! I HAVE A PLAN! DON VINCENTE WILL BE MOST USEFUL! GET THE TREASURE READY TO TRAVEL!

OHAY!



ON THOSE
PACK ANIMALS—
WHY?

I HAVE A PLAN... WE'RE
GOING TO MAKE A DASH FOR
FREEDOM! ASK NO QUESTIONS!
JUST HELP ME BLINDFOLD AND
EXCHANGE CLOTHING WITH
DON VINCENTE!



ZORRO! THIS IS
PERRELO! TO PRE-
VENT BLOODSHED
ON BOTH SIDES, I
OFFER YOU A DUEL
—WITH THE RESULT
BEING THE SUR-
RENDER OF THE
LOSING SIDE!

I ACCEPT—
AND WILL AWAIT
YOU IN THE
PASS!



NOW YOU SEE WHY I
EXCHANGED CLOTHING
WITH DON VINCENTE!
HE WILL RUN THROUGH
THE CANYON PASS
DRESSED AS I
AND WILL DRAW ZORRO'S
ATTENTION!...

... WHILE
YOU WILL
SHOOT
ZORRO
FROM A
PLACE OF
CONCEAL-
MENT!
EXCELLENT!
I WILL REVE
DON VINCENTE!



DON VINCENTE, WILL
YOU CARRY A MESSAGE
TO ZORRO? TELL HIM
WE WILL SURRENDER
IF GUARANTEED A
FAIR
TRIAL! YES, I WILL
DO IT.

THIS WAY
THROUGH
THE CAN-
YON PASS
DO NOT
REARSE THE
BLINDFOLD!



THERE HE IS!

ZORRO'S VOICE!

HOLD,
PERRELO!
STAND AND
DUEL!

W-WAIT!
I-I'M NOT
PERRELO!



ONE, ZORRO!!

BANG!

duff!

