**THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA**

**ACT II**

**SCENE 1**

CHARACTERS:

Christopher Columbus

Narrator

King of Portugal

2 servants of the King of Portugal

Rodrigo de Triana

Narrator: Christopher Columbus was convinced he could reach the Indias going West, so he decides to ask the King of Portugal to finance his expedition. He arrives at the King’s palace when the King is sleeping his “siesta” *(whispering)* The King was very lazy. Two servants welcome him:

*(The two servants go to the King’s room to wake him up)*

Servant 1: Majesty, Christopher Columbus is waiting for you.

King: How dare you to wake me up?

Servant 2: Majesty, but..., Columbus has arrived…

King: But let me see! *(very angry)* How many times do I have to say that my clothes are only washed with soap? Not even with Colón or Ariel, only with Persil soap!

Servant 2: No, no, Majesty, we don’t mean Colón, the laundry detergent, we mean the Genoese sailor, he has been waiting all day to be received …

*(The King wakes up, yawning and stretching his arms)*

King: And what does this sailor want from me?

Servant 1: He wants to offer you the best spices you can imagine, your Majesty.

King: Spices? You say? You’re right, I haven’t eaten for two hours! I need to have a snack, a Spanish omelette and a jug of Rioja wine. Tell that sailor to come in. We’re going to talk about Spanish delicacies, I love Spanish food: octopus, paella, seafood, ham, Iberian chorizo, tapas...yum... yum... lucky Spaniards, who have such delicious food.

*(Christopher Columbus comes into the King’s room)*

Christopher Columbus: Your Majesty, I have come to ask for your help. I am sure I can get to the Indias going West but I need finance my project. Portugal will get a lot of benefits!!

King: Benefits?? I don’t care about any benefits. I just want some delicious Spanish food. Don’t you have some olives or some gazpacho?

Christopher Columbus: Sorry Majesty, I just have an orange from Valencia.

King: Bah...bah... Go to the Catholic Monarchs of Spain and ask them for some Spanish delicacies, then come back and we’ll talk about that expedition you say.

Christopher Columbus: I’ll do it Your Majesty. Bye bye!!

*(Columbus leaves)*

Narrator: Columbus leaves the King of Portugal and meets his dearest friend Rodrigo de Triana who was waiting for him outside the palace.

Rodrigo de Triana: *(angry)* I told you Christopher, the king of Portugal would reject your project. You´re very wrong!! How do I have to tell you that the Earth is flat?? You are off your head...!! Oh, yes! YOU ARE CRAZY!!

Christopher Columbus: LAZY? you say I'm LAZY? Mine is a great IDEA, the very best IDEA... I'm going to discover the NEW WORLD... and this lazy and greedy pig King of Portugal has given me an idea. I’ll ask the Spanish Catholic Monarchs to finance my project.

Rodrigo: *(in a tiresome way)* Yes, you have some really weird ideas... Let’s go and ask the Catholic Monarchs then. And we can have a Spanish night party on our way *(dancing)*

Christopher Columbus: Rodrigo, you are always thinking about the same “juerga , juerga and juerga” Not only are there parties in Spain but also now, with Mariano Rajoy as Prime Minister, people work a lot...

*(They leave dancing)*

**SCENE 2**

CHARACTERS:

Christopher Columbus

Narrator

The Catholic Monarchs: Queen Isabella of Castile

[King Ferdinand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferdinand_II_of_Aragon) of [Aragon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crown_of_Arag%C3%B3n)

Rodrigo de Triana

Narrator: Christopher Columbus goes to Spain to ask the Catholic Monarchs to finance his voyage. He is welcome by the Queen Isabella of Castile and King Ferdinand of Aragón in the throne room.

Christopher Columbus: Majesties, thank you for listening to me. I have a project in mind that can change the world.

Queen Isabella: Speak! Quickly! We have a Flamenco dance lesson in 5 minutes. Ferdinand loves dancing flamenco. *(to Ferdinand)* Don’t you, my darling?

King Ferdinand: Well, what I really like is break dance. But I’ll dance whatever you want darling, if we go to a party tonight.

Christopher Columbus: I need your Majesties finance my voyage to the West. I am sure I’ll discover the New World and you’ll be famous for that, and very rich.

Queen Isabella: I’m not sure...

King Ferdinand: *(whispering to Isabella)* Darling, imagine that this man here discovers the Caribbean... We could dance salsa and bachata all the time...

Queen Isabella: *(very surprised)* Yes, and we could go on a cruise to the Bahamas...

King Ferdinand: Oh darling, *(daydreaming)* I can imagine the sandy beaches and the coconuts...

Queen Isabella: Yes, and I could wear my new bikini for the first time... OK, Mr. Columbus. We’ll help you. Spain will be the major power of Europe.

Christopher Columbus: Thank you, your Majesties.

*(The Catholic Monarchs leave dancing Flamenco music and Christopher Columbus stays alone)*

Christopher Columbus: My God, these Monarchs are crazy. *(calling Rodrigo de Triana)* Rodrigo,Rodrigo...

Rodrigo de Triana: Yes, Sir...

Christopher Columbus: My friend, we are going to discover The New World. Let’s prepare the voyage. We’ll need three ships. We’ll call them Santa María, Pinta and Niña. Ah! And tell the Pinzón brothers to join us, they are very good sailors. Get everything ready. We will leave on 3rd August and we’ll get to the Indias on 12th October.

Rodrigo de Triana: But Sir, on that day there is an important football match: Real Madrid versus Barcelona. And the Pinzón brothers are fans of the Real Madrid. We won’t find any sailors ...

Christopher Columbus: food... , dance... , football... Does anybody mind about the Discovery of the New World?