**SHAPING YOUNG EUROPEAN’S FUTURE THROUGH DRAMA**

**“DON JUAN TENORIO”**

**(BY José Zorrilla)**

(adapted and translated by Pilar Romero Candau)

ACT 1

NARRATOR:

Here is again the story of Don Juan Tenorio, unbearable fiend who started in a convent and finished in the purgatory

(On the stage there is a table where Don Juan is sitting writing a letter to Doña Inés. He is at "El Laurel" inn, at the heart of "Santa Cruz" quarter, in Seville. As he writes he makes a lot of exaggerated gestures, he inhales, kisses the letter, he sighs and does a lot of showiness. As he finishes the letter he takes out a huge envelope where he keeps the letter, sticks it licking and gives it to his servant)

DON JUAN: Go to the "Carmelitas" convent where Doña Ines lives, and give her this letter. (Aside) It's the fifth one I write this month.

SERVANT: Another letter? Oh my god! This is useless. She is very difficult to woo.

DON JUAN (haughtily) I reckon she is a difficult bird, but I bet she will love this letter

SERVANT: Shall I wait for an answer?

DON JUAN: No, none. She already knows that at nine with her bag ready she must wait for me.

SERVANT: (surprised). But she has never seen you!

DON JUAN: Don't worry. I understand it is difficult to understand my ability because I only need to sign just a simple letter to have all women fall head over heels for me. I am like this!

SERVANT: But Doña Ines is so aloof

DON JUAN: But I am wild! But there isn't a lady who doesn’t sigh for me once she receives a letter of mine (laughs proudly). So go now and give it to her, meanwhile I will be waiting here sitting down peacefully

(As he is going to sit down he falls, he pretends nothing has happened. The servant leaves immediately. He is in a hurry. On the other side of the stage enters Don Luis de Mejías, he is dressed very elegantly looking down at Don Juan)

DON LUIS: Are you Don Juan Tenorio?

DON JUAN: (standing up) Yes, it's me!

DON LUIS: I’m Don Luis Mejía (proudly)

DON JUAN: (flattering) Oh my dear Luis, Come in! (looking him up and down) You have grown up!

DON LUIS: Yes you are right. Everyone says so

(They start sitting down but Don Juan in a comic way checks that the chair is in its place)

DON JUAN: Well, Don Luis, why do you honour me with your visit?

DON LUIS.- Well, Don Juan , if it doesn't upset you let's finish it soon. I'm getting married. With "Doña Ana de Pantoja"

DON JUAN.- (Surprised holds Don Luis from his shirt) Is she Doña Ines' friend?

DON LUIS.- Yes!!

DON JUAN.- Is she the same that I one day.....

DON LUIS.- (interrupting him and very upset) Yes, Yes , the same doña Ana

DON JUAN.- (looking jealous) And when are you marrying?

DON LUIS.- Tomorrow

DON JUAN.- is this a joke?  (He laughs looking at the audence). You and her married? I bet I can stop this wedding!!!

(he laughs mischievously rubbing both his hands)

DON LUIS.- Do you want to take Doña Ana away from me? My true love?

DON JUAN.- Exactly and tomorrow!

DON LUIS.- (threatening) Do it! If you dare!

(DON LUIS leaves from one side of the stage, he is very angry because of this challenge .DON JUAN, leaves from the other side taking with him the elements of his scenery: the table, the chair and the pen)

(From the other side enters Doña Ines accompanied by the Chief nun of the convent, they are also carrying the elements they are using for their scene: a railing, a cardboard)

ACT 2

NARRATOR: When the action starts, it appears a cat lying next to the tree. Then the chief nun and a young nun enter. This young nun whose lack of malice we will regret later.

CHIEF NUN- Well Inés, It's now twilight and the sun hides behind that mountain

DOÑA INÉS.- Yes . Like a streetlamp the day is coming to an end and my soul feels empty like a matress in a bed and breakfast.

CHIEF NUN.- And meanwhile the day leaves as a king surrenders and the evening shyly arrives. The white and cold moon is meeting the evening until it stays like a cup and its saucer. Are you coming in?

DOÑA INÉS.- I'll stay a little bit please, because my soul is aching.

CHIEF NUN.- Have you mended the fan?

DOÑA INÉS.- I will do it later

CHIEF NUN.-Then stay, I am going to iron my skirt, then wash my teeth....if there is water

(DOÑA INÉS stays on stage, suddenly she hears like someone hissing. It comes from Don Juan's servant)

DOÑA INÉS.- Who is there? Is it a cat? But who’s calling?

SERVANT.- (Speaking with a deep voice, trying to frighten her)¡Doña Inés! ¡Doña Inés!

DOÑA INÉS.- What are you doing there hiding? Who are you? Oh my God!

SERVANT- (entering) Sister, it's the servant of a gentleman who is in love with you.

DOÑA INÉS.- And what are you bringing?

SERVANT.- He has written (as he does every day) a letter which he sends to you together with this little book

DOÑA INÉS.- Oh thanks it is so cute! What is written inside?

(The servant gives her the letter. Doña Ines takes it, embraces it and smells it)

DOÑA INÉS.- Oh what a smell! It smells ambrosia

THE SERVANT.- It is because don Juan has a bath everyday   (he leaves)

(Doña Ines opens the letter and out takes a huge letter which covers her face. On stage it appears Don Juan with his table representing like in a flahback the moment he was writing the letter)

DON JUAN.- ( Doña Ines acts as if she was reading but we hear the voice of Don Juan)Idolized, Doña Inés, my hummingbird .Yesterday I was all day thinking about you. I went to the cinema to stop thinking of you but when I left you were still in my head. Because of you I am all day crying, like a baby. I cry in the morning as a coward, in the evening when I am having a tea and at night, in bed with my pyjamas. I am so sad.....

Why are you all day prying and not thinking about me?

As I can't stand it anymore, today at 8 o'clock I will be waiting for you next to the wall. Lot of kisses. Yours JT.

(When the servant finishes the letter he leaves the stage. On stage stays Doña Ines excited by the feelings that the letter has generated in her)

DOÑA INÉS.- (Trembling) Oh! I'm shivering, why is my blood is frozen? Why do I feel so weak? If that man turns up, I don't know what I might do

(dramatic)  Oh! Don Juan Tenorio! Where is this bandit?

(aside) I want you to be my boyfriend. Has he got a pact with Cupid?

(she leaves the stage with her hands on her head. She is very worried)

ACT 3

(Don Juan enters. He is singing. He looks happy, satisfied. He is showing off)

DON JUAN.- I was with a friend who is going to get married. We have a bet and I am going to win it.

(He makes a gesture as if he was cutting someone's neck. He leaves the stage on the opposite side Don Luis enters. Don Luis is carrying part of the scenery, a cardboard door)

DON LUIS.- I am so happy. I feel like singing because today I am marrying my Anita

(He puts in the center of the stage the door that he is going to knock and when he knocks it, the servant who is ready behind, opens it very quickly)

THE SERVANT: Who is there?

DON LUIS.- Where is Doña Ana?

THE SERVANT- Doña Ana is not here, she is in her garden. She left this morning.

DON LUIS.- (surprised) Why? Can you explain yourself?

SERVANT.- Gentleman, Don Juan arrived first.

DON LUIS.- But, I can't believe this. Didn't she leave a message for me?

SERVANT: Yes she told me to inform you that the wedding must be called off.

(After receiving this news, Don Luis stumbles and falls with his hands on his chest)

DON LUIS.- (very exaggerated) Alas! Alas!  (aside) I promise I will have my revenge. I will ask the government to illegalize Don Juan.

(The servant has heard the gossip. She laughs mischievously and leaves taking with herself the door)

 ACT 4

(It is ten o'clock. He hears bells from the convent. Enters Doña Ines carrying a little cute suitcase, she looks sidewards, as if she were looking for someone, then she sits on a bench which she also carries)

DOÑA INÉS.- It is ten sharp. But where is he? Isn't he that handsome man standing there?

DON JUAN.- ( he enters, looking very well)

Oh dear Doña Ines, Here I am, as promised.

DOÑA INÉS.- (approaching shyly)

I thought you were going to dump me

DON JUAN.- Well my dear one. It's ten and here I am.

(He approaches slowly as if trying to embrace her, his eyes are closed as if he was going to kiss her, but Doña Ines, afraid puts the case in front of her and starts crying, he takes out a handkerchief and Don Juan has to console her)

But why are you crying my hummingbird? Aren't you happy to see me?

DOÑA INÉS.- (inspired but afraid)

 Don Juan, Don Juan, I can't deny you my love, but I am not brave enough to be your lover

DON JUAN.- ( kneeling down)

Is it not true my angel of love, that in this remote shore

a sewage broke and from here we can smell the odour?

DOÑA INÉS.- True, true, my lord

DON JUAN.- Is it not true my angel of love that in this remote shore, the flower of the chamomile blooms at its most?

DOÑA INÉS.- True , True my lord

DON JUAN.- (Absolutely inspired looking at the audience)

Here were insects of all kinds fly from one flower to other

Is it not true, my dove, that they are breathing love?

DOÑA INÉS.- (crazy in love)

 Oh stop, stop Don Juan I can't stand it any more

(Now she starts flirting with him openly)

I am stunned by your image. I love your sideburns and your breath poisons me (she laughs nervously)

(They start coming closer as if they were going to finally kiss each other, but then Don Juan stops)

DON JUAN.- No, We have to stop here or in no time we will be three

DOÑA INÉS.- Oh! How happy we will be, when we have our babies and they call me Mom.

DON JUAN.- Come to me, Doña Ines (embracing her)

DOÑA INÉS.-So when will you marry me?

DON JUAN.- (joking) When pigs fly!

(DON JUAN laughs like a rascal. DOÑA INÉS is puzzled and DON JUAN leaves the stage with her as if she were bewitched)

ACT 5

Enters Don Luis he carries a magnifying glass on one hand and a pistol on the other. He is looking for someone. He is looking for Don Juan)

DON LUIS.- It's been a week since I don't sleep because that one who I don't want to name took my love from me just when we were about to get married.

KNIGHT COMMANDER: (he enters and he also carries a weapon) Thank the heavens that he didn't do that after the wedding

DON LUIS.- And you friend, who are you?

KNIGHT COMMANDER.- Knight commander of Ulloa, born in Chivacoa and father of Doña Inés.

DON LUIS.- Nice to meet you and tell me what are you doing in the street in this cold night?

KNIGHT COMMANDER- Do you want to know? Well I am looking for Don Juan Tenorio?

(weeping of a small child is heard)

DON LUIS.- Who is crying?

KNIGHT COMMANDER.- It's my daughter, Doña Inés. I know her

DON LUIS.- Run commander! We are going to clean our honour tonight!

(Enters Doña Ines with her hands tied to a small cardboard tree, she could escape but she prefers crying non stop)

DOÑA INÉS.- Here I was left by Tenorio. Alone, without food and making fun of my name

KNIGHT COMMANDER: Inés!

DOÑA INÉS.- Father!

(father and daughter run into each other. Don Juan pampers his daughter. They are happy)

DOÑA INÉS.- But how could you enter, it was locked and there was a very high bridge

(suddenly we hear the sound of a gunshot)

KNIGHT COMMANDER- Oh! I am dead!

DOÑA INÉS.- Father, my dear father

DON LUIS.- My god, what happened here?

DOÑA INÉS.- I don't know (crying)

COMENDADOR.- (about to die)  I think it was a hunter who killed me by mistake (he dies very melodramatically)

DOÑA INÉS.- (crying very exaggeratedly) I am an orphan! I am alone in the world!

(Don Juan enters as if nothing had happened)

DON JUAN.- Who is crying?

DON LUIS.- (dismayed)

Oh poor old man rest in peace

(Suddenly he reacts and takes out his sword to attack Don Juan) Take out your sword, coward!

DON JUAN.- You are ridiculous! (taking out his sword) You are going to last one second

(They start fighting and suddenly Don Luis falls after a shot is heard)

DON LUIS.- (with his hands on his chest) I am dead

DOÑA INÉS.- ( suddenly reacts) Don Luis Mejía dead too

DON JUAN.- But who killed him? I didn't have time

DON LUIS.- (about to die)   Maybe this hunter....he can't shoot a gun.(he dies)

(Now we hear another shot. This time it is Don Juan who falls)

DON JUAN.- (with his hands on his chest) I'm dying

DOÑA INÉS.- Oh my god, I am now a an orphan and a widow!

DON JUAN.- Good bye Doña Inés (he dies)

(Doña Inés start crying like a baby)

NARRATOR.- Here this play ends

Here is again the story of Don Juan Tenorio, unbearable fiend who started in a convent and finished in the purgatory.

But the good thing of this story is that it wasn't a hunter who killed them, but poor Doña Ana who only wanted to give Don Juan his due but in her confusion he killed three instead of one so poor Doña Ines was left orphan and widow at the same time.

the end