**LA VIDA DEL LAZARILLO DE TORMES**

**Characters** SCENE 1

**NARRATOR**

**THE BLIND.**

**LAZARUS.**

**MOTHER**

**BOAR.**

**Characters** SCENE 2

**NARRATOR**

**THE BLIND**

**LAZARUS**

**Characters** SCENE 3

**NARRATOR**

**THE BLIND.**

**LAZARUS.**

**Characters** SCENE 4

**NARRATOR**

**THE BLIND.**

**LAZARUS.**

**SCENE 1**

NARRATOR: (in the center of the scene): Listen, my countrymen, I will tell you a story you have never heard before. The story deals with part of my life, all of it worthy of being told! (small pause). For the short time we have, I will only tell you some of my adventures, leaving the rest for another time. (small pause).

First of all, I would like you to know that my name is Lázaro de Tormes. That I am the son of 2 villagers of Salamanca and that I was born inside a mill, located on the river Tormes. Hence my surname. (small pause).

You should also be aware that during my childhood I never smiled the goddess Fortune. When I was very small my father died and I only had my mother left, who worked in many jobs in order to bring up my brother and myself. (Pause). But, above all, one day, a blind man who was staying at the Inn in which my mother worked, he requested her that I could serve as his lazarillo/guide. This man of which I am speaking, would become my first master/boss.

(The NARRATOR retreats to a corner.) (The BLIND, LAZARUS and his MOTHER are placed in the center of the scene).

MOTHER (Holding Lazarus by the shoulders): son, I know I will never see you again. Try to be good. I have raised you and now I will leave you with a good master. Make do for yourself.

BLIND (addressing the mother): I will teach him everything I know and take care of him as if he were my own son.

MOTHER (both): Go with God, then!

(The MOTHER, the BLIND and LAZARUS exit). (The NARRATOR returns to the center of the scene.)

NARRATOR: At the exit of the city of Salamanca, next to the Roman bridge on the river Tormes, there is a stone carved in the shape of a bull. With it or, better said, through it, my new master decided to teach me the first lesson.

(The NARRATOR moves to a corner.) (The BLIND, LAZARUS and the BOAR enter the scene). (The boar is placed on top of a desk/chair, standing still resting on 4 legs, in the form of bull). (The blind man is placed next to him).

BLIND(making a movement with his hand to Lazarus): Come closer, Lazarus. They say that if you put your ear next to this stone, you'll hear a big noise inside it.

(LAZARUS approaches and puts his head next to the BOAR. The BLIND man pushes him to it very hard. LAZARUS makes gestures of being hurt.)

Blind (s): You’re a fool! You must learn that the guide of a blind person must know more than the devil! (Laughs and stops for a second). I will not give you any money, Lazarus, as I lack of it, but I will give you many advices.(LAZARUS, the BLIND and the BOAR exit). (The NARRATOR returns to the center).

NARRATOR: That man was the most cunning person I've ever met. He knew thousand of prayers of by heart and countless ointments to apply. But at the same time, he was extremely greedy. I often starved to death, as he only gave me the crumbs of what he ate. (small pause). Having seen this, I had to devise some mockery. I’ll now tell you some of them.

SCENE 2

(The BLIND and LAZARUS enter the scene). (The NARRATOR retreats to a corner and talks in the background, while the BLIND and LAZARUS represent the scenes that are being told).

NARRATOR (continues to speak from the corner): The first one I will tell you deals with a jug in which my master used to drink wine. He seldom let the jug on the table, but when he did, I grabbed it and drank a bit.

(At the same time as the NARRATOR is speaking, LAZARUS represents this scene. He is grabbing a jug, while the BLIND man is "looking" to the other direction).

NARRATOR (continues to speak from the corner): However, the blind man, having noticed that there was some wine missing, he started to suspect on me. And from then onwards, he always sat with the jug in his hands.

(The BLIND represents this scene, sitting down and grabbing the jug by the side).

NARRATOR (continues to speak from the corner): But I, with a long straw, sorted out his strategy and managed to drink from the jug again.

(A smiling LAZARUS introduces his straw into the jug, while the BLIND, seated, "looks" forward, without suspecting anything).

NARRATOR (continues to speak from the corner): However, the blind man, noticed again the lack of wine in the jug and so he then covered the jug with one of his hands.

(The BLIND grabs the jug with one hand and covers it with the other). (LAZARUS opens his arms to the audience as a sign of confusion.)

NARRATOR (continues to speak from the corner): Before such meanness, I decided to devise something new and sophisticated. So I made a hole in the base of the jug and filled it with candle wax. At night and in the heat of the fire, the wax that covered the hole, melted and I, sitting on the floor under the legs of the blind man, finally tasted that excellent liquid, which we call wine, (hahahaha -laughs)

(LAZARUS represents this scene, lying cheerfully on the floor, between the legs of the blind man, and opens his mouth waiting for wine to reach his mouth. The BLIND man shows himself seated, with his legs opened and the jug among them, "looking" at the front.

NARRATOR (continues to speak from the corner): However, after several days doing the same thing, the blind men realized the mockery and decided to give me a painful lesson. Having realised that I had been stealing the wine in the way described, and taking advantage as he knew I was underneath... He broke the jug against my head!

(The BLIND men and LAZARUS represents the scene at the same time as the NARRATOR explains it).

(After this, the BLIND and LAZARUS exit the scene). (The NARRATOR returns to the centre of the scene.)

SCENE 3

NARRATOR: and... do not think that the cunning of the blind men stayed here. On another occasion, he received a bunch of grapes as a gift and surprisingly enough, he decided to share them with me.

(The narrator steps aside. The BLIND and LAZARUS enter the scene again).

BLIND: (showing bunch of grapes to Lazarus and audience). Lazarus, let’s eat this bunch of grapes equally. I will eat one grape and then you eat one, so nobody will be cheating

(The Blind and Lazarus start eating one by one)

NARRATOR (from a corner) But at a certain point the Blind started eating two at a time. Lazarus observed this and decided to cheat as well but instead of two he would take three at a time.(little pause). And so they ate until grapes were over. After finishing eating the Blind said:

BLIND: you cheated Lazarus, I swear by God you have eaten grapes three at a time

LAZARUS: I promise I didn’t master, how can you suspect such a thing from me?

BLIND: Do you want to know how I know it? Because when I started eating two at a time you didn’t say a word, you idiot. (Then the Blind hits Lazarus on the head)

SCENE 4

(BLIND and LAZARUS leave stage. Narrator enters to the center)

NARRATOR: after that scuffle, many more came and I was hard beaten more often than not. And so a feeling started growing inside me. Nothing good would come from him. I received more beats than food. So one rainy night I decided to get rid of that horrible master.

(NARRATOR goes to a corner. LAZARUS, THE BLIND and COLUMN enter stage)

BLIND: Lazarus, it’s raining too much. Let’s stay in that village’s inn. Guide us there carefully.

(BLIND and LAZARUS walk slowly to the other side of stage while NARRATOR says:)

NARRATOR: (talking from the corner) I walked him to the village through the main square. Protected from the rain under the cloisters.

We arrived to a crossing not covered with a wide stream of water because of the rain

LAZARUS: Master, to cross this stream we must make a big jump, there is no other way

BLIND: Alright Lazarus. You jump first but first turn me in the right direction so I can follow you.

NARRATOR: (From the corner, and column enter stage): Fed up of the Blind and ready to get rid of him, I made him face a big column of the cloister.

(Lazarus jumps next to the column without being hurt)

LAZARUS (after jumping) Go on master, jump with all your might

(The Blind jumps and hit the column, falling unconscious to the ground)

(Blind stays in the ground 10 seconds without moving and new NARRATOR enters to the center of stage, while talking, Blind and Lazarus leave the stage)

NARRATOR: After this trick I ran away from that village as fast as I could. (small pause).

After the Blind I had more masters like a Cleric and a Squire And I could tell you more stories with them but that’s a tale for another day. .

BIG APPLAUSE

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