



Gustavo Adolfo Claudio Domínguez Bastida, better known as **Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer** (February 17, 1836, [Seville](#) – December 22, 1870, [Madrid](#)) was a Spanish [Romanticist poet](#) and [writer](#) (mostly short stories), also a [playwright](#), [literary columnist](#), and talented in drawing. Today he is considered one of the most important figures in [Spanish literature](#), and is considered by some as the most read writer after [Cervantes](#). He adopted the alias of Bécquer as his brother [Valeriano Bécquer](#), a painter, had done earlier. He was associated with the [romanticism](#) and [post-romanticism](#) movements and wrote while [realism](#) was enjoying success in Spain. He was moderately well known during his life, but it was after his death that most of his works were published. His best known works are the *Rhymes* and the *Legends*, usually published together as *Rimas y leyendas*. These poems and tales are essential to the study of Spanish literature and common reading for high-school students in [Spanish-speaking countries](#).

Eternal Love

*The face of the sun may darken forever;
The oceans may run dry in an instant;
The axis spinning our planet may shatter;
Like a brittle crystal.
Yes, all of that may happen! At the end, Death
May cover my flesh with his funeral shroud;
But none of it will reach within my soul and extinguish
The bright flame of your love.*