



## **“THE DREAM OF CARLOS II”**

### **CHARACTERS:**

- 1.-NARRATOR: GHOST OF A DEAD SOLDIER WHO TOOK PART IN THE BATTLE OF ALMANSA
- 2.-THE KING CARLOS II
- 3.-THE QUEEN MARIANA DE NEOBURGO
- 4.-THE ROYAL CONFESSOR NICOLAS TORRES PALMOTA.
- 5.-THE COURT DOCTOR
- 6.-CARDINAL LUIS FERNANDEZ PORTOCARRERO
- 7.-INQUISITOR BALTASAR DE MENDOZA Y SANDOVAL
- 8.-MAID

### **SIDES**

#### **AUSTRIAN DINASTY**

MARIANA DE NEOBURGO

INQUISITOR

#### **BORBON/FRENCH DINASTY**

CONFESSOR NICOLÁS TORRES

CARDINAL PORTOCARRERO

DOCTOR

### SUMMARY

CARLOS II'S BEDROOM. THE KING IS RESTING ON HIS BED. SUDDENLY, HE STARTS GETTING UPSET AND MOVING FROM ONE PART TO ANOTHER OF HIS BED, UNTIL HE WAKES UP AND, STARTLED, CRIES: "NOOOO..."

AT ONCE, A WOMAN, MARIANA DE NEOBURGO, APPEARS. ACCOMPANIED BY A MAID, MARIANA TRIES TO CONSOLE HIM AND ASKS WHAT'S HAPPENED. CARLOS TELLS HER THE HORRIBLE DREAM HE HAS JUST HAD. HE SUFFERS FROM AN EPILEPTIC FIT – NOBODY KNEW THIS BEFORE- AND THEN, MARIANA CALLS THE DOCTOR, WHO EXPRESSES HOW INCONVENIENT IS THE FACT THAT THE KING AND THE QUEEN SLEEP TOGETHER. THEY ARGUE BECAUSE THEY HAVE DIFFERENT WISHES ABOUT THE SUCCESSION TO THE THRONE.

THE DOCTOR PREPARES SOME HOLY OIL TO PURGE HIM, AS THE PRIEST RECOMMENDED ON HIS LAST EXORCISM, AND ALSO ORDERS TO BRING SOME HOT WATER AND CLOTHS FOR HIS BODY. WHEN THE KING SEES THIS, HE CRIES AND REJECTS IT, AND SAYS HE IS NOT BEWITCHED. HE DOESN'T WANT TO SEE MORE PEOPLE DYING BECAUSE OF HIM.

MARIANA RECOMMENDS AN HEIR, ARCHDUKE CARLOS, BUT THE DOCTOR SAYS HE'S IN FAVOUR OF FELIPE OF ANJOU. HE WANTS TO SEE NICOLAS TORRES PALMOTA, THE KING'S CONFESSOR, AND CARDINAL PORTOCARRERO.

ON THE LAST SCENE THE CONFESSOR AND THE CARDINAL WILL TRY TO CONVINCEN THE KING CARLOS II TO MAKE HIS WILL IN FAVOUR OF FELIPE OF ANJOU, WHICH MARIANA OF NEOBURGO WILL BE AGAINST. FINALLY CARLOS TELLS THEM ALL TO LEAVE BECAUSE HE NEEDS TO BE ALONE TO THINK.

### **"THE DREAM OF CARLOS II"**

THE SOLDIER AND NARRATOR WALKS TOWARDS THE LEFT CORNER OF THE STAGE AND ADDRESSES HIS SPEECH TO THE AUDIENCE IN ORDER TO INTRODUCE THE FIRST ACT OF HIS PLAY.

### INTRODUCTION TO THE FIRST ACT

**SOLDIER: HELLO, I AM A SPANISH SOLDIER WHO FOUGHT DURING THE SUCCESSION WAR (1701-1714) ON AUSTRIA'S SIDE. I SAW THE MOST CRUEL AND BLOODY EVENT THAT HAPPENED IN THE 18<sup>th</sup> CENTURY IN SPAIN. THE BATTLE OF ALMANSA (25<sup>th</sup> OF APRIL, 1707), WHICH CHANGED THE COURSE OF THE SUCCESSION WAR AND ALSO THE HISTORY OF SPAIN AND EUROPE. BUT LET'S RETURN TO THE BEGINNING OF THIS BARBARITY.**

**1700, IN THE LAST MONTHS OF HIS LIFE, THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH OF CARLOS II HAS GOT WORSE UNTIL THE EXTREME OF HAVING TO LIE DOWN ON HIS ROYAL HOUSEHOLD BED ALL DAY, IN MADRID. HE CAN HARDLY EAT OR SPEAK,**

AND AT NIGHT THIS MENTAL DETERIORATION MAKES HIM WANDER AROUND THE DARK CORRIDORS OF THE ROYAL PALACE PERSECUTED BY DEMONS AND GHOSTS WHO TORMENT THE KING. BUT TONIGHT HAS BEEN WORSE, HE HAS HAD A HORRIFYING DREAM, HE HAS SEEN A BLOODY BATTLE, WHERE A LOT OF INNOCENT PEOPLE DIED. THIS BATTLE IS HIS FAULT BECAUSE OF HIS IMPOSSIBILITY TO HAVE AN HEIR.

THE QUEEN MARIANA DE NEUBURGO, HIS WIFE, CONSOLES HIM. SHE KNOWS, MORE THAN ANYBODY, THAT THERE IS NOT MUCH TIME AND THEY HAVE TO LOOK FOR AN HEIR.

### FIRST ACT

IT'S DAYLIGHT. CARLOS II SLEEPS IN HIS BED, HE'S UPSET AND MOVES FROM ONE SIDE TO ANOTHER UNTIL HE WAKES UP AND STANDS UP CRYING...

**CARLOS:** NOOOOO, NOOOO, MY GOD!!!! NOOO, NOOO, NOT IN THAT WAY

MARIANA COMES IN

**MARIANA:** CALM DOWN, WHAT HAPPENED? WHAT HAPPENED?

**CARLOS:** I HAD A TERRIBLE DREAM. I DREAMED I DIED AND EUROPE DIVIDED THE CROWN. I SAW A BATTLE, A LOT OF SOLDIERS FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES DIED. I AM GUILTY,... I NEED AN HEIR....

**MARIANA:** SHHHH... SHUT UP, DON'T SAY ANYTHING... CALM DOWN. IT WAS JUST A DREAM. THE EXORCISMS ARE TO BLAME FOR ALL THIS, THEY HAVE DISTURBED YOU. IT IS OVER. DO NOT WORRY.

SUDDENLY HE STARTS MOVING COMPULSIVELY, LOOKING LOST, AND HE FAINTS. MARIANA CALLS A MAID RINGING A SMALL BELL

**DONCELLA:** YES, YOUR MAJESTY?

**MARIANA:** PLEASE, CALL THE DOCTOR. THE KING HAS GOT WORSE.

MARIANA REMAINS QUIET, THE LIGHTS GO OUT, AND THE SOLDIER AND NARRATOR GOES TOWARDS A CORNER OF THE STAGE. THE LIGHTS GET DIMMER.

### INTRODUCTION TO THE SECOND ACT

**SOLDIER:** THE KING'S LACK OF DESCENDANTS WORRIED THE SPANISH COURT TOO, WHO WATCHED OVER THE UNITY OF THE CROWN AND THE SPANISH EMPIRE. THIS ANXIETY FOR AN HEIR CAUSED THAT SOME COURT MEMBERS CONVINCED THE KING THAT THE CAUSE OF ALL HIS TROUBLE, HIS STERILITY, WAS THAT HE WAS BEWITCHED, AND THEN, VOLUNTARILY AND UNDER THE APPROVAL OF THE CHURCH, HE WAS SUBJECTED TO CRUEL EXORCISMS, WHICH ONLY WORSENERED HIS DELICATE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH, WITHOUT ACHIEVING HIS GOAL.

**CARLOS IS AWARE, DESPITE HIS CRITICAL HEALTH, OF THE URGENCY TO ELECT THE HEIR THAT HE NEVER HAD. BUT HE MUST CHOOSE THE BEST CANDIDATE, SOMEONE WHO KEEPS THE UNITY OF THE SPANISH EMPIRE AND THE INTEGRITY OF THE MONARCHY**

**SECOND ACT**

THE DOCTOR AND THE MAID COME IN.

**DOCTOR: WHAT'S HAPPENED, YOUR MAJESTY?**

**MARIANA: THE KING HAS GOT WORSE**

**DOCTOR:(LOOKING AT THE MAID) QUICKLY, MOVE AWAY THE SHEETS AND UNDO THE NIGHTDRESS. THEN BRING THE HOLY WATER AND OIL AND SOME CLOTHS.**

(TALKING TO MARIANA): **DID YOU STAY WITH HIM LAST NIGHT? AS YOU KNOW HIS HEALTH AT THE MOMENT IS TOO DELICATE. AND JUST A LITTLE EFFORT OR EMOTION CAN BE HARMFUL.**

**MARIANA: I HAVE NOT SLEPT WITH HIM. I LOVE MY HUSBAND AND I WILL NOT DO ANYTHING DAMAGING TO HIS HEALTH. IN FACT I DO NOT BELIVE THAT FEELING MY WARM BODY IN THESE COLD NIGHTS COULD BE HARMFUL FOR HIM.**

THE DOCTOR SITS ON THE KING'S BED AND EXAMINES HIM

**DOCTOR: YOUR HIGHNESS, YOU ALREADY KNOW THAT, AND WE DISCUSSED IT. OUR KING NEEDS TO RELAX AND CONTINUE THE TREATMENT.**

THE MAID COMES IN WITH TWO WHITE CLOTHS, A BOWL, A JAR AND A CAN OF OIL. AND LEAVE THEM ON THE BEDSIDE TABLE.

THE DOCTOR WRINGS THE WATER OUT OF A CLOTH AND CLEANS HIS FACE.

**MARIANA: OUR KING ONLY NEEDS PEACE, WITH ALL THOSE EXORCISMS, MAGIC POTIONS AND HIS BROTHER'S OBSESSION WITH A SUCCESSOR... HE IS GETTING MAD, CRAZY, OBSESSIVE. HE CAN'T DISTINGUISH REALITY, HE CONFUSES HIS SERVANTS WITH DEMONS WHO ATTACK HIM. ALSO WHEN HE SLEEPS HE HASN'T GOT ANY PEACE, HE DREAMS OF BATTLES, BATTLEFIELDS, DEAD PEOPLE... AND THE WORST THING IS THAT HE BELIEVES ALL THAT IS HIS FAULT, BECAUSE HE DOES NOT FATHER A SUCCESSOR...YOUR WISHED SUCCESSOR.**

**DOCTOR: YOUR HIGHNESS, I THINK YOU'RE VERY NERVOUS AND YOU SHOULD RELAX. ALL THE KING'S PROBLEMS ARE THE RESULT OF HIS PROGRESSIVE WORSENING AND I AM THE ONLY PERSON WHO CAN TAKE CARE OF HIM UNTIL THE END, AND THE REST IS NOT YOUR BUSINESS.**

CARLOS II GETS UP AND WHEN HE SEES THE DOCTOR PREPARING THE BLESSED OIL TO PURGE HIM, HE SHOUTS AND REJECTS IT.

**CARLOS:** NO, STOP, NO MORE ENEMAS!! NO MORE POTIONS, NO MORE LIES!!!! I'M NOT ILL, I AM DEAD, DEAD IN LIFE!!!

I DON'T WANT INNOCENTS KILLED BECAUSE OF ME, A USELESS MAN WHO CAN NOT DO ANYTHING GOOD.

(ALL THIS SHOUTING, SO HE GETS NERVOUS AND MARIANA HUGS HIM AGAIN)

**MARIANA:** CARLOS, RELAX, NOBODY IS GOING TO DIE.

**CARLOS:** I AM GOING TO DIE AND I DO NOT HAVE AN HEIR. INNOCENT PEOPLE WILL DIE FOR IT.

**MARIANA:** THIS SHOULD NOT HAPPEN IF YOU MAKE YOUR WILL TO SOMEBODY WHO CAN DEFEND THE INTERESTS OF SPAIN.

**CARLOS:** I KNOW IT, BUT IT'S DIFFICULT TO DECIDE.

**MARIANA:** ARCHDUKE CARLOS WILL BE A GOOD ELECTION, THE BEST ELECTION...

**DOCTOR:** I DO NOT THINK AT THIS MOMENT THE KING CAN TAKE SUCH AN IMPORTANT DECISION, AND IT ISN'T YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

**MARIANA:** DON'T FORGET I AM THE QUEEN AND I CAN TALK WITH MY HUSBAND ABOUT EVERYTHING. LEAVE THE ROOM, HIS MAJESTY IS BETTER.

**DOCTOR:** I THINK YOU SHOULD CALL NICOLAS TORRES PALMOTA, HIS CONFESSOR.

**MARIANA:** HAVE A NICE DAY.

THE SOLDIER EXPLAINS THE SITUATION: MARIANA IS ON THE SIDE OF THE ARCHDUKE OF AUSTRIA AND THE REST ARE ON THE SIDE OF THE FRENCH BORBONS, AND THE DOCTOR IS GOING TO TELL THE GOVERNMENT MEMBERS TO AVOID HER INFLUENCE.

### **INTRODUCTION TO THE THIRD ACT**

**SOLDIER:** THE KING'S LACK OF DESCENDANTS WAS A QUESTION WHICH HAD ALWAYS WORRIED THE REST OF EUROPEAN POWERS, WHO SAW IN THE SPANISH MONARCHY A SUCCULENT BOOTY TO SHARE, AND DIDN'T WANT SPAIN TO BE GOVERNED BY A KING WHO DIDN'T SERVE THEIR INTERESTS. THE CANDIDATES WERE, ON ONE SIDE, FELIPE DE ANJOU, THE GRANDSON OF THE FRENCH KING LUIS XIV'S, LATER CALLED FELIPE V OF BORBON. AND ON THE OTHER SIDE, THE ARCHDUKE CARLOS OF AUSTRIA, THE SON OF EMPEROR LEOPOLDO I.

THE SPANISH COURT, WHICH HAVE TURNED THE SUCCESSION MATTER INTO A STATE QUESTION, IS IN FAVOUR OF ONE OR ANOTHER CANDIDATE. IN FAVOUR OF FELIPE V ARE CARDENAL PORTOCARRERO, STATE ADVISER DURING CARLOS' II REIGN, AND HIS LAST PERSONAL CONFESSOR, NICOLAS TORRES PALMOTA. IN FAVOUR OF ARCHDUKE CARLOS OF AUSTRIA ARE HIS AUNT THE QUEEN MARIANA OF NEOBURGO, CARLOS' II WIFE, AND THE INQUISITOR BALTASAR OF MENDOZA AND SANDOVAL. ALL WILL TRY TO CONVINCHE THE KING TO MAKE HIS WILL IN FAVOUR OF THE CANDIDATE WHO BEST WATCHES OVER THEIR INTERESTS.

### THIRD ACT

CHURCH, GOVERNMENT AND THE KING'S CONSORT, MARIANA, COME IN AND STAY AROUND CARLOS II'S BED. IN THIS SCENE BOTH PARTS WILL TRY TO CONVINCe CARLOS II TO MAKE HIS WILL ACCORDING TO THEIR INTERESTS.

THE KING IS ASLEEP.

**MAID:** YOUR MAJESTY, CARDENAL PORTOCARRERO AND THE ROYAL CONFESOR REQUEST A MEETING WITH YOUR MAJESTY.

**MARIANA:** TELL THEM THE KING DOES NOT FEEL GOOD ENOUGH FOR A MEETING RIGHT NOW.

**MAID:** I HAVE ALREADY TOLD THEM SO, BUT THEY REQUEST AN EMERGENCY MEETING.

**MARIANA:** LET THEM COME IN, BUT CALL THE GENERAL INQUISITOR FIRST, I WANT TO BE ON EQUAL TERMS.

THE INQUISITOR COMES IN

**INQUISITOR:** GOOD MORNING MY LADY, DID YOU REQUEST TO SEE ME?

**MARIANA:** YES, PLEASE COME IN. THE KING HAD A BAD DREAM, IT LET HIM EXHAUSTED AND HE IS RESTING NOW. HE IS WORRIED ABOUT FINDING AN HEIR.

**INQUISIDOR:** MY LADY, DO YOU KNOW IF THE KING HAS SOME CANDIDATES IN MIND?

**MARIANA:** IT DEPENDS ON HIS MOOD, A FEW MONTHS AGO HE WAS STILL THINKING THAT WE MIGHT HAVE A SON. THEN HE THOUGHT ABOUT ARCHDUKE CARLOS, AND LATELY, AFTER RECEIVING ADVICE FROM THE POPE INOCENT XII, HE HAS DECIDED TO CHOOSE FELIPE V.

**INQUISITOR:** YES, I KNOW THAT WAS AN IDEA COMING FROM CARDINAL PORTOCARRERO.

**MARIANA:** THAT IS RIGHT, SO PORTOCARRERO KNOWS WELL ENOUGH WHO AGREES WITH HIS IDEAS, AND WHAT BETTER ADVICE THAN ONE COMING FROM HIS HOLINESS!

**INQUISIDOR:** I HAVE JUST SEEN PORTOCARRERO AND THE PRIEST OUTSIDE, I SWEAR THEY ARE COMING TO TALK TO THE KING.

**MARIANA:** YES, SURELY ABOUT HIS TESTAMENT, WE MUST CONVINCe THE KING TO CHOOSE MY NEPHEW, THE AUSTRIAN ARCHDUKE, WE MUST NOT ALLOW HIM TO CHOOSE THE FRENCH BORBONS .

THE KINGS STARTS WAKING UP AND THE MAID COMES IN ORDER TO INTRODUCE THE REST OF THE CHARACTERS

**MAID:** YOUR MAJESTY, MAY THEY COME IN?

**MARIANA:** LET THEM COME IN.

**MAID: YES, YOUR MAJESTY.**

PORTOCARRERO AND THE KING'S CONFESSOR COME IN.

**PORTOCARRERO: GOOD MORNING YOUR MAJESTY.**

**CONFESSOR: GOOD MORNING YOUR MAJESTIES (DIRIGIÉNDOSE A AMBOS)**

THE KING SITS UP AND SPEAKS.

**CARLOS: GOOD MORNING, I DON'T REMEMBER REQUESTING THE PRESENCE OF SUCH IMPORTANT PEOPLE.**

**PORTOCARRERO: FORGIVE, YOUR MAJESTY, THE SUDDENNESS OF OUR VISIT, BUT YOUR DOCTOR INFORMED US ABOUT THE BAD NIGHT THAT THE KING HAS HAD AND WE WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR CONDITION.**

THE QUEEN AND THE INQUISITOR LOOK AT EACH OTHER WITH COMPLICITY

**CONFESSOR: FURTHERMORE, AFTER A DREAM LIKE THIS IT'S GOOD TO TALK TO GOD ABOUT THE DARK THOUGHTS THAT TORMENT YOUR SOUL...**

THE INQUISITOR INTERRUPTS.

**INQUISITOR: YOU, OF COURSE, WHO ELSE, RIGHT? TO FIND OUT THAT INFORMATION, I HOPE YOU ARE NOT THINKING OF AN EXORCISM OF THOSE WHICH YOUR PREDECESSOR FRAY FROILAN USED TO PRACTISE.**

**MARIANA: WE ALL KNOW WHY THEY HAVE COME, BUT THE KING IS NOT IN THE MOOD TO TALK ABOUT HEIRS, CROWNS OR...**

THE KING INTERRUPTS.

**CARLOS: SHUT UP, MARIANA. LET THEM TALK.**

**PORTOCARRERO: YOUR MAJESTY, WE DID NOT INTEND TO DISTURB YOU. BUT IT IS NECESSARY TO CHOOSE AN HEIR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND PUT AN END TO THIS QUESTION THAT AFFECTS US ALL, AND THAT IT'S PUTTING THE UNITY OF OUR CROWN IN DANGER.**

**CONFESSOR: YOU MUST MAKE A WILL. AFTER THE ADVICE OF HIS HOLINESS THE POPE, I BELIEVE EVERYTHING IS CLEAR, FELIPE OF ANJOU IS THE BEST CHOICE.**

**MARIANA: THE BEST CHOICE FOR YOU AND ALL THOSE WHO THINK THE SAME. IF YOU CARE ABOUT THE UNITY OF SPAIN AND ITS EMPIRE YOU MUST CHOOSE ARCHDUKE CARLOS.**

**PORTOCARRERO: ARCHDUKE CARLOS ONLY WANTS TO CURB THE FRENCH HEGEMONY FOR HIS OWN BENEFIT.**

**MARIANA: THE ARCHDUKE ONLY WANTS A CONTINENTAL BALANCE THROUGH THE SHARING OF OUR POSSESSIONS.**

**CONFESSOR:** THAT'S NOT GOOD FOR OUR CROWN, BECAUSE IT MEANS LOSING OUR POSSESSIONS AT THE HANDS OF OTHER POWERS THAT PURSUE WHAT WE HAVE ENJOYED FOR CENTURIES, A GREAT EMPIRE.

**PORTOCARRERO:** YOU ONLY WANT TO BE SURE YOU KEEP YOUR HIGH POSITION AT THIS TIME, AND YOUR NEPHEW ARCHDUKE CARLOS WILL NOT HESITATE TO DO SO.

**MARIANA:** HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO ME LIKE THAT AND SUGGEST SUCH INFAMIES? I ONLY WANT THE BEST FOR THE SPANISH CROWN.

**CARLOS:** DO NOT CHANGE THE MATTER. I DON'T NEED MORE ALLEGATIONS, I ONLY NEED TO TAKE THE MOST IMPORTANT DECISION OF MY LIFE.

**CONFESSOR:** IT IS CLEAR WE ALL WANT THE BEST HEIR AS WELL AS KEEPING OUR POSSESSIONS. FELIPE V WANTS AN ABSOLUTE AND CENTRALIZED GOVERNMENT.

**INQUISITOR:** BUT THAT IS WHAT EUROPE FEARS, THAT LUIS XIV WANTS TO GOVERN THE WORLD UNIFYING BOTH CROWNS.

**PORTOCARRERO:** THAT IS NOT BAD FOR SPAIN, WE WILL BE AGAIN A GREAT EMPIRE, AS IN THE TIMES OF EMPEROR CARLOS I.

**INQUISITOR:** WE CAN'T FORGET THAT FRANCE IS GOVERNED BY THE TYRANT LUIS XIV, AND HE WOULD BE GOVERNING EVERYTHING.

**CARLOS:** I DO NOT WANT ANY DISCUSSIONS. PLEASE LEAVE, I WANT TO REST AND THINK.

**MARIANA:** MY DEAR, I WILL STAY HERE TO TAKE CARE OF YOU, DO YOU NEED ANYTHING?

**CARLOS:** NO, I WANT TO BE ALONE.

**PORTOCARRERO:** DO NOT FORGET, YOUR MAJESTY, THAT WE NEED YOUR LAST WILL TO MAKE CLEAR WHO WILL BE YOUR HEIR.

**CARLOS:** DO NOT WORRY. I AM NOT DEAD YET.

THE KING STARTS COUGHING. EVERYBODY LEAVES, AND WHEN HE'S ALONE HE FAINTS.

## EPILOGUE

**SOLDIER: THE TRASCENDENTAL DILEMMA BETWEEN FRANCE HEGEMONY AND A CONTINENTAL BALANCE SUGGESTED BY AUSTRIA WILL BE SETTLED WHEN ON 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 1700 CARLOS II MAKES HIS WILL. IN IT FELIPE D'ANJOU WILL BE THE KING, ON CONDITION THAT THE SPANISH AND FRENCH CROWNS WILL NOT JOIN, AND THE HEIR FELIPE V MUST RENOUNCE THE FRENCH THRONE IN CASE HIS GRANDFATHER LUIS XIV DIES. CARLOS ALSO APPOINTS A COMMITTEE TO TAKE OVER THE GOVERNMENT WHEN HE DIES. AND HE LEAVES MARIANA WELL SITUATED, BUT SHE WILL NEVER ENJOY THESE PRIVILEGES.**

**SHORTLY AFTER HE MADE HIS WILL, CARLOS II DIED. THEN AS A RESULT OF THE ARROGANT AND DESPOTIC ATTITUDE OF THE FRENCH KING LOUIS XIVTH, A GRAND ALLIANCE WAS SIGNED ON SEPTEMBER 1701 AMONG ENGLAND, AUSTRIA AND HOLLAND TO MAKE THE ARCHDUKE CARLOS OF AUSTRIA KING OF SPAIN. THUS BEGAN A LONG WAR OF SUCCESSION THAT LASTED 14 YEARS AND INVOLVED MANY EUROPEAN NATIONS, MAKING THE DREAM OF CARLOS II TRUE.**

**ONE OF THE BLOODIEST AND DECISIVE BATTLES, KNOW AS “THE BATTLE OF ALMANSA” TOOK PLACE HERE, ON APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup> 1707. BUT THIS IS A STORY TO BE TOLD IN ANOTHER MOMENT.**