

FLORENCIA EN EL AMAZONAS

By Daniel Catán





CAPTAIN
of the El Dorado



RIOLOBO
a mystical figure



FLORENCIA GRIMALDI
*a famous
opera singer*



ROSALBA
a young journalist



ARCADIO
the captain's nephew



ALVARO
Paula's husband



PAULA
Alvaro's wife



In Leticia, Colombia, the famous opera diva Florencia Grimaldi arrives incognito to board the steamship *El Dorado* sailing down the Amazon River.

Florencia is returning to Manaus, Brazil, the ship's destination and her homeland, for the first time in 20 years to perform at the reopening of the opera house.



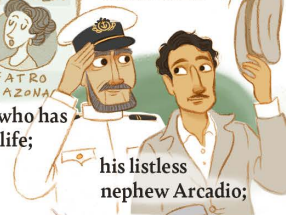
Riolobo introduces the other passengers as they arrive at the dock:

the captain, who has a zest for life;

his listless nephew Arcadio;



Rosalba, a young journalist; and Paula and Alvaro, an unhappy married couple.



Once on board, Rosalba approaches Florencia—still in disguise—who recounts forsaking her lover, Cristóbal, to pursue her career as a performer.

Later, Arcadio and Rosalba meet on deck. She tells him that she is writing a book about Grimaldi, and he confesses that he feels he has wasted his life.



When Rosalba accidentally drops her notebook off the side of the ship, Arcadio retrieves it for her, sparking their romance.



That evening, Paula and Alvaro dine on deck and immediately begin to bicker.



She throws her wedding ring into the Champagne bottle, and he tosses it overboard.



Rosalba, Arcadio, Paula and Alvaro—split into teams of two—play a game of cards on deck.



The captain feels red rain fall on his uniform. He calls for Arcadio and Riolobo as thunder and lightning strike, and the other passengers become seasick.

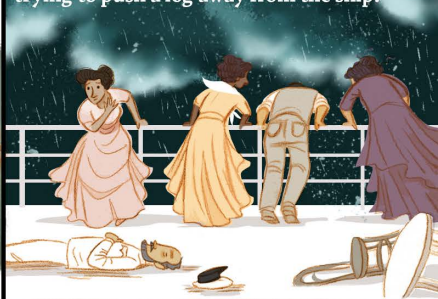


The next morning, Florencia encounters the captain, who recalls a young butterfly hunter that vanished in the jungle seeking the rare “emerald muse.”



Florencia realizes that the butterfly hunter is her lost love, Cristóbal, and faints.

After the captain is hit by lightning and falls unconscious, Alvaro plunges into the river trying to push a log away from the ship.



Riolobo appears as a winged creature hovering above the water and begs the river for mercy.



With the ship disabled and run aground, Florencia emerges from her cabin, wondering if she is dead or alive, and resolves to find Cristóbal.



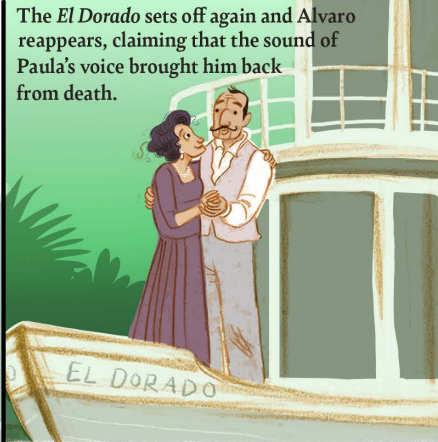
Arcadio and Rosalba reunite and confess their love for each other.



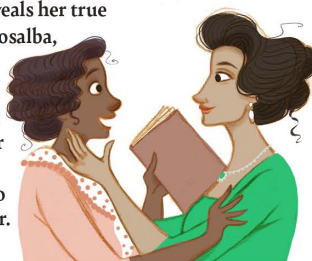
Paula searches for Alvaro, wondering how she can live without him.



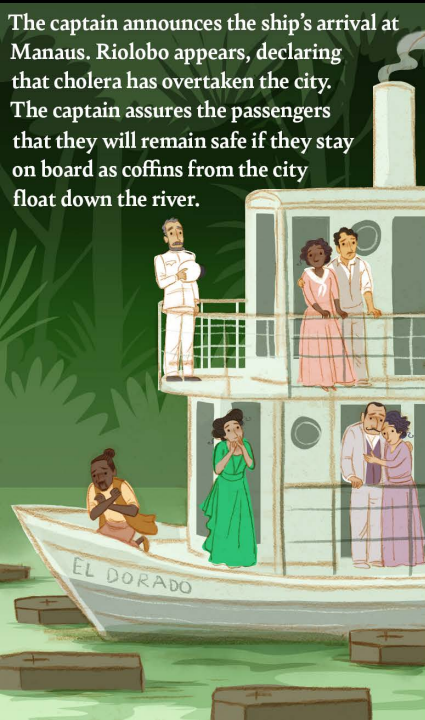
The *El Dorado* sets off again and Alvaro reappears, claiming that the sound of Paula's voice brought him back from death.



Florencia reveals her true identity to Rosalba, advising her that she will only become a great writer when she allows love to overcome her.



The captain announces the ship's arrival at Manaus. Riolobo appears, declaring that cholera has overtaken the city. The captain assures the passengers that they will remain safe if they stay on board as coffins from the city float down the river.



Florencia emerges once more, calling out for Cristóbal. Determined not to desert him again, she transforms into a butterfly and goes in search of her lost love.

