

The Tale of Rosalia's Revenge

Dona Rosalia, The Marquesa De Fuentes Y Hidalgo was a 20 year old wealthy widow and owner of the lands in the Province of Segovia. During a Banquet with the King of Spain, a young Jose Gaspar met and was captivated by her. Although she spurned all men including the King himself, she favored Gaspar with a silk handkerchief, which never left him.

Years later, after being outcast by the Spanish government for crimes he was innocent of, he committed his first act of piracy by capturing a speedy galleon. He named her the Dona Rosalia and sailed her for years into infamy.

As legend tells, he was at her helm during a fierce battle with the US Navy. Sustaining heavy casualties, defeat was at hand. But rather than surrender, Gaspar chained the heavy anchor around his waist and leapt from the bow, shouting: "Gasparilla dies by his own hand, not the enemy's!"

He plummeted to a watery grave at the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico, forever being attached to his beloved Dona Rosalia.