ZORRO'S PISTOL

Flintlock pistols are regarded by most swordsmen as rather clumsy weapons. They can only be fired once and then must be reloaded. Swordsmen would rather depend on lightning-like thrusts of a rapier or swift cuts with a sabre. But sometimes the single-shot flintlock saves even a clever fencer. He carries it in his sash or belt on the LEFT side where it can be grasped easily by his left hand. He uses his sword in his right and avoids firing his one shot until he is forced into a corner by heavy odds and can find no other means of escape. Many a brave caballero or Spanish officer owes his life to his flintlock.

To load a flintlock, a measured charge of powder is dropped into the muzzle. Then a round ball of lead is wrapped in a rag or patch of greased leather and rammed down on top of the powder charge with a short ramrod. The cloth or leather seals the ball in the pistol barrel so that the force of the powder explosion will expel the ball. Next, the caballero spills a few grains of powder in the "flash pan" just where the hammer strikes. When the hammer is pulled back or "cocked" and then released by pulling the trigger, the flint strikes the steel striking arm, and a spark falls into the "flash pan." The flash pan powder burns and ignites the main charge inside the barrel through a tiny hole leading from the pan to the charge inside the gun barrel.
LIKE OLD CALIFORNIA — ZORRO FINDS HIMSELF SURROUNDED BY DEADLY ENEMIES WHO SEEK TO DESTROY LIBERTY BY RIPPING ASIDE THE MASK OF ZORRO

LOCK, PABLO—OUR TRAPS ARE EMPTY!

THE FURS HAVE BEEN STOLEN!

DON SANDOVAL WILL NOT BE HAPPY WHEN HE LEARNS OF THIS!

HERE ARE TRACKS! LET'S FOLLOW THEM!

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING, SEÑORES?

¡GASP?

YOU HAVE FOUND MORE THAN YOU ARE LOOKING FOR!

BLAM! BLAM!
Quickly! Get out of sight! Horses are approaching!

It is the governor’s cavalry!

We must not be seen! Hide until they are gone!

Moments later... They are two of Don Sandoval’s trappers, Captain Borda. They were ambushed!

Take them to the casa Sandoval!

That night, at the casa of Don Sandoval...

...we found foreign cartridges beside the trappers, Don Sandoval. But Captain Borda said we cannot risk a quarrel with the strangers. He did, eh?

It’s the duty of the cavalry to protect my interests! If you meet any strange trappers, shoot them down...

And if you say anything to Borda—

I’m not a word, Don Sandoval! I would not be here if I were not loyal to you!
THINGS ARE WORKING OUT AS I PLANNED. FILL MY GLASS!

AT ONCE, DON SANDOVAL!

DON SANDOVAL FILLS ME WITH UNEASINESS. HE COMES OUT OF NOWHERE, BUYS THE BIGGEST PROPERTY IN ALTA CALIFORNIA...

AND SPORES MONEY LIKE WATER!

HE MUST HAVE A SECRET FORTUNE TO BE ABLE TO WASTE ALL HIS TIME GIVING PARTIES!

AND YET, HE KEEPS AN ARMY OF GUARDS AND EVEN HAS SPIES IN THE GOVERNOR'S CAVALRY. FOR WHAT REASON?

DON SANDOVAL PAYS US WELL. THAT IS ALL THAT MATTERS!
THE NEXT AFTERNOON, A CAVALRY PATROL UNEXPECTEDLY SIGHTS...

LOOK—STRANGE TRAPPERS! SHOOT THEM DOWN!

I HAVE CARRIED OUT DON SANDOVAL'S ORDERS! NOW LET HIM ANSWER FOR THE CONSEQUENCES!

BLAM! BLAM!

THAT NIGHT, AT THE FOREIGN TRADING POST...

PARDON, EXCELLENCY... HOW I KNOW YOU'RE DINING, BUT—YOU INTERRUPT ME, RAKOV!

THREE OF OUR TRAPPERS HAVE BEEN SHOT!

AH, SO.

EXCUSE ME, OLGA. URGENT MATTERS REQUIRE MY ATTENTION!

IT WAS SHEER PROVOCATION, EXCELLENCY! OUR MEN WERE SHOT DOWN IN COLD BLOOD!

SHALL I ADDRESS A LETTER OF PROTEST TO THE GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA?
NO! WE'LL HANDLE THIS MATTER OURSELVES WITH BULLETS!

WHENEVER YOU SEE SANDOVAL'S TRAPPERS, SHOOT FIRST AND DON'T ASK QUESTIONS!

THE NEXT NIGHT AS DON DIEGO COMPLETES A TOUR OF HIS ESTATE...

BANG! BANG!
RIFLE FIRE, DON DIEGO!
SHALL I RIDE FOR THE CAVALRY?

THERE IS NO TIME!

MY MASK AND CLOAK, BERNARDO!

SINCE THE STRANGE TRAPPERS HAVE COME, THERE HAVE BEEN SIGNS THAT THE PEACE MIGHT BE BROKEN!

WAIT HERE WHILE I INVESTIGATE BEHIND THE MASK OF ZORRO!
While on the edge of the woods...

I am out of ammunition! So am I! We are lost!

Captain Rakov, Sandoval's men do not answer our fire! They must be out of ammunition! Charge!

Foreign troops from the trading post attacking Californians! But, if I can surprise them, tragedy may be averted!

'Smishshh!'

'Gasp! That sword! Where did it come from?' 'He who possesses my sword will die!' 'Wh-who is that? What does it matter? He is alone! Shoot him down!'
Hold your fire...

P'INGK!

...or my next shot will not hit your rifle!

CRACK!

His aim is deadly! Run! Run!

Cowards! How dare you run from one man! Come back!

He is no man! He is an avenging spirit or the devil himself!

You men will suffer for this when we return to the post!

Seizing the opportunity, Sandoval's men flee...
Moments later, Zorro finds...

Two trappers, dead...

Zorro, are you safe?

Yes, Bernardo, but California is not!

I shall need my mask in the time ahead. Now, ride to the governor and ask him to meet me tomorrow night in the woods near town. Alta California is in great danger!

I go, El Zorro!

Shortly at the Casa of the Vegas...

Zorro!

Si, Father! Zorro, once again, while danger stalks the land!

We are threatened, no, by the bear that Zorro, walks like a man! You must be mistaken!

The strangers are only interested in trading and trapping! And perhaps one thing more...

And what is that? It might be the conquest of California!
That's fantastic! It isn't possible!

Zorro will try to make it impossible!

Later that night, at the Governor's mansion...

Zorro's message bears out Captain Borca's report. The strangers are up to something.

Tell Zorro that I will meet him tomorrow night!

Tell you, Excellency!

The following night, the Governor's cavalry finds two more trappers...

They were shot without warning, Captain, like the others!

Here are more foreign cartridges!

Robbery is one thing, but why these killings?

Who can tell? But now we must report this matter to Don Sandoval!

Later, at the Casa of Don Sandoval...

The murderers! Justice will be done, but your way could start a war!
IF IT'S WAR THEY WANT, WE'LL GIVE IT TO THEM!

INSTEAD OF FURS, WE'LL TRADE THEM SHOT FOR SHOT!

HAVE A CARE, DON SANTOVAL! AS THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICER, I AM THE LAW HERE!

IF YOU TAKE MATTERS INTO YOUR OWN HANDS, YOU AND THE CRIMINALS WILL ANSWER TO ME!

FOR YEARS, THE STRANGERS HAVE HAD TRADING POSTS IN CALIFORNIA. TILL NOW, THEY'VE CONFINED THEMSELVES TO TRADING.

SPARE ME YOUR OPINIONS, CAPTAIN. I'M INTERESTED ONLY IN FACTS.

THEN THE FACT IS, A SHOOTING WAR MIGHT VERY WELL LEAD TO FOREIGN OCCUPATION OF CALIFORNIA!
But my men! What about my men who have been killed?

From now on, the cavalry will patrol your trapping area.

And under no circumstances are you to give the strangers any provocation to create another incident!

What shall we do now, Don Sandoval? Just as we planned, of course.

I want an armed escort with each trapper. If any strangers are seen near our traps, you know what to do!

Pardon, Don Sandoval; your coach waits.

I must not keep the beautiful senorita waiting, eh?

'Tis said senorita Conchola waits only for Don Diego Vega, her betrothed!

Ah, yes! I am going to the Casa Conchola where senorita Conchola's brother, Don Vincente, is giving a birthday
NONSENSE! DIEGO IS A LAZY FOP WHO DOES NOTHING BUT WRITE POETRY AND DREAM. HE IS NO RIVAL FOR DON SANDOVAL. DRIVE ON, PEDRO!

MOMENT, SEND WORD TO DON SANDOVAL TO KEEP PEACE WITH THE STRANGERS OR HE WILL ANSWER TO ME!

VERY GOOD, EXCELLENCY. ANYTHING ELSE?

WHERE DOES THE GOVERNOR GO ALONE AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT, IN SUCH SECRECY?

IF I TOLD YOU, COLONEL ARGENTA, IT WOULD NO LONGER BE A SECRET.

YES, GIVE MY COMPLIMENTS TO DON VINCENTE CONCHOLA. TELL HIM I AM DETAINED BY MATTERS OF STATE. I SHALL ATTEND TO IT AT ONCE, EXCELLENCY!

I SHALL HAVE TO KEEP AN EYE ON COLONEL ARGENTA IN THESE TIMES. TOO MUCH CURiosity IS NOT GOOD IN ONE WHO IS SUPPOSED TO FOLLOW ORDERS...

AND WHILE YOU'RE ABOUT IT, CURB YOUR INSOLENT CURiosity! YOU ARE MUCH TOO INTERESTED IN MATTERS WHICH DO NOT CONCERN YOU!
Minutes later, outside of town...

Zorro?

Right here, Excellency!

Forgive me for asking you to meet me here, but--

You are right, Zorro. We can't be too careful!

Zorro would no longer be able to serve California if his enemies knew that when Don Diego puts down his snuffbox, Zorro takes up his sword!

Always in the cause of justice and at your service, Excellency.

And unless I am mistaken, the strangers are casting greedy eyes in the direction of California, knowing Spain is weak and Mexico is torn with inner strife.

Sí, Zorro. For months, secret dispatches have been arriving from Madrid, warning of foreign ambitions. Now our worst fears are realized.

I have received word that Baron Vasilenko has arrived at the foreign trading post.

The same Vasilenko who commands the foreign forces in Alaska?
HE IS THE SAME, AND IS TOO IMPORTANT TO SUPERVISE TRAPPING OPERATIONS!

IT IS OBVIOUS NOW, THAT THE RECENT CLASHES HAVE BEEN PLANNED. NOW, MORE THAN EVER, WE MUST FIND A WAY TO AVOID THESE CLASHES AND END THE THREAT TO ALTA CALIFORNIA!

HERE IS A LETTER IN WHICH I AUTHORIZE YOU TO ACT IN MY NAME IF IT SHOULD BECOME NECESSARY. USE IT AT YOUR DISCRETION!

YOU HONOR ME, EXCELLENCY!

I SHALL DEFEND YOUR TRUST AND ALTA CALIFORNIA WITH MY LIFE!

AND NOW, EXCELLENCY, WITH YOUR PERMISSION, I WILL LEAVE YOU TO ATTEND THE BALL FOR SEÑORITA CONCHOLA. I WILL HAVE SOME EXPLAINING TO DO, FOR WE WERE TO BE MARRIED NEXT WEEK.

I AM SURE SHE WILL UNDERSTAND.
Si, but I do not like the way Don Sandoval took advantage of my absences to cultivate her interest.

But now, adiós!

God be with you, Zorro!

Later at the Casa Conchola...

How goes the ball, Father?

Don Sandoval has managed to keep us amused. He has great appeal for the ladies.

He has been especially attentive to Panchita!
Sandoval is handsome and wealthy. If you are not careful, he will try to
win Panchita away from you!

Unfortunately, Father, I may make his task easier when I tell Panchita
that we must postpone our wedding.

Postpone your wedding? What will Panchita say?

I'll find out now!

Panchita, my dearest, I am here.

And we were having such a pleasant time with you away!

Your pardon, Don Sandoval. Panchita, may I see you alone?

Panchita, please forgive me for what I must say, but we must post-
pone our wedding for a little while.
WHAT? DID YOU SAY POSTPONE YOUR WEDDING TO MY SISTER AGAIN?

UH--IT CAN'T BE HELPED, VINCENTE.

THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME WE WERE TO BE MARRIED THAT YOU FOUND A REASON TO POSTPONE IT!

I--UH...

IT SEEMS THAT OTHER MATTERS ARE ALWAYS MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOUR LOVE FOR ME! YOUR ARM, DON SANDOVAL. THE DANCE IS STARTING.

SHORTLY AFTER, IN THE GARDEN...

PANCHITA WOULD HAVE UNDERSTOOD IF YOU HAD TOLD HER OF YOUR MISSION.

UNFORTUNATELY, THERE IS NO TIME TO EXPLAIN NOW. I MUST RIDE TO THE FOREIGN TRADING POST TO PAY A VISIT TO BARON VASILENKO.

BERNARDO, IF I DO NOT RETURN BY TOMORROW, SEND WORD TO THE GOVERNOR WHERE I HAVE GONE.

SUDDENLY, AS EL ZORRO TAKES A SHORTCUT THROUGH THE HILLS...

SANDOVAL'S TRAPPERS, DIGGING IN ABOVE LA NORIA PASS, BUT WHY?
GET READY! HERE THEY COME!

THEY PLAN TO AMBUSH THE TROOP OF FOREIGN SOLDIERS!

GASP! IT'S SANDOWAL'S MEN!

WE'RE CAUGHT IN A CROSS FIRE!

BLAM! BLAM! W- WE SURRENDER! STOP SHOOTING!

EVERYONE-- HOLD YOUR FIRE!!

THROW DOWN YOUR GUNS OR I'LL FIRE!

EL ZORRO! I WILL TAKE CARE OF HIM!

I SAID, "THROW DOWN YOUR GUNS!"
EL ZORRO, WHY DO YOU TAKE THE SIDE OF THE STRANGERS AGAINST US?

I AM NOT AGAINST YOU. I AM ONLY AGAINST BLOOD SHED.

RETURN TO CASA SANDOVAL, AND KEEP THE PEACE, THE GOVERNOR HAS ORDERED IT.

YOU SAVED OUR LIVES. HOW CAN WE REPAY YOU?

TAKEN TO YOUR COMMANDING OFFICER, BARON VASILENKO.

HOURS LATER... SO YOU ARE EL ZORRO, YOUR NAME IS KNOWN EVEN BEYOND CALIFORNIA, IS IT NOT SO, OLGA?

AH, YES, ZORRO IS KNOWN EVEN IN FAR-OFF SIBERIA.

BUT NOW, LET US SEE IF YOU CAN LIVE UP TO YOUR REPUTATION. WHY DID YOU COME HERE?

I COME AS THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA.
AH, SO? THEN I HAVE A MESSAGE FOR YOUR GOVERNOR...

...TELL HIM THAT I DEMAND THE IMMEDIATE ARREST AND EXECUTION OF THE MURDERERS OF MY MEN.

IF THIS IS NOT DONE IMMEDIATELY, I SHALL SEND MY OWN TROOPS TO FIND THEM!

YOU WOULD INVADE CALIFORNIA TERRITORY?

I AM A REASONABLE MAN. I SEEK ONLY JUSTICE.

AND I SEEK A MOMENT ALONE WITH OUR HANDSOME GUEST.

IT SEEMS YOU HAVE MADE A CONQUEST, ZORRO.

SUCH AN EASY CONQUEST MUST HAVE BEEN PREARRANGED.

BUT, PERHAPS IT WOULD BE WISE TO PRETEND TO PLAY THEIR LITTLE GAME.

OUTSIDE THE TRADING POST...

TAKE ME WITH YOU TO MONTEREY, ZORRO. BARRACKS LIFE BORES ME.

ARE YOU FREE TO GO?
I AM FREE TO DO WHATEVER I LIKE.

OLGA DOES HER JOB WELL. IF SHE HOLDS ZORRO'S HAND, HE WILL NOT SO EASILY DRAW HIS SWORD AGAINST US.

RAKOV, TAKE THIS MESSAGE TO THE COMMANDER OF OUR FLEET ANCHORED OFF SANTA BARBARA... "MY DEAR TCHUKOV, OUR PLAN IS WORKING. IN TWO WEEKS WE WILL RAISE OUR FLAG OVER MONTEREY."

LATE THE NEXT DAY IN MONTEREY...

I AM CONVINCED VASILENKO HAS TROOPS READY FOR AN ATTACK, YOUR EXCELLENCY. HE WOULDN'T THREATEN US WITH THE FEW HE HAS AT THE POST.

WHERE CAN THEY BE? WE KNOW THEY'RE NOT IN CALIFORNIA.

THEN THEY MUST BE ON SHIP ANCHORED OFF THE COAST!

YOU MUST BE RIGHT. THERE IS ONLY ONE THING TO DO.
I must leave for Mexico at once. We must have reinforcements if we are to prevent an attack!

And, Your Excellency is the only one who can get immediate help.

The following day, in Monterey...

Sí, Don Vincente—it is Zorro riding with the foreign woman!

Is Zorro on their side or ours?

That night, at the Casa Conchola...

The whole town is talking of Zorro and the foreign adventuress.

So she is the business that is more important than our wedding.

Vincente, I have changed my mind about Don Sandoval. Tell him his visits to Casa Conchola will be most welcome at any time!
HALT! THE GOVERNOR ORDERED YOU TRAPPERS NOT TO LEAVE DON SANDOVAL'S CASA. WE TAKE ORDERS FROM DON SANDOVAL, CAPTAIN BORDA!

AND ABOVE...

LOOK, BELOW, RAKOV, SANDOVAL'S TRAPPERS, AND SOME CAVALRY!

Hmm... an excellent opportunity!

Meanwhile, in the hills...

If this doesn't provoke an incident, nothing will! Open fire!

Aiee-ee CRACK!

The next afternoon, at a meeting Sandoval has arranged with the Dons...

Gasa! The strangers.

No! No!

Nobles of California, when the foreigners shot down my trappers, the governor told me to do nothing! Now the foreigners shoot down the governor's own troops. Are we still to do nothing?
IT IS TIME FOR ACTION! IF THE GOVERNOR DOES NOT SEND HIS TROOPS TO AVENGE US NOW...

...WE MUST SEND OUR OWN MEN!

 BRAVO! DON SANDOVAL! WE ARE WITH YOU!

ON TO THE PALACE!

MEANWHILE, AT THE GOVERNOR'S PALACE...

EL ZORRO, WE CAUGHT THE SEÑORITA OLGA STEALING PAPERS FROM THE GOVERNOR'S SECRET FILE!

LET ME GO, YOU BEAST! YOU DARE NOT KEEP ME A PRISONER HERE!

YOU CAME TO SPY ON US AND NOW YOU MUST REMAIN UNTIL THE GOVERNOR RETURNS TO DEAL WITH YOU!

VAŠI LENKO WILL MAKE YOU RUE THIS DAY!

ZORRO... LOOK! A CROWD LED BY DON SANDOVAL IS STORMING THE PALACE!

DON SANDOVAL! I WAS EXPECTING THIS...

...AND THIS COMES AS NO SURPRISE TO YOU, DOES IT, OLGA?

I'LL TELL YOU NOTHING!
BERTANO, KEEP YOUR EYE ON OLGA! I'M GOING DOWN TO REASON WITH THE MOB!

BE CAREFUL, ZORRO! THEY ARE DANGEROUS!

BUT BELOW, ON THE PALACE STEPS...

THE GOVERNOR IS NOT HERE. BUT IN HIS ABSENCE, I, COLONEL ARGENTA, AM THE AUTHORITY! I WILL LEAD THE CAVALRY AGAINST THE FOREIGNERS.

BRAVO, COLONEL ARGENTA! SPOKEN LIKE A PATRIOT!

SUDDENLY...

WAIT! I SPEAK FOR THE GOVERNOR!

ZORRO!

WHEN THE GOVERNOR LEFT, HE AUTHORIZED ME TO ACT IN HIS NAME! HERE ARE THE PAPERS THAT PROVE IT!

YOU LIE! THE PAPERS ARE FORGERIES! STAND ASIDE OR I'LL ARREST YOU!

WE HAVE HAD ENOUGH TALK! IT IS TIME NOW FOR BULLETS!

BANG!
STAND BACK!
SEIZE ZORRO!

ON GUARD, DON SANDOVAL!

'GAFF! MY SWORD! SPARE ME, ZORRO!'

TO DO OTHERWISE NOW WOULD ONLY MAKE YOU A MARTYR IN THE EYES OF THIS MOB...

...SO I WILL ONLY LEAVE MY MARK AS AN OBJECT LESSON...

...TO BE REMEMBERED WHEN WE MEET AGAIN!

AFTER HIM! DON'T LET HIM ESCAPE!
Shortly afterwards in the woods outside of town...

Bernardo, are you looking for me?

Sí, Zorro. Don Sandoval has aroused the Dons to fight the strangers!

And now Colonel Argenta has joined them. What other news have you?

I saw Olga and Sandoval riding toward Casa Sandoval just before I found you.

You were right about them. They are working together.

To the Casa Sandoval quickly!

Meanwhile, at Casa Sandoval...

I have spoken to Panchita and she will return to Casa Conchola. Panchita awaits my return.

Excellente, Vincente! Let us toast your sister with a glass of wine!

And now I must see her tell her that my wish is to be with her always, if she will have me.

As Vincente leaves...

So! I thought your wish was to be with me! You no longer fit into my plans.

After all I've done for you! And your promises to me in Madrid!

And now you would double-cross me! But you'll never get away with it! I'll go to Zorro and tell him everything!
I'LL TELL HIM YOU ARE IN THE PAY OF THE FOREIGNERS! THAT THEY GAVE YOU GOLD SO THAT YOU COULD PLAY THE PART OF A WEALTHY ARISTOCRAT...

...AND CREATE THE INCIDENTS THAT WOULD ALLOW THEIR TROOPS AN EXCUSE TO SEIZE CALIFORNIA!

NO, YOU WON'T, OLGA!

YOU HAVE OUTLIVED YOUR USEFULNESS! SEIZE HER!

YOU HAVE FORCED ME TO DISPOSE OF YOU! NOTHING CAN SAVE YOU NOW!

DON'T BE TOO SURE!

ZORRO!

OLGA, COME HERE! I HEARD EVERYTHING! YOUR GAME IS UP, SANDOVAL!

AFTER THEM, YOU FOOLS! THEY MUST NOT LEAVE HERE ALIVE!

RUN TO MY HORSE, OLGA! I'LL HOLD THEM OFF!
OLGA, HURRY! I'LL JOIN YOU NOW!

YOU FOOLS! YOU LET THEM GET AWAY!

Sí, Bernardo, now we must find Colonel Argenta and... tell him that Sandoval is working for the foreigners! He already knows that. Argenta is in the pay of Sandoval!

Now the plot is clear. Argenta plans to surrender the California forces to the foreigners. I am going after Argenta!
HOURS LATER, WHEN ZORRO FINDS THE CAVALRY ENCAMPEMENT...

COLONEL ARGENTA IS NOT HERE. HE LEFT FOR THE FOREIGN CAMP UNDER A FLAG OF TRUCE!

...TO SURRENDER YOU ALL WITHOUT FIRING A SHOT!

ARGENTA IS A TRAITOR! BY AUTHORITY OF THE GOVERNOR, I ORDER YOU NOT TO OBEY COLONEL ARGENTA IN THE FUTURE, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES!

I'VE GOT TO INTERCEPT COLONEL ARGENTA BEFORE HE CAN RETURN TO HIS MEN!

SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, IN A NARROW PASS SEPARATING THE TWO FORCES...

WHAT LUCK! ARGENTA WITH VASILENKO!

MOMENTS LATER, AS ARGENTA PASSES BENEATH A TREE...

ONE DOWN!

BEFORE THE OTHER TWO CAN RECOVER FROM THEIR SURPRISE, ZORRO TAKES COMMAND

TELL YOUR SOLDIER TO DROP HIS GUN, OR--

YOU'LL FIND SOME ROPE ON MY SADDLE, SOLDIER. TIE AND GAG ARGENTA, THEN RETURN TO YOUR COMRADES. BARON VASILENKO WILL ACCOMPANY ME!

AAGH!

CRACK!
Taking Vasilenko prisoner, Zorro returns to Argenta's camp...

Your plot has failed, Baron Vasilenko! With you my prisoner, California will remain free!

El Zorro, Don Sandoval is approaching.

I came to see Argenta! But I see you have taken command, Zorro!

The game is up, Sandoval! Surrender yourself to me and let us prevent bloodshed!

Vasilenko's capture means nothing to me. I have taken command of the governor's palace and will join forces with Vasilenko's troops and destroy you!

It is you who must surrender! I will give you until midnight to decide!

You haven't won yet, Zorro! Sandoval may still become ruler of California for my government.

There is one chance he may not Vasilenko! I have a plan!

Late that night, at the palace...

If you wish to live, Vasilenko, do as I order!

I understand!
GUARD! GUARD! DON'T SHOOT! IT IS I, BARON VASILENKO!

WHAT DO YOU WANT? THUD!
NOW ON TO THE NEXT SENTRY, VASILENKO!

MINUTES LATER...
DON SANDOMAL, BARON VASILENKO HAS ESCAPED FROM ZORRO! HE IS OUTSIDE!
IMPOSSIBLE! CALL THE GUARD!

BUT SUDDENLY... BETTER CHANGE THAT ORDER, SANDOMAL! OR, IT WILL BE THE LAST YOU EVER GIVE!

YOU ARE MY PRISONER! CALL OFF YOUR MEN!
NOT YET, ZORRO! I STILL HOLD THE UPPER HAND! SOLDIER, BRING IN OUR CHARMING GUEST!
AND NOW, ZORRO--
SURRENDER, OR PAN-
CHITA DIES!

PANCHITA

YES,
ZORRO--
I HAD MY
MEN BRING
HER HERE
AS INSUR-
ANCE!

DON SANOVAL,
YOU SAID YOU
LOVED ME!

BUT I LOVE LIFE MORE,
YOUR ANSWER, ZORRO!

SUDDENLY PANCHITA BREAKS
AWAY FROM HER CAPTOR...

GIVE HIM
YOUR ANSWER,
ZORRO--
FIGHT!

UGH!

SH--SHE BIT
MY HAND!

BUT SANOVAL
ACTS QUICKLY!

MY COMPLIMENTS,
ZORRO!
This is the end, Zorro -- and you have lost!

But blinded with hatred, Sandoval does not see the candelabra...

Clank

The window! I'm falling!

Crash!

I couldn't save him... but now that his men are leaderless, they will not fight!

A few days later at the Governor's palace...

Now that I have returned with Mexican reinforcements, the strangers will not break the peace which we owe to Zorro...

But where is Zorro? He is not here.

Zorro is always here -- Diego and Zorro are one -- beneath the mask!