

## **THE FLOWER OF THE SEA**

A long time ago, there was a small, secluded village near the isolated Mediterranean coast. In this place, a woman, with hair as golden as gold, a very white complexion and beautiful gray eyes, created colorful and wonderful flower arrangements that everyone, from children to adults, admired and desired. She always dedicated herself to this work and, in spite of the fact that she lived near the pier, every day she went to the central park to do it, which she endowed with vitality and dynamism, since the people gathered, amazed, around her, watching her perform her work, like a rose that continually blooms in front of them.

However, days before April 21, she disappeared. She would remain confined to her old house preparing the most sublime and harmonious floral arrangement of the year, or so most people believed, but no one knew the exact reason why she did so.

As her husband, an expert and avid sailor, had disappeared on that date sailing over the distant tides, many believed that she was offering this particular arrangement to the sea so that one day it would return her beloved; some believed that she was commemorating him, since it was certain that he had died. There were even those who thought that she hated the icy waters immensely for snatching away her only love and that she destroyed the captivating flowers in front of it, as if in revenge.

No one really knew anything. What was really certain was that at that time the tide was rising steeply and the waves became a potential danger to the survival of the village. However, they never damaged it. Therefore, after several years and the repetition of this phenomenon, the residents would wait very quietly inside their warm and protective houses for the annual storm to pass.

However, little by little, to the woman's misfortune, after the arrival of religious radicals, an incessant paranoia and arrogance took possession of the whole town, to the point that the case of the beautiful lady of the flowers was conceived as witchcraft, because since she began to make her special floral arrangements, a year after the death of her husband, the furtive storms also began to generate. She was tried, condemned and executed by hanging.

And so it was that on April 21, a tiny and arrogant town was destroyed by the sea, by the immense fury of it. Its inhabitants, in the most enormous pain, suffering and despair, had discovered that the celestial and aquatic body contained the soul of the woman's husband, who came to visit her every year.

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