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Quien no ha visto ...

Adrienne Binni Denison University

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## "Quien no ha visto Sevilla, No ha visto maravilla."

Mosaic majesty, stretching up to touch cotton ball clouds, too thin to restrain the summer sun, floating in *un cielo azul*. Every site is a story, the smiles and laughter legendary. Dark, beautiful women in polka dot dresses ride horses behind *machista* men in wide brim hats and scarlet scarves. Barefoot children fly kites by a river flowing silent to the sea.

I walk your streets each day, watching and listening, my eyes wide with wonder at the orange trees in winter, bursting with life. The smell of the fragile *azahar* permeates the blossoming spring. You are a peninsular paradise pushed beyond the Pyrenees. Some have forgotten you and your strength, while others hold your beauty and determination in the highest realms of adoration.

The Europeans call you crude and lazy, behind the times and worthless. Mustached men who sing *piropos* from side street bars before daily *siestas* join with revered ancient celebrations to create this image. I lived within your boundaries and broke through that barrier of naiveté. Now I know the truth. The legends of Don Juan and Don Quixote are emblazoned on my heart for an eternity. *Sevilla. Te amo.* 

-Adrienne Binni '95