

SCENE FOR HOTEL MANAGER

The Hotel Manager steps out of his inn to see El Capitán and Arlequín who have come to mooch a free meal. Note: A reader will read El Capitán, Arlequín and Doormen.

Hotel Manager: Ah, gentlemen! You again? Many regrets, but today I cannot serve anyone in my hotel.

Capitán: And why might that be, if we might know?

Hotel Manager: You've got a fine cheek to ask me that! Do you think anybody gives me credit for the expenses of my hotel?

Capitán: Ah! Is that the reason? And aren't we people of credit to be trusted?

Hotel Manager: For me, no. And since I never thought to charge you, which was favour enough; do me the honour of never returning to my hotel.

Arlequín: Do you think money is everything in this base world? Do you count as nothing the tributes to your establishment we have sung high and low? I've even dedicated a sonnet to you and in it I celebrate your stewed partridges and your hare pies ... ! And as for the Capitán, be sure he would single-handedly defend the good name of your establishment against an army. Is this worth nothing? Everything has to be in hard cash!

Hotel Manager: I'm in no mood for mockery! I have no need of your sonnets, or of the Capitán's bravado, which he could put to better use!

Capitán: I swear ... I'll put it to good use routing a fiend! (*Threatening him and hitting him with the first thing to hand.*)

Hotel Manager: (*Shouting.*) What's this? An attack? Justice, someone!

Arlequín: (*Holding the Capitán back.*) Don't waste yourself on this
miserable specimen!

Capitán: I'll kill him! (*Hitting him.*)

Hotel Manager: Justice, someone!

Bellhops: (*Coming out of the hotel.*) They're killing our boss!

Hotel Manager: Help me!

Capitán: I'll take you all!

Hotel Manager: Will no-one help me?