

## *Carmen*

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In view of the fact that many our readers have been to hear *Carmen*, it may be of interest to give a Canadian's review of that Opera's plot :

About the year 1830 there lived at Seville in Spain a Dago Jane called Carmen. She was some kiddo and a beaut and worked with other skirts in a big tobacco store. She was, of course, chased by all the Johnnies in town, but there was nothing doing and don't you forget it, as she herself was stuck on Don Jose, a square-pushing brigade major of dragoons. Jose, however, did not freeze on to her, the big boob.

In the first act Carmen gets in a mix-up with another skirt and gets pinched by the A. P. M., who orders Jose to take her to the calabooze. But he falls for her smirks and allows her to make her getaway. For this Jose is tried before a soldier beak and convicted by F. G. C. M. « in that he, while on active service, assisted in the escape of a prisoner », and was duly sentenced to be reduced to his permanent rank of full private and awarded F. P. (number of days not stated, see K R and O xyz).

In the second spasm the A. P. M. runs up against Carmen in a coffee joint and tries to rush her, but Jose blows in and knocks the Holy Jerusalem out of his superior officer. After that Jose and Carmen skedaddle to the mountains with a bunch of hoboos, who have a shanty and some booze there, not being on the water wagon.

The third stunt takes place in the mountains. A Toreador (a guy that tickles bulls with a lance) pokes his nose in and also gets the stuffing pounded out of him by Jose for making goo-goo eyes at Carmen. That kid, however, is simply fed up with the whole blooming show and when Micaela, Jose's steady, blows in to say that his mother is about to kick the bucket, she takes to the tall timber with that Toreador.

The grande finale show the entrance to an Arena (whatever that may be) just before a bull fight. Carmen and her fellow come swanking along while the crowd is hurrayng for fair. Jose, who is among the bunch, throws the glad eye at Carmen and tries to peddle some hot air. He wants her to skip the shebang, chuck the Toreador and git. But « nix » is her motto. He then jabs her in the ribs with a knife, rather than cough her up to his nibs the Bull Puncher.

Feenish !

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