

# El bailarín ruso de Montecarlo

The Russian ballet dancer from Monte Carlo



UK panel's choice AUTUMN 2010

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Constantino Augusto de Moreas has received an invitation to visit Zaragoza University, after having spent his entire life in Cuba devoted to the scholarly investigation of the poet José Martí. But he decides to skip the congress and travels instead to Barcelona. He wants to see how people live in the Europe he idolizes, but he is also obeying a desire to inject some meaning into his dull life, to rediscover old dreams and old loves cast aside due to time and shyness. He settles into a cheap boarding house and slowly discovers that reality is harder than he ever imagined. A ghostly image appears in his mind over and over again: a man he once worked with during the sugar harvest back in Cuba, a classical dancer who promised his friend he would make it into the Russian Ballet of Monte Carlo. Is this journey the protagonist's last chance? A story told with irony, tenderness and much emotion.

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