

## Los Laureles

Linda Ronstadt

¡Ay, qu? laureles tan verdes!  
¡Qu? rosas tan encendidas!  
Si piensas abandonarme mejor quitame la vida;  
Alza los ojos a verme  
Si no estás comprometido.

Eres mata de algodón  
Que vives en el capullo;  
Ay, qu? tristeza me da  
Cuando te llenas de orgullo  
De ver a mi corazón  
Enredado con el tuyo!

Eres rosa de castilla  
Que sólo en mayo se ve  
Quisiera hacerte un invite,  
Pero la verda no s?  
Si tiene quién te lo evite,  
Mejor me separar?

Por "ai" va la despedida,  
Chinito por tus quererres  
La perdición de los hombres  
Son las benditas mujeres;

Y aqu? se acaban cantando  
Los versos de los laureles.

This ranchera is a standard for all mariachis and dates back to the 1920's or 1930's. It is supposed to have been written by Consuelo Velásquez; it was common, especially during the Mexican Revolution in 1910, for women to write songs and include the couplets that men customarily used. This would explain the line, la perdición de los hombres son las maldites mujeres (cursed women), in the original version. L.R.

The Laurels

written by Jos? López

Ay, how green the laurels are!  
What fiery roses!  
If you're thinking of leaving me better  
to take away my life;  
Lift your eyes to look at me  
If you are not engaged to be married.

You are a sprig of cotton  
That lives in the bud;  
Ay, what sadness I feel  
When you fill yourself with haughtiness  
Upon seeing my heart  
Entangled with yours!

You are a rose from Castille  
That can only be seen in May  
I would like to invite you,  
But in truth I don't know  
If there is someone in the way  
Better that I go away.

So goes the farewell  
Chinito, to your affections  
The Blessed women  
Are the ruin of men;  
And here ends the singing  
Of the verses of the laurels