

I'm human





La Loba Negra, a three-act Filipino opera, tells the story of Doña Luisa (The Black She-Wolf), wife of Governor-General Fernando Bustamante, who seeks revenge against the Spanish friars responsible for his assassination in the 17th century. The opera's first two acts are based on historical events, while Act III draws from a legend attributed to Fr. Jose Burgos. Composed by Francisco Feliciano, with libretto by Fides Cuyugan Asensio, La Loba Negra premiered at the Cultural Center of the Philippines' CCP Main Theater in 1984. The opera features a star-studded cast, including Ms. Asensio and Eleanor Calles as Doña Luisa, and Jimmy Melendrez and Noel Velasco as Governor-General Bustamante. The story revolves around the tragic assassination of Governor-General Bustamante, whose reforms were met with resistance from powerful Spanish friars. His wife, Doña Luisa, seeks revenge against those responsible for his death, leading to a bitter reaction and planned retribution. The opera begins with a haunting prologue depicting a woman dancing around a priest tied to a long pole, set against the backdrop of pitch darkness and howling wolves in the distance. The scene shifts to the Governor's Palace ballroom, where a welcome party is underway for the new Governor-General Bustamante. Dolores's departure from the meeting leaves Totanes apologetic without genuine remorse. Meanwhile, he seizes gifts meant for the Governor and adds them to the Church treasury. He comforts guests while reassuring them of their place in heaven. In the Palace family room, Doña Luisa sings an aria about Aztec god Huizilipochtli as her daughter Dolores had asked about its meaning. The conversation is interrupted by the Governor who heads out to inspect the Auditor General's office amid financial discrepancies. Dolores weeps suspecting the result of the investigation and her mother tries to comfort her. The Auditor General observes Torralba collecting taxes, sharing 'loot' with Fray Totanes who gives some to his mistress Conchita. The Governor confronts Torralba then orders his imprisonment in Fort Santiago. The scene ends with a duet where Torralba is remorseful and the Governor is pitying. The crackdown on religious officials continues as the Archbishop of Manila is detained along with others. A demonstration is dispersed by the Governor's soldiers. Fray Totanes encourages priests to plot against their enemy, leading to a mass without service in Fort Santiago. Protesters march towards the Governor's palace singing Muerte, before a messenger warns them. The assassins reach the palace and kill the Governor and his son Jose. Doña Luisa invokes Aztec god for revenge after witnessing brutal killings. She renounces her Christian faith and becomes La Loba Negra, methodically slaughtering friars over two years with her daughter. La Loba Negra's notoriety spreads as clergy cower in fear. Macatangay joins forces with her seeking independence from Spain. They continue their ritual murders singing songs O Poong Maykapal and Hindi Na Malayo Ang Araw. Doña Luisa's violent past, marked by the seduction and rape of her daughter and the murder of friars responsible for her husband and son's deaths, has finally subsided. Now united with her Filipino adopted country, she is married off to Sandugo. In her final moments, Doña Luisa breaks into a haunting melody. "Napakahaba ng Gabi," symbolizing hope for a brighter future after the dark night. The opera's musical composition and libretto work in tandem to evoke powerful emotions, particularly in the intense murder scenes. These are juxtaposed with solemn liturgical rites, underscoring the moral complexity of Doña Luisa's actions. Her temporary insanity, brought on by the brutal killings, is posited as a justification for her vengeful actions, with the Aztec god serving as a scapegoat. As librettist Asensio philosophically observes: "The night may be long, but the sun will eventually rise again in the East."

Summary of synopsis of la loba negra opera. La loba negra opera summary. Synopsis of la loba negra. La loba negra opera characters.