

Talking Tangos: Stories About Music and Told Through Music

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The stories told in tango lyrics are equally important as the music and dance itself. Familiarize yourself with the iconic song “Sur”, composed by Aníbal Troilo with lyrics by Homero Manzi (<https://youtu.be/UtYfE83T86o>). After listening to the song, work through the lyrics and see how it tells both the story of a lost love and of a changing neighborhood in Buenos Aires.

Sur... Paredón y después... Sur... Una luz de almacén Ya nunca me verás como me vieras recostado en la vidriera y esperándote Ya nunca alumbraré con las estrellas nuestra marcha sin querellas por las noches de Pompeya. Las calles y las lunas suburbanas y mi amor y tu ventana todo ha muerto, ya lo sé. San Juan y Boedo antiguo y todo el cielo Pompeya y más allá la inundación. Tu melena de novia en el recuerdo y tu nombre flotando en el adiós. La esquina del herrero, barro, y Pampa, tu casa, tu vereda y el zanjón y un perfume de yuyos y de alfalfa que me llena de nuevo el corazón San Juan y Boedo antiguo, cielo perdido. Pompeya y al llegar al terraplén. Tus veinte años temblando de cariño bajo el beso que entonces te robé. Nostalgia de las cosas que han pasado, arena que la vida se llevó. Pesadumbre de barrios que han cambiado y amargura del sueño que murió.	South... A great wall and after... South... A light from the <i>almacén</i>¹ You'll never see me again, like you saw me, reclined against the window, waiting for you. The stars will never illuminate our night walks without quarrels in Pompeya² The suburban streets and moons and my love and your window everything has died, I already know it. Old San Juan and Boedo³ and all the sky Pompeya, and over there, the flood⁴ The loose hair of a girlfriend in the memory and your name floating in the goodbye The blacksmith's corner, mud, and pampa, your house, your sidewalk, and the ditch and a scent of weeds and alfalfa that fills my heart again Old San Juan and Boedo, lost sky. Pompeya reaching the embarkment. Twenty years trembling of love under the kiss that I stole from you Nostalgia for things that have passed, that the sand of life has taken with it. Sadness for neighborhoods that have changed and the bitterness for a dream that has died.
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¹ An *almacén* is a general store

² Pompeya is a neighborhood in the south of Buenos Aires

³ San Juan and Boedo are a famous intersection in south Buenos Aires.

⁴ The neighborhood of Pompeya flooded in 1912