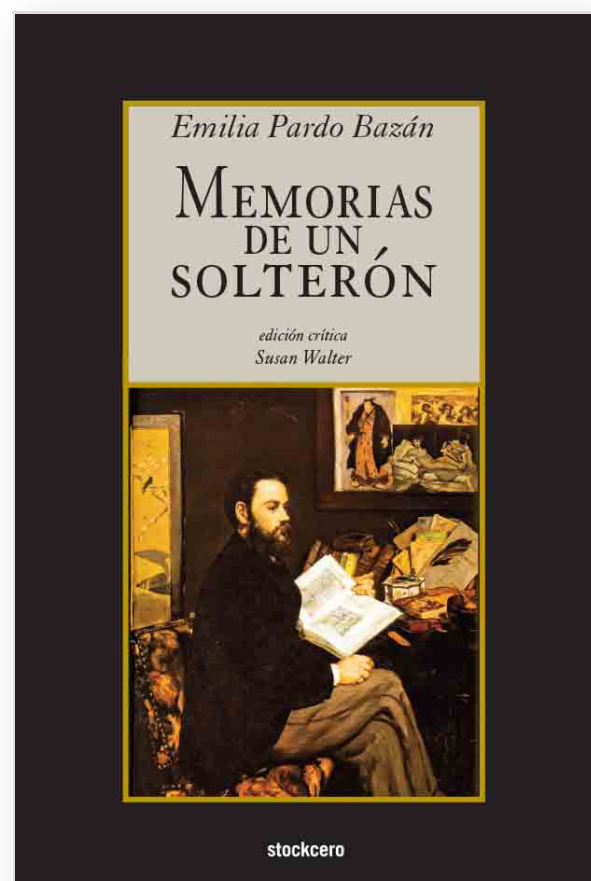


Memorias de un solterón

By Emilia Pardo Bazán · Edited by Susan Walter



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"Memorias de un solterón (1896) by Emilia Pardo Bazán is a novel that examines and questions the traditional roles assigned to men and women within society. Through an introspective narrative—in the voice of the male character—the author questions the idealized model of woman as an 'angel in the home,' revealing its harmful effects on both women and men."

Memorias de un solterón (Memoirs of a Bachelor), published in 1896, is a nuanced and critical novel by Emilia Pardo Bazán that delves into the societal expectations and gender dynamics of Restoration-era Spain. Narrated from the perspective of Mauro Pareja, a bachelor who initially rejects bourgeois marriage, the novel provides a sophisticated critique of traditional gender roles and the institution of matrimony.

At its heart is Feita Neira, a character who embodies the "new woman" challenging the era's conventions. Her intellectual pursuits and desire for independence, reminiscent of Pardo Bazán herself, stand in stark contrast to the prescribed role of the "ángel del hogar" (angel in the home). The novel explores themes such as the double moral standard, the influence of "el qué dirán" (what people will say) on reputation, and the complexities of social class.

Through interconnected narratives with characters appearing in other Pardo Bazán works (like *Doña Milagros* and *La Tribuna*), this novel offers a rich intertextual experience for readers familiar with her oeuvre. Its progressive ideas found particular resonance abroad, with translations appearing in England, Germany, Italy, and France, highlighting its ahead-of-its-time social commentary.

Edited by **Susan Walter**, this Stockcero edition is an invaluable resource for courses in Peninsular Literature, Gender Studies, and 19th-century Spanish social history, offering a deep dive into Pardo Bazán's subtle yet incisive critique of societal norms.

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