Lights! Camera! Action!

After the bank robbery and voluntary exile of its manager Briefcase Frederico, the Alquerian Government sat in emergency session. Restocking the bank presented little problem but the future security of the village needed their attention. Against the wishes of Manuela, Alqueria's very own 'femme fatal' and nocturnal itinerant the decision to install security cameras was taken.

The British of course are leaders in this field. The keen interest in other people's business and the desire for one’s own privacy is an absurdity of British life. The Sneak, Peek and Pry Security Company of East Crackington, Surrey came up with the lowest quote, being three barrels of Remitroot Liquor cheaper than their nearest competitor. This firm was responsible for such installations as Mrs Philpots Sweet Shop in the High Street, recently made into a 'reality' television series by the BBC.

There was no hiding place from the ever vigilant cameras. Alqueria was a village under surveillance and it was severely limiting Manuela's night-time activities. She is an inventive girl and set about destroying the credibility of the security recordings. Her first ploy was to dress up as a five foot tall rodent and stroll the streets at night. She thought this would invite questions about the security company's judgement. This didn't work however as Loco Paco actually has a five foot tall rodent called Bob. He hand reared the creature on Remitroot and it often gets loose at night.

Manuela noticed that one particular camera caught part of the white gable-end of the Bar la Casa Devante. Using this as a screen she projected scenes from the 1979 version of 'Caligula' from an old 8mm movie projector. Although the security camera faithfully recorded the projection it was to no avail. Similar scenes were the norm for any Saturday night outside the Bar la Casa Devante.

A vital point, overlooked by the security company and Manuela alike ensured the swift removal of the cameras. Practically everyone in Alqueria has something to hide.

The reasons range from hiding dodgy business deals to hiding themselves bodily. This meant that no-one wanted to be recognised especially on permanent recordings. However they had to go about their daily business, so disguises were adopted. A theatrical costumier in Almería did a roaring trade hiring outfits to the people of Alqueria.

If the recordings could be believed, seventy-five Marilyn Monroes wandered the streets accompanied by a selection of campanologist hunchbacks, vampires in varying states of convincibility and renowned politicians. As it would be very difficult to pursue a court case against Quasimodo or the like, the camera project was scrapped.

Roberto Robles still dresses as Shirley Temple, if fact he dressed as Shirley Temple before the cameras arrived.