

“La Piragua”

Text

Me contaron los abuelos que hace tiempo,
Navegaba en el Cesar una piragua,
Que partía del Banco viejo puerto
A las playas de amor en Chimichagua.

Capoteando el vendaval se estremecía
Impasible desafiaba la tormenta,
Y un ejercito de estrellas la seguía
Tachonándola de luz y de leyenda.

Chorus:

Era la piragua de Guillermo Cubillos,
Era la piragua, era la piragua
(x2)

Refrain:

La piragua, la piragua
(x2)

Doce bogas con la piel color majagua
Y con ellos el temible Pedro Albundia,
Por las noches a los remos arrancaban
Un melódico rugir de hermosa cumbia.

Doce sombras, ahora viejas ya no reman,
Ya no cruje el maderamen en el agua,
Solo quedan los recuerdos en la arena
Donde yace dormitando la piragua.

(Chorus)

(Refrain)

Translation

My grandparents told me that long ago,
In the Cesar, a piragua would sail,
It would leave the old port of El Banco
For the beaches of love in Chimichagua.

Fighting the gale, it would shake
Impassively it defied the storm,
And an army of stars would follow
Decorating it with light and legend.

Chorus:

It was Guillermo Cubillo's piragua,
It was the piragua, it was the piragua
(x2)

Refrain:

The piragua, the piragua*
(x2)

Twelve rowers with majagua-colored** skin
And with them the fearsome Pedro Albundia,
At night with their rows, they would tear out
A melodic roar of beautiful cumbia.

Twelve shadows, now old, no longer row,
The wood no longer creaks in the water,
Only memories are left in the sand
Where the piragua lies asleep.

(Chorus)

(Refrain)

*Piragua is a type of giant canoe.

**Majagua is a type of tree.