



## MADRID, MAY THE 2nd

### THE 24 HOURS THAT EMBITTERED NAPOLEON

Memory of a city in arms, of the key places of the spontaneous revolution, and of the Massacre of the *Majos*

*“Includes the popular songs of the War of Independence”*

**Juan Ignacio Cuesta**

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**A tour of the parts of Madrid that experienced the events that took place on the 2nd and 3rd of May in 1808. The city as a magical theatre house and the people like puppets tied by thread to a destiny of gunpowder and blood.**

Madrid is a city that has been the site of many adventures. But, without a doubt, the events of the first days of May of 1808, the beginning of the War of Independence against French troops, marked a short, but extremely horrific period in the city's history.

This book constitutes a journey through the city of yesteryear. You will see its protagonists and its events narrated from the very corners where they took place, and you will see what memories of said events remain and live today.

In those years, Napoleon, convinced that Spain could be a perfect satellite for the French empire, managed to trick the Bourbon monarchs and to hold them in Bayonne. Afterwards, he sent his brother to rule the country, only to throw him out of the country as a target of the cruelest mockery created by the *majos*, the *manolos* and the *chisperos*, local habitants of Madrid at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. With these happenings, the tensions in the city inevitably grew to the point of explosion, thereby converting Madrid into a scene of brutal genocide.

*Madrid, 2nd of May* is a journey through history in order to learn how these events developed. It is also a pathway to view a city that is not that distant from the current one – one full of small places that still conserve their magical aura of lights and shadows. Be witness to the heroism that ignited the pure brutality that was later immortalized in the paintings of Francisco Goya, privileged witness to those times.

**Juan Ignacio Cuesta** has a degree in Information Science and carries out diverse activities in specialized investigative journalism. He collaborates with magazines such as *Enigmas del Hombre*, *el Universo*, *Año Cero* and *Más Allá de la Ciencia*. He specializes in magic and sacred places, religions, cults, and the mysteries in history. He also participates in the radio program *La Rosa de los Vientos*, as well as other media programs (*Tiempo de Tertulia*, *Cuarto Milenio*).

His published books include *Sacred Stones* and *A Brief History of the Crusades* (Nowtilus); *Codex Templi*, *Gótica Hispania incognita* and *La Boca del Infierno*; *La vida secreta de los Borgia* and *Guía pagana del Camino de Santiago*; *50 lugares mágicos y sagrados*.

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