

## The parable of the dragonfly

A translation of <https://campanitasdefe.com/2018/03/10/la-parabola-de-la-libelula/>

***Summary.** This little bell explains how the entrance of a dragonfly to a beautiful birthday party gave rise to a curious song about our need to keep our eyes fixed in the **true light**. The song “**My dragonfly**” can be heard in Spanish [here](#). The composition can also be heard and visualized in Spanish in a YouTube video by the end of the text.*

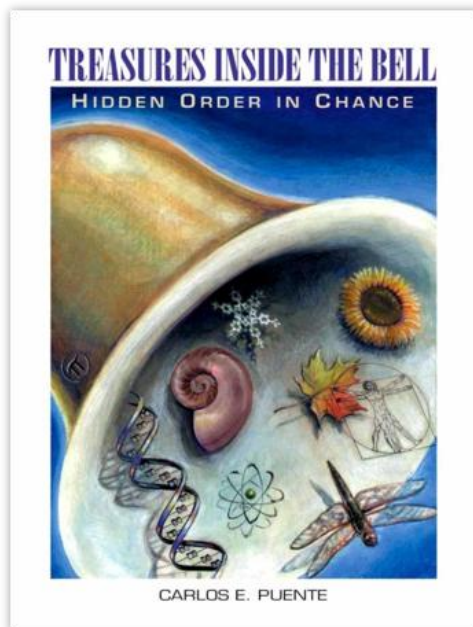
*The blog [Presentation](#) provides information about the purpose of these little bells and the blog [Organization](#) shows how the entries are grouped by categories. This entry belongs to the category “**Calls to conversion**.”*

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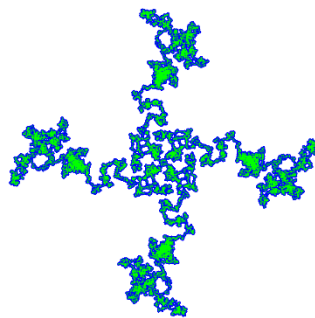
When I happily reached fifty years of age, we celebrated with a big party at home, with a dance that included, thanks to my good friend **León Soto**, some wonderful **Puerto Rican** musicians. We gathered in the living room, near the door, and there we sang joyfully, accompanied by guitar, cuatro, maracas, and bongos, while other guests arrived.

From time to time, the door would open to let more people into the gathering, and amid that opening and closing of space, without anyone noticing, a beautiful **dragonfly** slipped in and flew up to the highest point of the ceiling, where, no doubt, it had the best view of the *areíto*. Seeing it there, I immediately thought about what I should do to get it out of the house, which seemed extremely difficult since it was easily at more than thirteen feet high.

When some of those present saw the iridescent little creature, they began to congratulate me with conviction, saying that its visit was a sign of “**good luck**.” Indeed, that winged being became the topic of conversation, and I remember telling my brother [duartecito](#), when he arrived, that one like it, perhaps the same one, sometimes perched on a stick that held a **little bell** in front of the house, and how it reminded me of one he had drawn emerging from a **bell**, on the very artistic cover he designed for my first book, [Treasures Inside the Bell](#):



During the commotion, and without having shown any sign of movement from its spot above, the “*Saint Peter*” or the “*devil's horse*”, as some call it — oh quite a dichotomy — suddenly glided down toward a floor lamp that cast its light upward. We were all moved when we heard the horrible sound it made as it *sizzled* ...



... We were left astonished by what had happened, and a month later I was inspired to write the song that follows, which sketches a *moral* — a *parable* — about not letting ourselves be deceived by an *unreal light*.

In these times we live in, when almost anything goes and many *lies* are presented as “*truths*,” it is fitting to remember, during *Lent* and throughout the entire year, that there is only one who is the *true light*: Jesus, Our Lord (Jn 8:12).

## MY DRAGONFLY

*Oh, with a moral!*

A dragonfly,  
in my first book, the dragonfly,  
a dragonfly,  
of the bell, the dragonfly.

A dragonfly,  
flirty flying, the dragonfly,  
a dragonfly,  
perching on a stick, the dragonfly.

Dragonfly

A winged verse from Eden,  
iridescent in my garden,  
she always came to visit,  
gracing her elegance.

This singular friend  
displayed her shining hue,  
she came swiftly to rest,  
providing rhythm to my mood.

Dragonfly

She found an open door  
in joyful dance for my life,  
many saw her resting there  
up high, up high — oh my!

Amid arpeggios and bongos,  
it became best witness to the feast,  
the crowd praised her, oh, aloud:  
it's good luck, yes indeed!

Dragonfly

Our friend decided then,  
ah, dazzled by a light,  
to trade, oh no, her best view,  
to glide away to grand spot.

She launched herself without a doubt  
toward the tall, cold lamp below,

and there they heard her crackle, oh,  
playing her final, final role.

**Dragonfly,**  
a dragonfly.

**Dragonfly,**  
dragonfly, dragonfly.

**Dragonfly,**  
a dragonfly.

**Dragonfly,**  
it got tasted the dragonfly.

*Ah, my dragonfly...*

*How beautiful you were...*

*Bridge of peace...*

**Don't be deceived,**  
**ah, going toward a false light,**  
**don't be mistaken, no —**  
**only one died for you.**

**Don't be deceived,**  
**ah, far from the holy cross,**  
**don't be mistaken, no —**  
**only one triumphed for you.**

**Don't be deceived,**  
**ah, going toward a false light,**  
**don't be mistaken, no —**  
**only one died for you.**

**Don't be deceived,**  
**ah, far from the holy cross,**  
**don't be mistaken, no —**  
**only one triumphed for you.**

*Shanti Setú...*

**Don't be deceived,**  
ah, listen my friend, come to the light.

**Don't be deceived,**  
don't get lost, ah, without the cross.

**Don't be deceived,**  
ah, the dragonfly went to a false light.

**Don't be deceived,**  
your good friend died on the cross.

**Don't be deceived,**  
don't be deceived.

**Don't be deceived,**  
ah, Christ is the light.

**Don't be deceived...**

A dragonfly,  
ah, good luck, the dragonfly,  
a dragonfly,  
for my friends, the dragonfly.

A dragonfly,  
oh, gift from heaven, the dragonfly,  
a dragonfly,  
for equilibrium, my dragonfly.

Dragonfly

*(September 2006 / June 2025)*



The song was arranged by **Luis Armando Alarcón Rodríguez**, under the direction of **Lázaro Alemán López**, musical director of [Shanti Setú/Puente de Paz](#). The composition, performed by **Leonel Mederos Bravo** with **Luis Armando Alarcón Rodríguez** on piano and **Idalia Martínez Espina** and **Lázaro Alemán López** on backing vocals, can be heard in its lively rendition [here](#).