**Telenovelas Parte 2**

**10 Things That Happen on Every Telenovela**

**Is anybody's life really this dramatic?**

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1. There's always a love triangle. That is what every Latino soap opera is about — love and lies. Some of them seem very unlikely to happen in real life. In Pasíon Prohibida, a woman falls in love with her much older husband's surrogate son. Another popular one occurs in Triunfo del Amor, which includes a bisexual love triangle (a man and a woman are in love with the same woman), something that is major considering that there aren't many LGBT characters in Latino soap operas.

2. There's a lot of cheating. It's safe to say that 90 percent of novelas involve cheating and relationship drama, but just to name a few, Avenida Brasil, Rebelde, and Amores Verdaderos all have instances where someone catches his or her partner cheating, or the entire show revolves around infidelity, where someone sleeps with a person the couple knows very well.

3. There's always a fight that ends in fiery kissing. There's usually a lot of kissing in general, the kind where a couple argues, awkwardly stares at one another, then randomly starts kissing for 10 minutes straight like nothing ever happened. This video explains just how intense a novela kiss can get.

4. A rich person always falls in love with a poor person. Remember the epic story line of Marimar, where a poor island girl falls for the richest man in town? Sergio marries Marimar anyway, despite his parents' disapproval, of course, and they continue to fight for acceptance.

5. A poor girl gets rich. No one will forget one of the most famous novelas ever, María la del Barrio. María's parents die, and a rich family takes her in, teaching her manners and how to be a little rich girl appropriately. The main character of Luz Claritabecomes a matchmaker and manages to get a couple of poor people to fall in love with rich people and live happily ever after, even though she's only a child. It seems like every story starts off with a poor girl whose goal is to go from rags to riches by finding the right man or circle of friends.

6. The entire show is about a big family secret. Who can forget when Oriana found out she's not Paloma's long-lost granddaughter in Mentir Para Vivir, or how Luz Clarita spends the entire time figuring out family secrets and trying to determine whether or not her mother really is dead. Latin families = DRAMA.

7. There's always a jealous woman trying to destroy everyone's life. Teresa from the show Teresa is overly jealous of everyone and greedy. Then there is the evil mother in Secretos del Paraiso. And it's impossible to forget the sneaky, conniving protagonist of Rubí, whose jealousy gets so bad, she becomes a murderer.

8. You DON'T find out the truth until the last five minutes of the series finale. Seriously, after every episode, you think you've figured it out until you watch the next episode and realize there's some other huge turning point in the plot. Maybe that's why your abuela was so addicted.

9. The women all look like supermodels and are usually fair-skinned. If you've never been to Mexico, Argentina, Venezuela, or Brazil (where many of the shows are filmed), you'd think all of the women look as hot as Gisele Bündchen. Latinas are gorgeous — don't get me wrong — but we don't all look like runway models and not all of us are fair-skinned or perfectly bronzed.

10. Someone always gets severely injured or dies. A lot of the time, the injuries result from LOVE TRIANGLES, of course. In En Nombre del Amor, Paloma is about to get married, but her jealous aunt poisons her husband and he dies. Her aunt then proceeds to kill three more people associated with Paloma's husband, because she's just that angry he didn't choose her. Also, remember the scene in the show Rubi where shefalls dramatically down a staircase and she begs her rich boyfriend not to break up with her? Being in a novela seems really dangerous.

But, despite the fact that all Latin soap operas are scarily similar, we still get hooked every single time.