



## Inês de Castro

by

Film Script by Alice de Sousa  
(Inspired by true and historical events)

The story of **Inês de Castro** has gripped the imagination of artists throughout the world for some 650 years and they have immortalised her legend in every art form.

Alice de Sousa's film script is an epic tale of forbidden love, death and revenge. It is set in the 14<sup>th</sup> century and based on true events. The story begins with the arrival in Portugal from Spain of Dona Constança, who is betrothed in marriage to Dom Pedro the heir to the Portuguese throne. The marriage will restore peace between the warring kingdoms.

However, Dom Pedro and Inês de Castro, Dona Constança's lady in waiting, fall desperately in love. Gossip of their adulterous affair reaches the king and he has Inês de Castro banished. When Dom Pedro's wife dies in child birth, Inês de Castro defiantly returns to Portugal and joins Dom Pedro at the magical *Quinta das Lágrimas - The Estate of Tears*, where they go on to have three children.

After much deliberation, the Portuguese king orders the execution of Inês de Castro. Three of his most trusted nobles are charged with the macabre task of beheading Inês de Castro. A heart broken Dom Pedro declares war on his father and the country is torn apart by bloody civil war.

When his father dies, Dom Pedro ascends the throne, captures two of the three counsellors responsible for executing Inês, and has them brutally punished by ripping out their hearts from their living bodies.

The legend concludes as remarkably as it commenced: Dom Pedro has Inês de Castro's corpse exhumed and at the impressive *Alcobaça Monastery*, he posthumously crowns her Portugal's Queen.

Today, the beautiful story of Inês de Castro continues to draw pilgrims from all over the world to Dom Pedro and Inês' gloriously carved tombs. These stand at the world heritage site, *Alcobaça Monastery*, facing one another: the ancient belief being that in the hereafter when Dom Pedro and Inês rise, they will be able to immediately fall into each other's arms.

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A full script is available on request