

Elisa Sánchez Loriga, a teacher by profession, had to pretend to be a man to be able to marry in the church, in 1901, with her partner, Marcela Gracia Ibeas, creating a male character for the occasion: Mario Sánchez, a son of English Protestant parents who wanted to become Catholic.



In this way, no one would suspect his wedding to Marcela. After the wedding, however, several people began to realize that Mario was actually a woman, a fact that had a huge impact even from the international press. The persecution of the media and the Church, which annulled their union, made the couple have to flee to Argentina and leave Spain.



To this day, however, this story continues to serve as an inspiration for the triumph of love over sexual identity, since it is the first marriage attempt of two people of the same sex in Spain of which there is a record and the unique in the world made by the Catholic Church.