

**WHITE QUEEN.** Why, that's practically no memory at all.

**ALICIA.** That's what a memory is – it goes backwards. Pues, que tipo de cosas do you remember best?

**WHITE QUEEN.** I remember things that happened the week after next. For example, the King's Messenger is being punished in prison and the trial doesn't even begin until Wednesday. The crime won't even be committed for a year.

**ALICIA.** What if he never commits the crime?

**WHITE QUEEN.** That would be even better.

**ALICIA.** It wouldn't be better for him to be punished for a crime he did not commit.

**WHITE QUEEN.** Silly child.

**ALICIA.** It's only fair – your Majesty.

*(The WHITE QUEEN screams.)*

**WHITE QUEEN.** My finger's bleeding!!! I'm bleeding!

*(ALICIA covers both her ears.)*

**ALICIA.** *(To audience:)* Her screams sounded like the whistle of a steam engine. Only louder.

What's the matter with you? Did you prick your finger?

**WHITE QUEEN.** I haven't pricked it yet, but I will soon. Oh oh oh!

**ALICIA.** When do you expect to prick it?

**WHITE QUEEN.** When I go to fasten my shawl again. The brooch will become undone and bite me!

**ALICIA.** Be careful! You're holding it all crooked.

**WHITE QUEEN.** That accounts for the bleeding, I imagine. Now, you see how things happen here.

*(The WHITE QUEEN pricks her finger, but makes no sound.)*

**ALICIA.** Why don't you scream now?