

Pasión
DE LAS
Pasiones

BY BRANDON LEON-GAMBETTA

Pasión DE LAS Pasiones



CREDITS

Published by Magpie Games

Printed by Taylor Speciality Books

Writing and Design: Brandon Leon-Gambetta

Additional Writing: Brendan Conway & Claudia Sánchez Quiroz

Project Management: Brendan Conway

Developmental Editing: Mark Diaz Truman

Copy Editing: Monte Lin

Layout: Miguel Ángel Espinoza

Art Direction: Marissa Kelly

Proofreading: Katherine Fackrell

Additional Proofreading: Claudia Sánchez Quiroz

Staff Support: Jen Adcock, Kate Bullock, Sarah Doom, J. Derrick Kapchinsky, Adam McEwen, Chris Samson, Sarah “Sam” Satiel, and Valerie Osbourn

Indexing: J. Derrick Kapchinsky

All art is either licensed under the CCo license, licensed directly from Shutterstock, licensed directly from DepositPhotos, or used under the license of Pixabay, Pexels, or Unsplash. Photographers include but are not limited to Renato Abati, Rene Asmussen, Artem Beliaikin, Christian Buehner, Keira Burton, Sarah Cervantes, Lucas da Miranda, Zachary DeBottis, Marcelo Dias, Ron Lach, Jennifer Marquez, Joanna Nix-Walkup, Gabriela Pereira, Luis Quintero, Hermes Rivera, Kelly Sikkema, Mihai Stefan, Liza Summer, Polina Tankilevitch, and Anthony Tran.

Special thanks to Meguey and Vincent Baker for creating Apocalypse World and the more than 1000 Kickstarter backers who made *Pasión de las Pasiones* possible. We are humbled by your collective encouragement and support.

Acknowledgments

I could never have written this game, much less this book, without an absolutely indescribable amount of support from so many people who put their love and passion into it. To have the experience of sharing in that has been fulfilling in ways I cannot express. I am, for only the second or third time in my life, lost for words because there is no way I can express how much this experience has meant for me.



I want to dedicate the book to my family; to my abuelos and my tios for instilling in me a love of our culture, for my parents for making sure I didn't drift from it, for my siblings and primos celebrating our love for it (even though they don't play these nerdy games), and my child who I try every day to pass along that same connection. ¡Viva Perú!

Thanks to Mark for taking a chance on me, Brendan for showing me how to go from idea to design, and all of the Magpies who put in so much work on this. I say with full honesty that I came into this project starstruck to be working with my heroes and am now so happy to have made this with my friends.

Thanks to James Malloy, my podcast partner and constant collaborator, for working with me on the very first draft of this game and pushing me to keep fine tuning and improving it. If it weren't for *Stop, Hack, & Roll*, I don't think I'd ever have tried making a game.

Thanks to the Kickstarter backers who believed in this project enough to support it. Thanks to the streamers and podcasters who shared their games with the world. Thanks to the people who brought the ashcan or the quick start to their table, for playing and talking it up. Thank you.

A final special dedication to Erin, *amor de mi vida*, the first person I even mentioned this game to, for supporting me in this and in our beautiful life together, and for watching telenovelas with me to call out perfect playbook moves. Thank you all so much. I could never have done this without you. I hope you all love this game as much as I love all of you. I am so thankful for all of you.

—Brandon Leon-Gambetta

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	5	Running The Game	101
What is <i>Pasión de las Pasiones</i> ?	6	The Master of Ceremonies	102
The Stars and the Audience	7	Agendas	103
Telenovelas	11	Principles.....	105
What Are Telenovelas?	13	MC Moves	113
A Latinx Game.....	18	Running for the Playbooks.....	120
Basics	19	Playsets.....	127
The Conversation	20	Why Use Playsets?	128
Starting the Game	30	Session Zero	130
Why Do We Play?	36	Playset Construction	134
The Characters	37	Example Playset: La Rosa Querida	145
Choosing a Playbook	38	Example Playset: El Sabor del Amor.....	150
The Playbooks	45	The Series	155
La Belleza	46	The First Session	156
El Caballero	49	The Season	165
La Doña.....	52	The Finale	168
La Empleada	55	The Long Example	171
El Gemelo	59	Custom Moves	177
El Jefe	62	What is a Custom Move?	178
The Moves	65	Building Custom Moves	180
Basic Moves	68	The Show Is Yours	187
Peripheral Moves	87		
Conditions	95		
Last Time On.....	98		
Advancement	99		



Introduction

WHAT IS *Pasión de las Pasiones*?

Pasión de las Pasiones is a game that tells stories, specifically stories of love, loss, betrayal, and—above all else—emotion! The game is a set of rules and guides to help you build intricate romances interwoven with devious plots, shocking twists of fate, and explosions of emotion. Using these rules, you play the moments that have audience members on the edges of their seats, the scenes where music swells in your mind and your breath catches in your throat. ¡Órale!

When you play **Pasión de las Pasiones**, you tell the story of your very own telenovela (we talk more about what a telenovela is in Chapter 2: Telenovelas), episode by episode. You and your friends take on the roles of the stars of the show with your own motivations and goals, often in direct conflict with each other. You might lie and deceive—manipulating to get what you need—or perhaps lay bare your heart to those you truly love. Whatever happens, your shared goal is to tell the story like a conversation, saying what your characters do, what happens, and how the camera shows these things.

Speaking of surprises, **Pasión de las Pasiones** has rules to keep the story surprising. When you cut the brake lines of your lover's husband's car and it goes careening off a cliff, you don't get to say that he has died. Instead, the dice and rules fill in what happens and guide the story, so you can feel the audience's delight when they see him climbing out of the sea, soaked and angry...or perhaps waking up next to his wrecked car with no knowledge of who he is.

Pasión de las Pasiones is a game in which you can take on the role of a dashing gentleman, a powerful heiress, a cruel leader, or a kind soul who simply wants love. Lies are exposed, plots and schemes shattered, hearts broken. This is a game that helps you tell the romantic, tragic, uplifting stories of the novelas, pushing you and your characters to the emotional highs that make millions of people tune in every week.

The Stars and the Audience

In **Pasión de las Pasiones**, you play the leading characters of a popular telenovela. The show has been going on for some time, to give you some things to flash back to from previous episodes, but you play from the moment the show picks up, and you can play to the end of the series. Your characters have a mess of relationships, a host of problems and weaknesses, and hearts full of desire; they are driven by their want of a better future. Some of the players may be playing people with pure hearts and desires; others may be playing antagonistic characters who can be terribly cruel. Regardless, all of you have wants and motivations that make you human.

You play as these characters within the show because that is where the action, drama, and story lie. You want to live in their most dramatic moments and don't want to waste time. You are the main characters of your show—not side characters ignored by the camera or ordinary people not in the world of the telenovela. You want just the excitement, the joy, the loss, and love shown between the commercials because you want your story to be as direct and intense as possible.

What you *aren't* playing in **Pasión de las Pasiones** is the actors. While there's certainly some level of drama behind the curtains of most telenovelas, you're focused on what happens on screen. That's where things get truly explosive! Don't let yourself be distracted from the story being told by what might happen off-screen. Additionally, while you're telling the story, you don't need to worry about the production side. It's alright to call out a camera angle or an exceptional prop, but don't get bogged down with how the scriptwriter or director connects to your character. All of that's behind the curtain. Leave all of that to TVyNovelas.

There's one other role you will be picking up though: the audience! When you aren't directly involved with a scene, you take on the role of audience members, the *familia* sitting down to watch their favorite novela after dinner. As this adorable family, don't sit back and tune out; lean forward and watch because sometimes the rules ask for the opinions of the audience! Also, you don't want to be the only person looking at their phone when Teresa and Ramón finally kiss.