

## Spanish Doctor Cole's name is Sara Avenzoar, a woman and a doctor in the Al-Andalus of the twelfth century

LOCATION: Seville

DURATION: 1'52"

**SUMMARY:** This doctor and writer from Seville, Francisco Gallardo, has used his novel 'The Last Night' to tell the story of one of the first women that practiced medicine in Al-Andalus in the twelfth century, Sara Avenzoar. She was the grand-daughter of the prestigious physician Avenzoar and defied the conventions of that time practising medicine. With this novel, which was written after thirty years of research, Gallardo won the Historical Novel Ateneo Prize.

### VTR:

This gaze is the imaginary gaze of a woman forgotten by History, the gaze of Sarah Avenzoar, one of the first women who worked as a doctor in Al-Andalus, and whose trace is difficult to find in the documents of that time.

**FRANCISCO GALLARDO**  
Author of 'The Last Night'

*"That caught my attention but it is what it uses to happen, it is the unwritten history of women."*

A story that precisely a doctor has wanted to recover, giving the place she deserved to a woman who was a precursor of her time, being brave enough to practice medicine in a men's world.

**FRANCISCO GALLARDO**  
Author of 'The Last Night'

*"However, she couldn't treat males and treated women and the sons of the caliph. In fact, she ended up in Marrakech working as the harem's physician."*

Because the story of Sarah Avenzoar starts in the Seville of the twelfth century, an epicentre of cultures that Francisco Gallardo describes in his novel 'The Last Night', a result of thirty years of research regarding medicine in Al-Andalus.

**FRANCISCO GALLARDO**  
Author of 'The Last Night'

*"In this novel there is a division between the masculine world, with historical data, faithful and truthful; and the feminine world that had to be reconstructed as there was very few data."*

This women, whose world was within the walls of Seville, was the grand-daughter of the most important physician in Al-Andalus. And also shared stories and castes with Averroes and Maimonides.

**FRANCISCO GALLARDO**  
Author of 'The Last Night'

*"The most important doctors in Al-Andalus, that in fact were more philosopher doctors, are found within forty or fifty years. This is a breeding ground to make medicine of that time the most important in the known world."*

Women who started opening a path and that deserve a place in our written memory, a memory where justice is starting to act.