

GLUTTONY
SIN-EATERS SERIES

Written by

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SUPER: "TENOCHTITLAN"

EXT. AZTEC PANTHEON - DAY

A great stone pyramid rises from amidst lush green valleys, waterfalls, and a river. Crops grow near the river bank in boxes set above the water.

Cattle roam the grass. Scantily clad slaves farm.

EXT. AZTEC CITY - DAY

Citizens buy and sell their wares.

Bright colored scarves and material are offered to passerbyers. Fishmongers shout beside bakers, and fresh produce merchants. YOUTHS run through the crowds.

Small clusters of WOMEN and MEN bargain at stalls.

A YOUNG WOMAN (20s) watches the crowd. She wears a scarf to obscure her face and hair. Only her bright violet eyes are visible.

INT. PANTHEON THRONE ROOM - DAY

An opulent gray stone room. Rich tapestries on the walls depict the creation of the Aztec culture, gods and goddesses at war, and human sacrifices.

Several statues and busts of ancient or fallen gods decorate the room.

On the back wall, sits a raised dais with a golden wood chair adorned with ivory, pearls, turquoise, and goldleaf has a rich blue velvet cushion.

Several LESSER GODS, in chainmail and feathered headdresses, guard the windows and doors.

In the center of the room stands TIALOC (immortal, looks mid-30s) and his second-in-command XOCHITI (immortal, looks mid-30s) and a handful of SIN-EATERS, other immortal gods.

Tialoc glares at a shorter god, MOCTEZUMA (immortal, looks late 20s).

Moctezuma wears a ceremonial headdress, a silver cape, a leather pouch and dagger at his waist.

MOCTEZUMA

You demand an audience and now you
keep me waiting?

Thunder RUMBLES in the distance.

TIALOC

It is you who keep me waiting.

XOCHITI

(to Tialoc)

Do you really want to provoke this
idiot?

Tialoc grunts and steps forward.

MOCTEZUMA

State your business, Tialoc. My
patience grows weary.

Thunder RUMBLES.

TIALOC

Cease this plan now.

MOCTEZUMA

We are above the humans. They
deserve to be enslaved.

Moctezuma leans forward.

MOCTEZUMA (CONT'D)

Have you decided to embrace the
old ways again, dear brother? It is
not too late to have the stone
masons resurrect your temple.

Moctezuma taps his teeth with a finger.

MOCTEZUMA (CONT'D)

It would require a small sacrifice
from your followers to regain your
former glory.

Tialoc reaches for his sword, Xochiti stops him.

MOCTEZUMA (CONT'D)

I'm sure we could find an unwilling
participant for you. Remember the
power that came with each innocent
life? The boost it gave as their
soul entered yours? I know you miss
that.

TIALOC

Try your taunts elsewhere, insolent
cur!

Moctezuma stands, places a hand on the dagger at his waist.
Tialoc and the rest of the men shift.

TIALOC (CONT'D)

We do not take away their free
will!

MOCTEZUMA

What is the point of being a god if
we cannot show those puny humans
who is really in charge?

TIALOC

I will not allow you to destroy
humanity for your perverse sense of
pleasure. You destroyed one
civilization already and they
worshipped you faithfully.

MOCTEZUMA

And you plan to stop me? You lack
the power, let alone the backing.

Moctezuma snaps his fingers, GUARDS in full battle armor,
with swords and spheres drawn, fill the room. Tialoc and his
men draw their weapons.

TIALOC

We came prepared for war.

Tialoc advances upon Moctezuma. A small, black, ornate box,
with gold inlays appears in Moctezuma's hand.

Tialoc stops.

TIALOC (CONT'D)

Hold!

MOCTEZUMA

(traces the carved words)
You know exactly what this is,
don't you?

TIALOC

The tlazolli or sin box. It is said
to be a myth.

XOCHITI

Only the Ancients knew of its
location.

Tialoc draws his sword.

TIALOC
How did you get it?

MOCTEZUMA
I know how to use it.

Tialoc looks at Xochiti who nods.

TIALOC
Attack!

Broadswords CLANG and SPARK. The men grunt and curse as they fight. Tialoc and Xochiti stand back to back.

TIALOC (CONT'D)
Whatever happens he cannot let
Emperor God open that box.

With his sword, Tialoc blocks the downward swipe of an attacker's sword. Tialc headbutts him.

The warrior staggers backward.

XOCHITI
And how are we to get to him?

He grabs his assailant by the wrist.

XOCHITI (CONT'D)
We are outnumbered three to one.

Xochiti kicks his foe, then runs him through with his fiery sword. Tialoc ignores him, scans the room for Moctezuma. Tialoc spies Moctezuma in a far corner with the box.

Tialoc sheaths his sword and lifts his arms to the sky.

Thunder BOOMS, while lightning FLARES. The floor rolls and several of Moctezuma's men stagger. Lightning SIZZLES and ARCS. Several guards scream and fall.

XOCHITI (CONT'D)
Show off.

Tialoc grins, then runs toward Moctezuma. Tialoc shoots short bursts of electricity from his fingertips. Moctezuma lifts a hand and the sparks dissipate.

MOCTEZUMA
You waste my time with parlor
tricks.

Moctezuma reaches into a bag at his waist, then blows a powdery substance toward Tialoc.

A large scaly creature, three houses high, has a triangular head with spiked horns and several rows of razor sharp teeth. Smoke wisps from its nostrils and mouth.

It lifts a taloned foot. Tialoc jumps to safety as it stomps its foot where Tialoc was just standing.

Cracks spider from the deep imprint.

TIALOC

This the best you got? A smoking,
stomping lizard?

MOCTEZUMA

Where there is smoke . . .

The lizard ROARS. A HiCCOUGH and flames spread.

TIALOC

Take cover!

Tialoc darts behind a pillar. Several more of Moctezuma's men scream and die. Tialoc searches the smoke for Moctezuma, leaving Xochiti to fight the lizard.

Xochiti shoots fire from his hands. The lizard belches fire to meet Xochiti. Sweat rolls down his face. Xochiti presses forward each time the lizard steps back.

TIALOC (CONT'D)

Stop playing around.

XOCHITI

Arrrrrrghhh!

Flames nearly engulf Xochiti. He raises his fists, sends a plume of fire toward the lizard. It screams, then explodes in a huge cloud of gray ash.

Tialoc sees Moctezuma in a crouch.

Moctezuma's lips move with no sound above the fight.

Tialoc draws his sword. He runs toward Moctezuma. With a downward swipe of Tialoc's sword, he slices off Moctezuma's hand.

Box and hand skitter across the floor.

MOCTEZUMA
You're too late.

Tialoc stares at the now open box.

Swords CLATTER to the stone floor. A collected GASP fills the room, followed by a dull BUZZ.

MOCTEZUMA (CONT'D)
There's nothing you can do now. I
will destroy the human race.

Darkness creeps from the box and a shockwave knocks the remaining warriors to the floor. Wind ROARS through the space.

XOCHITI
What has he done?

TIALOC
Released unspeakable sin into the
world.

The wind gathers speed, then bursts through the rook ceiling of the Pantheon.

XOCHITI
What do we do now?

Debris falls on those still alive. The silence is eerie after the noise. The throne room is little more than rubble.

Tialoc stares at the destruction. Tialoc drops to his knees, his shoulders slump, and he hangs his head.

SUPER: "PRESENT DAY COZUMEL"

MONTAGE - CJ AND CHILDREN IN HOTEL LOBBY

A short man watches CJ, who is surrounded by children in chef's coats and aprons.

CJ shakes each child's hand.

Two bellhops push full luggage carts from opposite ends of the lobby.

CJ takes out her cellphone, walks and texts.

A small glowing ball hits CJ, as the luggage carts collide. A heavy trunk falls on CJ's leg.

END MONTAGE

EXT. COZUMEL HOSPITAL MULTISTORY TROPICAL HOSPITAL.

INT. EMERGENCY TREATMENT ROOM - DAY

CJ sits on a gurney. One ankle rests on a pillow with guaze and an ice pack. She eats pretzel sticks. CJ's best friend TESSIE MONTGOMERY (30) sits in a nearby chair.

The ice pack falls off. Tessie plops it on CJ's leg.

CJ

Ow.

TESSIE

Sorry. So how'd this happen again?

CJ

I think you just like hearing how two bellhops ran me over with their luggage carts.

TESSIE

I'm sure you'd have noticed them if you weren't sexting your boyfriend.

CJ

I was answering a text from my nephew. He asked if I'd met any of the chefs for the competition yet.

TESSIE

How is Reid?

CJ

He's good. Excited about being in the junior division of the cooking competition this week.

TESSIE

So back to you sexting. Does your online hottie know you're here?

CJ nods, then glances at Tessie. Tessie, model thin with long black hair, flawless caramel skin and curve hugging sundress, contrasts with a more plump CJ.

CJ

You're a walking ad for that place.

CJ rummages through her purse.

CJ (CONT'D)

The happiness you exude makes me hate you sometimes.

Score! CJ finds a packet of peanut butter crackers. She rips open the cellophane. Tessie leans over and grabs the food.

TESSIE

You've been eating nonstop since you left the hotel. Keep this up, you'll never fit into your dress.

CJ wiggles her fingers for the food. Tessie frowns, but returns the crackers.

CJ

I'll fit. You, however, are so happy it's sickening.

Tessie laughs.

TESSIE

Everybody says that. Girl! We can't have you on crutches at the wedding.

CJ

I wonder what kind of food they have in the cafeteria.

Tessie lifts an eyebrow.

CJ (CONT'D)

What? I'm hungry.

TESSIE

Maybe you've got some sort of bug. Wait. YOU didn't do that tapeworm diet did you?

CJ

What? No!

TESSIE

Ok. Ok. So what made you decide to actually accept this vacation from your boyfriend?

CJ pauses as if in thought. A dreamy look comes over her face.

CJ

It was a painting he sent.

A KNOCK precedes a kind looking woman with a messy bun in a doctor's coat.

DOCTOR

Ms. Alexander?

CJ

That's me.

DOCTOR

Too bad we couldn't have met under better circumstances. That leg is definitely broken.

CJ

Oh no.

TESSIE

Are you certain?

The doctor unwraps the bandage. Tessie gasps and CJ winces.

DOCTOR

Yep. Definitely broken. A small portion of the bone has punctured the skin. We'll get you prepped for surgery.

The doctor types into the nearby computer, then leaves the room.

CJ

I can't meet him now.

She grabs her phone and texts.

CJ (CONT'D)

We had all these wonderful things planned.

TESSIE

What are you doing?

CJ
Texting Tialoc. I'm going home. No
sense in wasting his time.

Tessie snatches the phone away. She types.

CJ (CONT'D)
Hey! What are you doing?

TESSIE
Telling Tialoc you're in the
hospital and how much you need him.

CJ
(blushes)
Seriously?

TESSIE
If he looks as good as he does in
his picture, this man will wait on
you hand and foot.

CJ
Or send me on the first flight
home.

INT. HOSPITAL PATIENT ROOM - NIGHT

CJ blinks a few times, looks around the room. Near a window,
a NURSE (30s), in a flowered scrub top and maroon pants
stands at a rolling computer.

MOCTEZUMA
Oh good. You're awake.

CJ turns to the man and shudders.

CJ
Yes. And you are?

MOCTEZUMA
(smiles like a shark)
I'm assisting with your case.
Everything went well. You'll be
released in a day or two.

CJ reaches for the call button.

CJ
That's good. What was your name?

MOCTEZUMA

Someone else will be in to fit you
with crutches. Get some rest.

CJ blinks. Moctezuma disappears. She rubs her eyes, unsure of
the exchange. The nurse turns and smiles.

NURSE

Oh good. You're awake. We'll get
your vitals and then allow your
visitors to see you. I'm Cassandra.

The nurse applies a blood pressure cuff to CJ's arm, then
pops a thermometer in her mouth.

NURSE (CONT'D)

I've also ordered you a tray from
dietary.

The nurse removes the thermometer.

CJ

The doctor that was just here?

NURSE

Was she? I didn't think she would
be coming until the morning.

CJ

You mean - could I get some water?

The nurse nods and leaves the room with her computer.

CJ (CONT'D)

Did she say visitors?

The door opens again, this time a tall broad shouldered man
fills the doorway. CJ holds her breath as he moves toward
her.

TIALOC

CJ. You should have called as soon
you arrived.

CJ closes her mouth. She gasps, then pats her hair.

CJ

Tialoc.

TIALOC

I brought flowers.

Tialoc places a bouquet of orchards and lilies in her lap. He smooths a lock of hair from her face, then touches her fingers.

A SPARK arcs between the two of them. They gaze into each one another's eyes.

TESSIE

You didn't tell me he was so yummy.
If I didn't have Avery. . .

CJ

Um, yeah. Is there anyone you
didn't contact?

TESSIE

Your parents. I even made sure Reid
was settled before we left.

AVERY (30s), Tessie's fiance pats her hand.

Thunder rumbles in the distance.

AVERY

When are they going to release you?

CJ

Dunno. I thought I saw the doctor.

TESSIE

And the weatherman said no rain.

Tialoc moves closer to CJ, takes her hand in his.

TIALOC

What did this doctor look like?
Perhaps we passed him in the hall?

CJ

Average height, dark hair, mean
eyes.

CJ shudders.

CJ (CONT'D)

His eyes were really mean.

Thunder ROLLS again. Tessie picks up her purse and grabs Avery by the arm.

TESSIE

Maybe we should go. We left the
windows down on the car.

She kisses CJ on the cheek.

TESSIE (CONT'D)

Try to get some rest and enjoy the rest of the vacation.

CJ

I will. Thanks for coming. You too Avery.

AVERY

(grins)

Anything for you, CJ. You're like a sister to me.

The couple leaves. CJ looks at the flowers, then caresses the petals.

CJ

You really didn't have to come.

TIALOC

Why would I not come? We have spent weeks chatting, texting, and talking on the phone.

CJ

We can't do anything we planned.

TIALOC

So we will modify our plans.

CJ

What? You still want to go through with spending time with me?

TIALOC

Of course I do. We can find activities which will not require the use of legs.

He caresses her cheek.

TIALOC (CONT'D)

Such exquisite beauty. I would love to paint your portrait.

CJ ducks her head.

CJ

Thank you.

TIALOC

Having met you, I would be a fool
to turn around and walk away.

He lifts her hand and brushes a kiss across her knuckles.

TIALOC (CONT'D)

I am willing to do whatever you
need to make this vacation more
comfortable and enjoyable.

CJ

I couldn't ask you to do more,
you've already done so much.

TIALOC

I freely give. You just have to
accept.

CJ

I-

TIALOC

You should rest, but first tell
about this doctor.

CJ settles against the pillows and closes her eyes.

CJ

His coloring was a lot like yours,
but he was shorter and not as big.

Tialoc holds his breath.

TIALOC

Anything else?

She opens her eyes.

CJ

He was missing a hand.

FADE OUT.