

CECILE HEBELLE

Dark Romance

at the

Heart

of

the Cartel

Excerpt

1- The Fatal Choice

In the midst of this precarious reality lived the Ramírez family. The father, approaching fifty, modestly provided for his family's needs thanks to a small freight transport van. The mother, for her part, kept the house and supplemented the family income by providing some traditional herbal treatments to heal the ailments of neighbors, thus saving them the cost of a medical consultation. The couple had two daughters with divergent destinies. Dolores, 21, a young woman without profession or ambition, desperately seeking to escape poverty, offering the generosity of her body for a few Pesos. Gloria, the eldest at 24, was a tall young woman (1.78 m), endowed with spectacular beauty, enhanced by long jet-black hair and two green eyes of striking depth.

Her luck had been to follow secretarial training until her father's financial means no longer allowed for

her studies to be paid. Her temporary secretarial jobs often ended abruptly because of her physical and sensual beauty, leading her employers to often offer her substantial bonuses in exchange for a few services, satisfying their wildest fantasies. Her last employer after the hardware store closed, loved to make her walk on her knees, her neck surrounded by a rope, to the armchair of his office. After sitting down, he tipped her onto his thighs, pulled up her skirt by lowering her panties and gave her a spanking, finishing under the desk in an interminable fellation. Diego her father had been approached several times to transport various materials on behalf of the Cartel. Carlos, his intermediary, one day offered him to immerse himself a little more within the activities offered by the Cartel by accepting the transport of its finished products, considerably increasing his income.

He was warned of the unfortunate consequences that could

happen to his family as well as to himself if he betrayed the trust placed in him. After several successful missions, his van was subject to a road check carried out by a police patrol. The goods were seized and Diego was taken to the central police station for questioning, knowing full well that his destiny was undoubtedly heading this time towards imprisonment for a number of years, unless he revealed the identity and details of those who entrusted him with this job. Despite the commissioner's assurance to offer him protection in exchange for his information, he could not ignore the presence of moles infiltrated by the Cartel throughout all the police services of the country. After concluding a deal with the commissioner, he was released and took back his goods in order to deliver them as he had been ordered.

A few days later, while Gloria by chance was in the middle of the night at the home of one of her suitors, masked and

armed men invaded their house then kidnapped Diego, his wife and Dolores their daughter in a van to an unknown destination.

2- Vengeance and Disappearance

Gloria spent several weeks investigating and locating each of the participants. She began by identifying Carlos, her father's contact, and organized a discreet tracking to learn his habits as well as the places he frequented.

Despite everything, she amassed some savings, allowing her to provide for her needs as well as the costs to which her steps exposed her. First and foremost, she acquired an automatic pistol, equipment even more popular in Mexico than bread in a bakery.

She shadowed the contact to determine the times at which he went to different places in a repetitive manner. Practically every evening, he stayed a good hour in a hotel bar in the city in search of adventures. She often saw him leave the bar accompanied by a woman heading towards one of the hotel rooms. Gloria's mother had passed on to her a lot of information about certain of her medicinal preparations, some of which, according to her, proved to be extremely dangerous. She kept in memory one of her preparations allowing a farmer to paralyze the limbs of a cow during a difficult calving.

Her mother had indicated to her the effect and consequences that this serum could have on a human being. She went to the medicine cabinet and found the vial.

Excerpt 2

Upon his return they toasted and in one draught he emptied his glass. He had already gone to collect the key to one of the rooms and they both headed towards it. He had the strength to open the door and immediately after, not feeling very well, he slumped onto the bed and was seized with convulsions. Gloria hoped that her mother had not been mistaken, that her serum also worked on human beings. Gloria asked him to move his arms and legs. He replied being unable to do so but could, not without some difficulty, express himself. She took out her infusion, connected her syringe to it and came to push the needle into his median cubital vein exactly as her mother had taught her. A little blood flowed back into the tube and Gloria moved on to the next phase:

— A few days ago, you gave the order to murder my parents and my sister, they were taken by your henchmen to the lagoon and devoured by the crocodiles. I want to have the names of your henchmen and know where I can meet them!

— I cannot he replied with difficulty.

She lifted the syringe at the end of the tube and let him see and continued:

— Look closely! This syringe is connected to your vein, it is large and filled with air. If you don't tell me what I want to know, I'm going to press the plunger and let all this air into your blood system.

They say death is excruciating. The man was pale, unable to move, he was at her mercy, without the slightest doubt as to

her firm and determined intentions. He gave her the names and addresses as well as the numbers appearing on his cell phone.

"Now you're going to tell me where your big bosses stay, I want to know everything!"

Faced with his resignation, he gave her all the information, the village where their hacienda was located and the name of the Cartel leader as well as that of his son. Having had all the indications in hand she continued:

— Can you imagine how my young sister, innocent! found herself between the jaws of one of those crocodiles, my mother seeing her daughter shredded before her eyes and my father who will have seen the two loves of his life

disappear in this way... Air in the blood system is not as excruciating as what you made them endure, but it will lead you straight to hell.

Gloria pressed the plunger slowly so that all the air infiltrated. Since he was unable to speak or even less to scream, her plan ensured her a discreet retreat and without marks. She removed the infusion, wiped with a paper tissue the small mark made by the needle, packed up her utensils and looked at him for a few moments seized by convulsions before going out and closing the door.

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