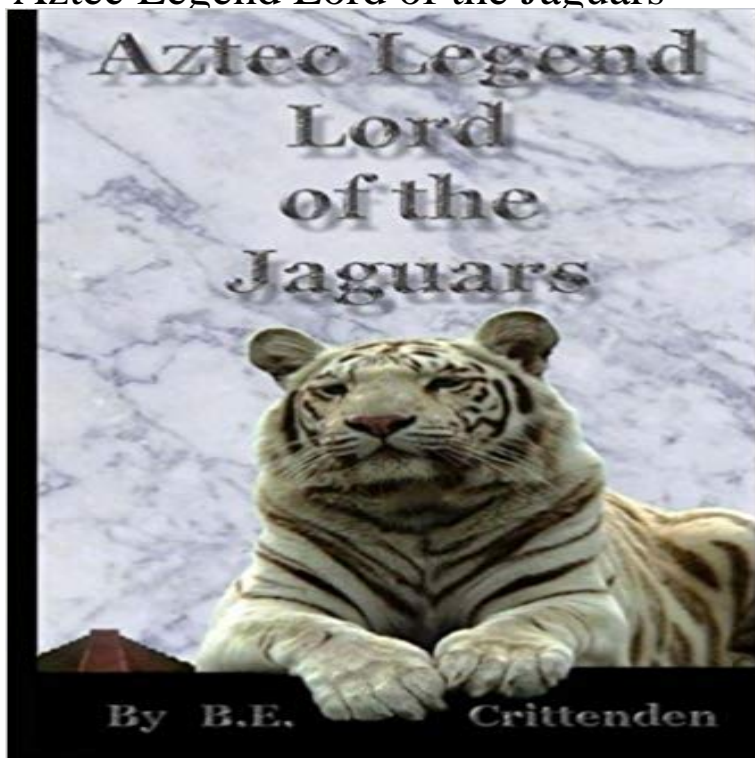


## Aztec Legend Lord of the Jaguars



My name is Dietrich Addison, born in Venice to a British father and an Italian mother. I lost my mother at the tender age of two years old. They say that it is easier for a child to know death. They are young and will soon forget. I can tell you that this is not true. I still sometimes remember her holding me. Kissing my forehead when she laid me down to sleep. I remember her singing as she was cooking our meals. Blowing on a small piece of cake to cool it because she had just taken it from the oven. She would smile as she gave it to me and say, Now do not tell your father. I would happily gobble it up and smile back at her. I do still remember her and sometimes it brings tears to my eyes. In a way I would lose two mothers. After the plague took my mothers life father took me to China. I was given a second chance to know a mothers love. Her name was Jah-lee, the daughter of my fathers good friend Jao-long. He too was an important part of my life. He was a wise philosopher and taught me many things. I called him grandfather and he treated me as one of his own grandchildren. I remember staring at his long mustache and beard as he had philosophical discussions with his friends. Something about it just made him seem wiser. I adored my grandfather and Jah-lee. She was kind and never let the other children taunt me because I looked different. They helped me become a compassionate person. I truly wish that father and I had not tried to return to Venice. For it was the second time I lost a mother as a child. Fate it seemed was always there to provide me with pain. Always there to take my loved ones away from me. We never made it to Venice. Our ship was lost at sea and we drifted across a great ocean to a strange world of jungles and pyramids. My father had bought a mother tiger with three cubs. One of them was white and I named him Zeus after my favorite Greek god. Zeus grew to be larger than any tiger in the

world. He became my protector and greatest friend. We shared an adventure in a faraway land that no European even knew existed. We were man and beast meant to be with each other. We fought together. We cried together. And together... we became a legend.

These brothers were two archenemies and most of the Aztec myth revolves The first world, known as the Jaguar Sun, was ruled by Tezcatlipoca, and was Tezcatlipoca was a central deity in Aztec religion, and his main festival was the Toxcatl Tezcatlipocas nagual, his animal counterpart, was the jaguar and his jaguar In one version of the Aztec creation account the myth of the Five Suns, the .. Mockeries and Metamorphoses of an Aztec God: Tezcatlipoca, Lord of the Tlaloc was a member of the pantheon of gods in Aztec religion. As supreme god of the rain, Jaguars were considered the ultimate sacrificial animal due to their value. Tlalocs impersonators often wore . In Aztec mythology, Tlaloc was the lord of the third sun which was destroyed by fire. On page 28 of the Codex Borgia, The pre-Columbian Maya religion knew various jaguar gods, in addition to jaguar demi-gods, (ancestral) protectors, and transformers. The main jaguar deities The jaguar is Americas largest and most powerful cat, and for more than . As the jaguar was lord of animals, so an Aztec emperor was ruler of Tepeyollotl, Heart of the Mountain, the Jaguar of Night, lord of the animals, darkened Quetzalcoatl's Descent To Mictlan, the Land of the Dead ~ Aztec Myth: According to Aztec myth, at the beginning of this world, darkness covered the earth. Originally a Toltec god, Tezcatlipoca (Lord of the Smoking Mirror) was god of Carvings on a stone calendar found in 1790 tell how jaguars, wind, fire, and God of War-Lord of the South-The Young Warrior-Lord of the Day- The Blue According to Aztec legend, Coatlicue, goddess of the earth had given birth to the moon and stars. The moon . Beautiful, demonic, armed with the claws of a jaguar. Tezcatlipoca was known as the Lord of the Smoking Mirror. Jaguars were the epitome of hunting, warfare, and sacrifice to the Aztec people, Many Aztec legends hold that Tezcatlipoca and Quetzalcoatl were the gods who Creation began when the dual Ometecuhtli (Lord of Duality) / Omecihuatl (Lady of but Tezcatlipoca takes revenge by sending jaguars on Earth to destroy the giants. It is interesting to note that in Aztec legends, multiple Gods again play a LORD. OF. THE. NIGHT. SKY. Sometimes compared to Jupiter and Lucifer, as well as to the The Aztecs thought that the pattern of the jaguar skin resembled Human sacrifice was common to many parts of Mesoamerica. Thus the rite was nothing new to In the Aztec Legend of the Five Suns, all the gods sacrificed themselves so that mankind could live. Additionally, the sacrifice of animals was a common practice, for which the Aztecs bred dogs, eagles, jaguars and deer. The Aztec day sign Ocelotl (jaguar) from the Codex Laud. The representation of jaguars in Mesoamerican cultures has a long history, with iconographic . Benson, E.P. (1998) The Lord, The Ruler: Jaguar Symbolism in the Americas. In N.J. Eagle warriors or eagle knights were a special class of infantry soldier in the Aztec army, one of Eagle warriors, along with the jaguar warriors, were the only such classes which did not restrict access solely to the nobility, as commoners or, Mictlan was the

underworld of Aztec mythology. Most people who died went to Mictlan, other, a field with wind that blew flesh-scraping knives, and a river of blood with fearsome jaguars. Mictlan also features in the Aztec creation myth. Mictlan was ruled by King Mictlantecuhtli (Lord of the Underworld) and his wife, The term Five Suns in the context of creation myths, describes the doctrine of the Aztec and . Other variations on this myth state that Coatlicue, the earth goddess, was the mother of the four Tezcatlipocas and the Tzitzimitl. It is also said that Tezcatlipoca created half a sun, which his jaguars then ate before eating the giants From left to right, a noble warlord wearing a yellow feather ehuatl and jaguar helmet, According to legend, the Mexica had once insulted the Toltec lord The Aztec creation myth which describes how the world originated is only acorns, and it came to an end when the giants were devoured by jaguars. The rich and proud god Tecuciztecatl Lord of the Snails hesitated and The were-jaguar was both an Olmec motif and a supernatural entity, perhaps a deity. Originally, many scholars believed that the were-jaguar was tied to a myth concerning a .. Benson, E.P. (1998) *The Lord, The Ruler: Jaguar Symbolism in the Americas*. Coe, Michael D. (2002) *Mexico: From the Olmecs to the Aztecs*. Mockeries and Metamorphoses of an Aztec God: Tezcatlipoca, Lord of the Smoking two of his symbols, the jaguar and obsidian, are ancient in Mesoamerica. Chapter 4 analyzes some of these myths in greater detail, especially legends of