

## Rachel Alejandro

### "The Chronicle Of Shadows"

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[The Emperor of the Night (Hearken to the Attestation of the Sinistrous):]

For it is the iniquity of man which compels him to these tenebrous gates,

Seeking opiate dreams and the alluring embrace of oblivion...

Know that I have cavorted beneath the horned moon with repellent fiends, and

Liberated virgins from the burden of their maidenhood.

(Supping deep of that sweet ichor and revelling in the sanguineous megrims my

Ophidian tongue has wrought.)

Tyrannic I am where the Serpent dwells, the lissome embrace of the succubi,

Like a wolf in the fold, red of tooth and claw, enthroned beneath black

Nether-skies.

Shadows stalk the viscid gloom, (beware the) blades of the assassins,

The call of Ul-Yeh in the air, the crystal skull is shattered,

A veil of cloud about the moon, (fevered) dreams of (trenchant) steel and fire,

Hearken to the slithering, the envenomed kiss of night.

[The Emperor of the Night (Thus Spake the Chronicle of Shadows):]

Such adoration bestowed upon me beneath the cryptic moon!

Caressed by ululant lotus-stained tongues...

(Behold the true purity of that which lurks concealed beneath the mantle of

Shadow, and let the deluded, debauched sybarites flee in terror from that

Darkness which they profess to embrace!)

Beyond the spheres of light and darkness, beneath distant pallid stars, I bring

The iridescent glimmer of forbidden truth, seared in the crucible of blasphemy!

For amorphous they come, steeped in the fetor of ten thousand years,

Abhorrent colossi spawned from the sinistrous cosmic

spheres.

And upon their tongues, vile secrets so terrible sweet  
madness is a redolent

Balm!

[The Emperor of the Night (Revel in the Triumph of the  
Dark):]

I shall glut the maw of that ineffable nameless evil  
which lurks forever in

The soul of man, for so it is written in the Chronicle of  
Shadows...

[29 October, 1893]

They came in the night, and butchered five of my  
party, the terrified survivors

Fleeing with the first wan light of dawn. The fiends  
seemed inexplicably to

Be an extension of the night, as if their misshapen  
bodies were actually

Somehow composed of the darkness itself. Even as I  
gazed directly at them,

I found I could not truly focus on their stygian forms...  
their bodies

Appearing to shimmer and shift like the ripples of a  
heat-haze upon an arid

Plain. My ammunition, discharged in vain, is all but  
spent... and now, as night

Unfurls it's malign wings once more to enshroud this  
desolate and forsaken

Place, I wait alone for the sunrise I fear I shall never  
see. At dusk I

Discovered a hidden alcove in the time-raught surface  
of the great monolith

Which stands as a mute sentinel before the entrance to  
the colossal temple;

A moss encrusted crevice concealed from the eyes of  
man for I know not how

Long. As the darkness massed about me, a strange  
miasma seemed to grip my mind

In tenebrous tendrils, and I beheld that horrifying and  
immemorial edifice

Which I now feel certain once cast it's diabolical  
shadow upon the Gate of the

Sun. It is all true, everything I feared, everything which I  
dared imagine

Only in the blackest embrace of the most narcotic  
malignity. There are Six

Keys To The Onyx Pyramid, which conceal a terrifying  
truth never intended to

Be grasped by the woefully fragile mind of Man. I now  
pray that no unfortunate

Soul ever again stumbles as close as I to those cryptic  
axioms which lie ever

In wait between the incorporeal veils of light and  
shadow. I would offer up a  
Prayer to the divinity which once I worshipped, but I  
know it would echo  
Emptily through the abyssal reaches of the unheeding  
cosmos. As I scrawl this  
Final entry in my journal, the sun sinks with a chilling  
finality below this  
Now alien horizon. I know the shadowy figures shall  
soon return to claim me.  
I must fortify myself for the onset of the night...

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