

FOR THE BEAST
(DE LA BESTIA)
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FADE IN:

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - DAY

The sun punishes KORY (30s) who gets some shade from the hood of his car. His hands baptized in oil, he tightens clamps.

INT./EXT. KORY'S CAR -DAY

Kory turns the keys, engine stalls. Smoke creeps out around the car.

EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - DAY

Armed with a canteen and a cowboy hat, Kory walks down the road, his car far behind him.

A van appears. Kory flags it down. STEVEN (20s) speeds up.

Kory runs off the road and into open desert. The van bullets after him. Dust kicks every which way. The van cuts off his escape. Door slides open. HAZEL, a 20-ish Latina, knocks Kory down with a stun gun.

INT. VAN - DAY

Now with Kory's hat, Steven continues driving. He hums along to a Mariachi that plays over the radio.

Hazel opens Kory's wallet. Takes everything. She examines Kory's driver's license. On the floor, Kory moans beside her. Hazel kicks him.

INT. UNDERGROUND SHELTER - DAY

Sunlight peeks through cracks between wood beams. Shadows pass by. Sounds of a key entering a padlock. Chains set aside.

A trap door opens, more light spills in, reveals a dirty space. Dried blood, scrapes on the walls.

Roughed up with partially mildewed clothes, Kory, chained up like an animal, wakes.

KORY

Where am I? What's going on?

Hazel, dressed in a Kimono style bite suit for training attack dogs, slaps on a umpire's face mask. Steven hands her a bullwhip.

HAZEL

(in Spanish)

You're going to make us a lot of money tonight.

EXT. FARM - DAY

Kory bakes in the sun. A rag tied to his mouth. Steve pulls the chains. Drags Kory across the ground. Hazel follows the pair.

Kory resists. Hazel cracks the whip. Burns across Kory's left wrist. Swears under the rag.

INT. BARN - DAY

Rotted wood and mold all around. It's a marvel how the structure holds together. The center is a metal fenced octagon shaped pit.

A makeshift kennel aligns one side of a wall. Two women, LEONORA and ALICIA (both mid 20s) are the only occupants.

LEONORA

(Spanish)

Let us go!

Steven spits on the ground.

Kory thrashes. Steven loses his grip. Hazel wraps her whip around Kory's neck. He struggles. Hazel releases him, he falls. Hazel grits her teeth with a HISS. Kicks Kory in the side. Steven joins in.

They both pick him up, toss him in one of the cages. Steve locks him in.

Kory hammers all sides of his new prison. Finds a hook, strips off his own gag, scratches his face in the process.

KORY

Who are you people! What do you want!?

Steven taps the keys across the metal bars.

STEVEN

We want you to win.

EXT. FARM - NIGHT

Full moon. Motorcycles, cars of various makes drive up to the barn. A flatbed truck with a huge metal box in the back pulls up.

Three men between the ages of 20-30 get out, unload the cargo. All three have varied Aztec tattoos on their right forearms. AZTEC LEADER stands taller than the other two.

A wild animal growls from within the box.

INT. BARN - NIGHT

Twenty estimated people, men and women, 20-40 years old, white and Hispanic, some armed with guns, others whiskey. They surround the pit, leave two openings.

From the cages, Alicia, Leonora and Kory watch.

The Aztec trio strain as they lift the box towards the pit. Cheers from the crowd, who step out of the way. The unseen beast cries thunder. They set the box down.

The crowd chants "Ahuitzotl".

Kory cranes his neck to get a better look. One of the Aztec thugs approaches Steve and Hazel. The chant drowns out whatever they say to each other. Steven's face swells with anger. Hazel holds him back.

Aztec Leader sizes up Alicia, Leonora and Kory. His eyes open wide, his face a crocodile-like smile. Slight chuckle.

AZTEC LEADER

(bad English grammar)

Bitches for our beast. Your blood to make me money.

Aztec Leader walks off. Steven unlocks the cages.

Steven and Hazel push Alicia, Leonora and Kory through the crowd. One spectator jumps in front of Leonora, grabs her dirty shirt, attempts to rip it off her.

Kory lashes forward, slams his body into the spectator. Spectator protests as his whiskey bottle crashes on Kory's shoulder.

PIT

Alicia, Leonora and Kory enter. The fence closes behind them.

A FEMALE GANG MEMBER (18) snatches Kory by the back collar, tears off the rest of his shirt, yanks it through the fence. Crowd goes nuts, continues the chant.

Kory focuses on the huge metal box with a caged door. Alicia cowers behind him.

Three machetes lie in the dirt. Leonora snatches one, ready for what is to come.

The Aztec trio release a lever, the cage door opens. A deep growl.

A deformed, monstrous charcoal colored wolf emerges. Drool hangs from bared fangs. The wolf springs ahead, rams into Kory and Alicia. Knocks both of them down.

It whacks Alicia with one paw, but Kory offers up his arm. The wolf clamps down, thrashes. Leonora stabs into the wolf's back. The beast releases Kory, turns on Leonora.

Rips her right hand off at the wrist. Red shoots out. Crowd loses their minds. The wolf comes back, mauls her.

Alicia scrambles for the remaining two machetes. The blood soaked beast rushes to cut her off. She meets the eyes of the monster.

Her eyes go wide as the wolf stands on its hind legs, rises.

Two front arms embrace a terrified Alicia, lift her. Blood oozes from her shoulders.

Kory screams, plunges a machete into the back of the werewolf. Pulls it out. The werewolf drops Alicia. Swats Kory away with one backhand.

One slash across Alicia's neck finishes her.

The werewolf approaches Kory. Stomps on Kory's right ankle. Jumps on him, bites him in the left shoulder. Kory wrestles the machete from Leonora's severed hand.

Plunges the blade into the neck of the beast. Shoves it in deep. Rivers of red geyser out.

Kory rolls on top of the monster, stabs it three more times. The werewolf dies. The crowd goes silent.

Kory takes a breath. Looks to Alicia. Then around to the crowd. The pit becomes a dizzy spell to him.

The Aztec trio back away, the crowd stops them. Hazel cracks her whip across the leader's back. Kory's ears perk up. Confused, he can understand them.

AZTEC LEADER

Hazel...

HAZEL

I have the new wolf.

Aztec Leader locks eyes with Steven, who puts a gun to his head.

HAZEL

Now I run the show. Is there going to be a problem?

Aztec Leader gives Hazel the wad of cash.

Kory's face mutates. His bones pop as he changes. His eyes go black. Fingers bony, slender. Claws form.

FADE OUT.