

## Chapter 1

### Mirreedom: The Upper Echelons of Assery

Translated by Jesse Tomlinson

Once a mirrey ...

It wasn't his intention to commit suicide: he just wanted to be seen and admired. "I'm going to throw myself over. Take a video with your cell phone."

No one around him could appreciate that this was a ghastly prediction. Jorge Alberto López Amores had been drinking mezcal for days and threatening to throw himself overboard. He was euphoric. His last hours of life had been spent rubbing shoulders with the celebrities who had been traveling along with 3,500 passengers aboard the *MSC Divina*, a cruise ship-come-hotel for the many Mexicans who went to Brazil for the World Cup in 2014.

The Spain-Chile game was about to start on Wednesday July 18 when this young twenty-something, under the incredulous and skeptical eyes of a number of observers, used a deck chair as a trampoline, solemnly declaring, "I'm going to go down in history! I'm going to stop the ship!" Having said that, he took flight and jumped; 12 seconds and 50 meters later the ocean swallowed him up and he never surfaced again.

More than 100 people, a number of vessels and two planes dedicated more than ten days to looking for the body of Jorge Alberto, who for very different reasons than he had imagined, did end up going down in history. His father, the Chiapas District Attorney, had to step away from his public obligations in order to face this painful personal tragedy.

A few days after the incident, the international media once again published news about the outrageous behavior of Mexican tourists: Sergio Israel Eguren Cornejo and Rafael Miguel Medina Pederzini were arrested by Brazilian police for harassing a woman and physically assaulting her two companions. According to statements at the scene, they tried to put their hands on the Brazilian woman's body in the middle of a public street. When her husband stepped in, the accused proceeded to beat him. They were both local deputies of the National Action Party (PAN - Mexico City) and on the date of this unfortunate incident they were acting as high-ranking officials from the Mexican capital's Benito Juárez delegation.

One month before, on June 15 2014, Miguel Lozano Ramos fell from the sixth floor of a tower located south of London, England. According to Samson Oguntayo, a neighbor who observed the scene, two young people had been having sex on the balcony of a terrace.

"You could see that they were doing something very dangerous. At one point some friends came out onto the terrace and the couple stopped what they were doing.

But once they were alone, they started up again. The last thing I thought was that I would see them fall.”

According to the statement of a close friend of Miguel’s, the young Mexican male had recently arrived in London to take an English course at the prestigious Bellerbys College where annual tuition can reach half a million pesos. He was invited to a party at the luxurious tower with views of the river Thames where he met Anastasia Tutik, a beautiful green-eyed Russian girl. A few hours later, on the terrace of the apartment where the social gathering was taking place, both youths lost their balance, and with that, their lives.

Miguel Lozano Munguía, the Mexican boy’s father, flew to the English capital the day after the accident to identify his son’s body, who was only 18 years old. This man was the mayor of Pesquería in the state of Nuevo León, and had recently been put in charge of that state’s Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI).

A year before these three episodes, in the summer of 2013, three young Mexicans flipped a jeep while traveling through the Greek islands; they were knocking on death’s door, once again due to alcohol. A number of hotels in major European cities have decided not to welcome young Mexicans because of the damages that often occur on these trips that are organized for them as a reward for graduating high school. It’s all about a tour that lasts three or four weeks with whistle stops at pre-eminent European nightclubs. Bank accounts of 50,000 Euros are not an exception, signed off with an additional credit card from their parents’ account.

Dance floors bedecked with bottles of Moët & Chandon champagne are not an exception either. Hospitals in Madrid and Barcelona have records of the great frequency with which young Mexicans are admitted for alcohol poisoning during the summer months.

It’s common for consuls in the Mexican Foreign Service to appeal to foreign police authorities to release these citizens; beforehand, from Mexico, the consuls usually receive a call for help from a very influential person. There are also statements about the presence of Mexicans in their twenties who frequent the Costa Azul casinos to bet with astonishing sums; they can lose a lot of money because for them it isn’t money. With bets of 1000 Euros per play on the green felt, they claim that the fun is worth it.

The list of tragic or embarrassing anecdotes that have occurred abroad, such as those told here, is long and gets longer every year. Why do the children of wealthy or politically powerful Mexicans feel they’re entitled to behave in such a bizarre manner? In the past, everything could have been dismissed as ‘boys will be boys’ and covered up. Today, social media has become a very visible record of these excesses and Bacchanalia – on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter accounts of these boys – and we can corroborate the behavior described here.

And it wasn’t just Jorge Alberto López Amores who wanted a video to be taken of him while he carried out his deadly exploit: on social media there are photographs of the extravagant bills paid for with daddy’s money as well as the full-body champagne showers, the night-time outings in limousines along the Champs- Elysées, and the five-star hotels where these young people and Arab sheiks share the same floors, entertainment tastes and opulence.

Please contact me if you’d like to read the rest of the chapter.  
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