

# **CECE RIOS**

and the

## **KING OF FEARS**

**KAELA RIVERA**

**HARPER**

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Cece Rios and the King of Fears

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# Glossary

**adiós**—Goodbye.

**alux (singular), aluxes (plural)**—Pronounced “ah-loosh” or “ah-loosh-es,” these magical beings are only about three feet tall and have a powerful connection to nature. The original Mayan legends describe aluxes as fierce but mischievous beings who bring either good or bad luck depending on how you treat them. In Cece’s world, Alux is a dark criatura.

**amigos**—Friends.

**atotolin**—A colorful bird in Mexico, known as the king of the birds, hunted to prove a warrior’s prowess and to obtain good fortune. In Cece’s world, Atotolin is the first name of the Bird King, a dark criatura.

**axolotl**—A type of endangered salamander native to Mexico pronounced “ah-sho-loh-tl.” In Cece’s world, Axolotl is also an animal criatura.

**ayúdame**—Help me.

**bienvenidos**—Welcome.

**Costa de los Sueños**—Coast of Dreams.

**curanderita**—Little curandera.

**¿Estás bien?**—Are you okay?

**estúpida/estúpido**—Stupid.

**exactamente**—Exactly.

**excelente**—Excellent.

**feliz cumpleaños**—Happy birthday.

**fútbol**—Football; also called soccer in the United States.

**gato**—Cat.

**¿Hay algún problema?**—Is there a problem?

**hermana/hermano**—Sister/brother.

**híjole**—An exclamation used to express surprise, similar to “wow!” or “yeesh!”

**hola**—Hello.

**La Sirena**—The mermaid or the siren. La Sirena is a character generally associated with la lotería, a game of chance sometimes referred to as “Mexican bingo,” which became popular in Mexico during the early 1800s. In Cece’s world, La Sirena is a dark criatura.

**las quiero mucho**—I love you very much.

**loca/loco**—Crazy.

**Metztli**—The Náhuatl name of the goddess of the moon, pronounced approximately “mets-tlee.”

**mole**—A wide variety of sauces used in traditional Mexican dishes, comes from the original Náhuatl word “molli.”

**necesito**—I need.

**no puedo creerlo**—I can't believe it.

**iQué bueno!**—How good. Used to express general satisfaction, much like, “That’s great!” “That’s nice!” or “Excellent!”

**¿Qué paso?**—What happened?

**Quetzalcoatl**—The feathered serpent. This powerful deity’s role in Aztec religion and tradition evolved with the people, but he was generally known as the god of winds and rain, and he was said to be an important part of creating the world and its people.

**Semana de la Cosecha**—Week of the Reaping or Week of the Harvest. In Cece’s world, this is the week before the door to Devil’s Alley closes.

**Tukákame**—This ancient Huichol legend is like a cross between a demon and a zombie, with a skeleton body and a hunger for human flesh. Though the details depend on who tells the story, most agree that water burns Tukákame, so he avoids it at all costs, and he has a flock of skeleton birds for pets known as “the birds of death.”

**vamos**—Let’s go.

**Yollotl**—This Náhuatl name means “heart” and is pronounced “Yoh-loh-tl.”