

CUP O' JOE

HORROR WITH A TWIST



SUSANNE MARIE KNIGHT

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READ it if you Dare!

Susanne Marie Knight



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CUP O'JOE

Hell, he didn't feel human in the morning until he had a cup o'joe.

Jack poured himself some coffee, took a sip, then walked into the living room to check on the wooden boards barricading his windows.

Great. Still secure. A person couldn't be too careful. These days, you never knew what would happen once you stepped outside your own door. It was a helluva thing when a man couldn't depend on his neighbors anymore. Things changed every day. Mutated, some would say.

And that was precisely why Jack relished his routine: cup o'joe, breakfast, then shopping. Limited food supplies meant competition was keen out there so he was always on the hunt. He usually spent his day ferreting out the best of the best.

He glanced at the rifle propped up alongside his chair. Last night he'd had to fire it twice. It was a dog-eat-dog world nowadays. But what the hell, a man had to live.

He wrapped his hands around the coffee mug to savor its warmth. Way back, back... before, he'd been a coffee connoisseur. His favorite blend had been produced with Guatemalan beans-- coffee boasting of a lively, complex flavor, with faint chocolate overtones. As far as he was concerned, that was the finest coffee in the world.

Hard to get a cup o'joe from Guatemala these days. But yesterday, success had smiled at him.

Finishing his coffee, Jack walked into the garage and glanced at last night's prize. Still tied and muzzled, it greeted him with a growl, a snarl. It wildly thrashed about on the floor, but this vicious beast wasn't going anywhere.

He stood above it for a moment and admired the lean muscle of its flank. He salivated. He could dine on its meat for a couple of days. Maybe even a week. Setting down his coffee mug, he unsheathed his knife.

The beast's bloodshot eyes widened. Then it whimpered, obviously knowing what would come next.

Jack licked his lips. Raising his hand, he slashed its throat, cutting through the jugular vein. For a split second, he watched the gush of blood spraying out to form a deep red pool on the garage floor.

Delicious.

The creature did an involuntary little dance before it gave up the ghost.

Jack picked up his mug and filled it to the brim with warm, tasty blood.

He sat on his haunches, and flipped open the wallet that had fallen from the beast's pants pocket. An obsolete Central American driver's license proclaimed the name to be Joseph Santos.

Jack took a sip from his mug. Ahhh, there was nothing like a good cup o'joe!

THE END

About The Author

Award-winning author Susanne Marie Knight specializes in Romance Writing with a Twist! She is multi-published with books, short stories, and articles in such diverse genres as science fiction, Regency, mystery, paranormal, suspense, time-travel, fantasy, and contemporary romance. Originally from New York, Susanne lives in the Pacific Northwest, by way of Okinawa, Montana, Alabama, and Florida. Along with her husband, daughter, and the spirit of her feisty Siamese cat, she enjoys the area's beautiful ponderosa pine trees and wide, open spaces—a perfect environment for writing. For more information about Susanne, please visit her website at www.susanneknight.com.

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THE COMING, (paranormal romantic suspense)
A CONTINENTAL MARRIAGE, (Regency romance)
THE CONTRARY CONTESSA, (Regency romance)
THE DUPLICITOUS DIVORCE, (Minx Tobin Murder Mystery, Case 3)
THE EMBEZZLED ENVELOPE, (Minx Tobin Murder Mystery, Case 6)
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