



Stories 6

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Characters

Stor

Diggory Emily Iyam Greedy



Diggory We have to go somewhere nearer the sea. The Aztecs expected Quetzalcoatl to come back to them by sea.

Iyam Greedy Let's go then! We haven't got much time.

Iyam Greedy A corn symbol will take me to a cave of gold. Where are we going?

Emily We're going to Kukulcan's pyramid at Chichen Itza. It'll take two days to get there.

Iyam Greedy Who's Kukulcan, Bones? What's the connection with corn?

Diggory Kukulcan's the Mayan word for Quetzalcoatl. He was the god who gave them corn, remember?

Emily It's his most important temple. It's called 'The Castle'. There'll be corn symbols everywhere ...

Diggory ... and snake symbols. Look! The Pleiades! The Mayas thought they looked like an angry snake's tail!

Diggory Wow! This is where the Mayas played their famous ball game.

Emily Yes, and before the game, didn't they have music with instruments made of wood and shells?

Diggory That's right. The arts were very important to the Mayas. There was a special god for the ball game and the arts.

Iyam Greedy Look, everyone! Here's a dance for the gods! I can't see any caves of gold anywhere.

- **Diggory** Twice a year, you can see the form of a snake on the north stairs.
- **Emily** Up the stairs in March ... and down again in September. They knew so much about the Sun and light.

Iyam Greedy Bah! Rubbish!

- **Diggory** When someone does something to make the gods angry, the pyramid sounds like a Quetzal bird singing.
- **Iyam Greedy** Bravo! Another boring lesson from Dr Bones.

Emily It's nothing to laugh about, Mr Greedy.

Iyam Greedy What's that noise? Can't anyone else hear it? Aaagh!