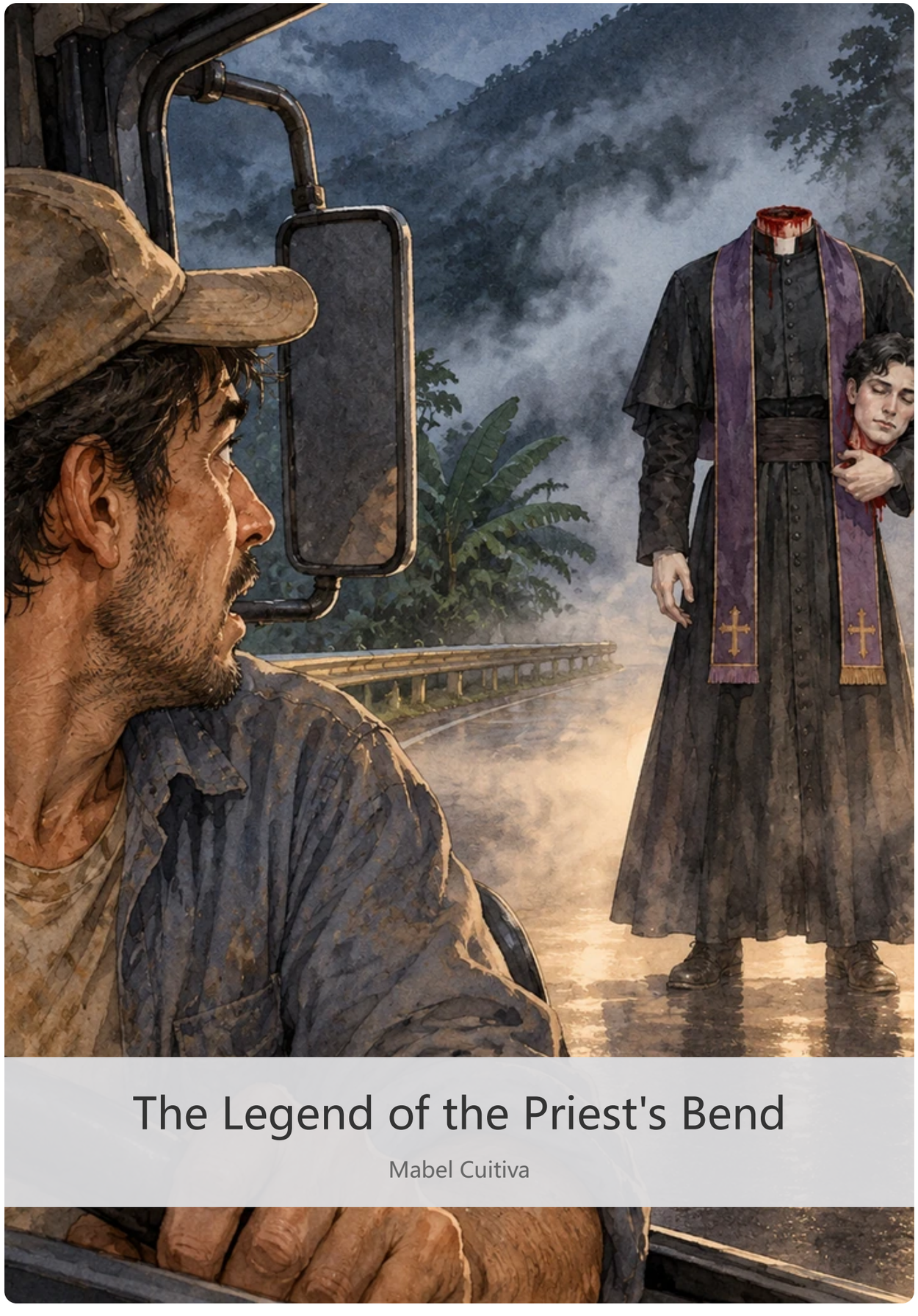


The Legend of the Priest's Bend

Mabel Cuitiva



In a few years, the dusty and difficult streets of Puerto Concordia will see the passage of heavy trucks rumbling through the evening mist. Mateo will be sharing drinks with his hardworking coworkers after long days of labor under the tropical sun. The warm air will carry the chatter of tired men preparing for the long night ahead.



Later at night, Mateo will be traveling toward Villavicencio to load food and begin his inevitable return journey. By that time, he will have been driving for several hours through winding roads, leaving the sleepy town far behind him in the dark. The steady hum of the engine will be his only companion on the lonely highway.



During that future journey, a strange and unsettling event will affect the truck drivers exactly one kilometer from the town, near a dangerous curve called The Priest's Bend. Many times, drivers will return late at night, ignoring the persistent local warnings about a ghostly presence lurking in the shadows. The dense vegetation will seem to close in around the road as they approach.



Some drivers will have been working all day before reaching this treacherous place, their minds clouded by exhaustion and fatigue. The darkness of the night will amplify every shadow, making the winding road feel like a labyrinth of ancient secrets. It is here that the boundary between the living and the forgotten begins to blur.



Suddenly, out of the misty night, the ghost of a headless priest will step onto the asphalt to stop them and prevent them from passing further. This lonely specter will be waiting specifically for the solitary traveler, holding his terrifying vigil in the middle of the empty road. The headlights will catch the impossible and horrifying silhouette standing silently in the gloom.



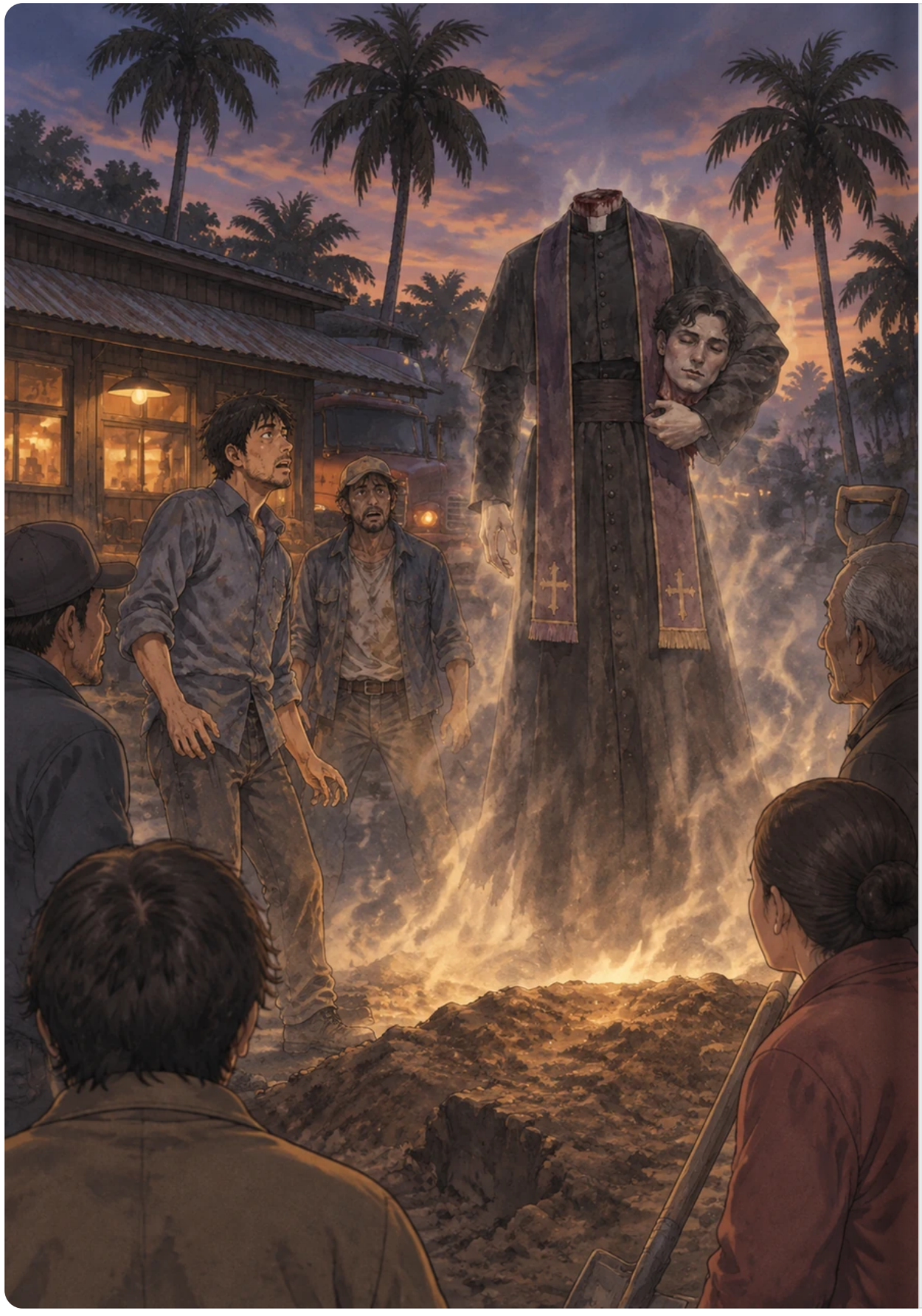
Blood will be visibly dripping from his severed neck while he firmly holds his own detached head tucked neatly under his arm. The gruesome apparition will stare unflinchingly toward the oncoming headlights with an otherworldly stillness. The sudden appearance will freeze the very blood in the driver's veins.



By the time drivers reach this infamous curve, many will have been traveling for hours without a moment of rest. Some will have left their homes earlier that day without any inkling of what dark fate awaited them on the lonely highway. Faced with this terrifying vision, they will realize they are completely unprepared for the supernatural.



Faced with the horrifying specter of the headless priest, many brave drivers will have no choice other than to put their trucks in reverse and return the way they came. The oppressive atmosphere of the bend will force even the most stubborn individuals to flee in absolute terror. The road behind them will offer the only safe escape from the nightmare.



Although skeptics will often doubt the terrifying stories told at local diners, the absolute truth will eventually prevail among the townspeople. People will discover through local history that a tragic religious man was murdered right there and hastily buried next to some towering corozo palm trees. The earth itself seems to hold the memory of that ancient crime.



The lifeless body will forever remain abandoned in that lonely, forgotten place where the wind whispers through the palm leaves. For many years to come, the restless specter will continue haunting that dangerous curve, endlessly frightening those who travel alone. This is how the chilling legend of The Priest's Bend will become forever famous, echoing eternally one kilometer from Puerto Concordia, Meta.