

FROM THE AUTHOR

It is with a heavy heart that I've decided I will not be continuing the Eat, Pray, Die series. I'm really sorry, and I want to thank you so much for joining Izzy, Connor, and Etta on their adventures!

Unfortunately, life has thrown me some significant curveballs, and it no longer makes sense from either a health or business perspective for me to continue the series as I'd originally planned.

By way of my sincere apologies, please enjoy some fun character FAQs with a whole lot of series secrets spilled over the following pages.

Best wishes,

Chelsea



TOP SECRET

EAT, PRAY, DIE SERIES
SECRETS

CHELSEA FIELD

Who is Etta, really?

A black ops agent who was forcibly retired a decade ago. Of course, no one can force Etta to do anything. Not even retire. Which is why she's snooping around LA trying to bag one of America's Most Wanted bad guys who just so happens to have infiltrated the Taste Society for his own ends. And no, Etta was never married, by the way. Every mention of her dearly departed husband and other family members has been a complete fabrication.

Will Izzy and Connor get hitched?

Well, duh. Of course they will. Etta snooped through Connor's suitcase and found the ring. She rolled her eyes since she's not keen on any institution that puts constraints on a person, but she figures the rock is so big it might make a decent weapon in a pinch.

What secret way was Etta toying with Izzy throughout the series?

So, remember all those guesses she made about Izzy's confidential employment? A honeytrap, a clever but obsessed closet groupie who sought out jobs to rub shoulders with the stars, an undercover journalist. Yeah, Etta knew the truth all along and was just toying with Izzy for her own amusement. Hey, how else is a theoretically retired former black ops agent supposed to entertain themselves?

**What will Connor's reaction be when he finds out
Levi and Harper are dating?**

His knee-jerk reaction isn't going to be great, but after a stiff drink and Izzy's quick thinking in having Mae provide all the intel she dug up on Harper's last few low-life boyfriends, he'll come around to the idea.

**On that note, will Harper give up her love of
expensive fast cars for Levi and settle down?**

Of course not. Levi will fully support her high-speed habit. Lucky he makes good money as a Taste Society doctor...

Who is Stalenburg?

Stalenburg is smoke. No, I'm serious. She never existed. Yeah, so you know that big bad guy Etta is after? He's not just a low-level thug. This guy is a one-man criminal empire. And Stalenburg was invented by this bad guy as a useful tool. Which is why the legendary Stalenburg's modus operandi varies, why "she" leaves a calling card after the mission succeeds (fear itself is a convenient weapon after all), and why any assassin who pulled off one of Stalenburg's assignments was taken out by that same bad guy afterward so they'd never leak information. And it's this criminal mastermind that Connor and Izzy are really up against.

What is the bad guy's dastardly plan?

Why, he's going to single-handedly poison just about every VIP in the US in one fell swoop of course!

How? Well, remember how Isaac Anand's tech was stolen when someone planted a hacking device in Izzy's bag? And remember how our criminal mastermind has infiltrated the Taste Society? And you know how some department head in the Taste Society was just killed with that one poison "Stalenburg" had ensured they didn't have the antidote for?

Turns out that the newly deceased was in charge of poison research and had just discovered an antidote for a brand-new threat. And when all the Shades in the country are supplied with new-and-improved Taste Society rings, those little gadgets contain Isaac Anand's microrobots, and each tiny robot has been secretly programmed to inject the Shade's VIP client with this brand-new poison without anyone noticing. But it's not a fast-acting poison. It's slow and drawn out, so that every one of those VIPs will know that they're dying.

The remaining question is why? What is our evil mastermind going to get out of it? And the answer is an unfathomable amount of money and a *lot* of favors in high places. Because he'll force those VIPs to compete in a bidding war against all the other dying rich and famous if they want to secure one of the limited antidotes. How much would Jeff Bezos pay to save his own life? The price will be steep. But, of course, the price for losing the bidding war is far, far higher.

Besides, a little bit of societal collapse creates ample opportunities for the shrewd master criminal.

Will Izzy figure it out in time?

Sure she will! In fact, as a Shade herself and one of a very select few who know about Isaac Anand's tech, combined with Connor's and Etta's pieces of the puzzle, she's uniquely positioned to do so. Which is why our criminal mastermind will endeavor to get Izzy and Connor fired almost immediately upon their return to LA. Lucky for all those VIPs, it won't be enough to stop our heroine. But before Izzy draws the right conclusions, she might unwillingly suspect Etta of being Stalenburg first!

Is Izzy going to single-handedly save the day?

Give the girl a break. No one can be expected to simultaneously plan their wedding and an incursion on a supervillain's secret desert fortress by themselves! Well, except maybe Etta, but she wouldn't be foolish enough to get married in the first place.

So with auxiliary support from Levi, Harper, Damon Wood, Mr. Black, and even Commander Hunt, our intrepid trio will find their way into the treacherous depths of our evil mastermind's secret facility. But alas, the bad guy himself is forewarned and waiting for them. And when Connor's strength and Etta's grenades

fail to stop him, it will be Izzy's hard-won gumption that takes him down. Unfortunately, not before he poisons all three of them with a fast-acting gas through the air vents while he sits safe inside his bulletproof compartment. (Despite Etta's long-held view that "very few of life's problems can't be solved with explosives," not even *she* can go without breathing.)

Thanks to the gene mutation that first got our heroine into this mess, only Izzy remains standing—or sagging, to be more precise. For a few precious seconds at least. The bad guy sneeringly tells her how he chose her for her easily manipulable, naive, and softhearted nature, then he waltzes out and hands her a single antidote, forcing her to choose which of her loved ones to save.

Knowing Connor's feelings about outliving her, Izzy staggers over to Etta. But instead of forcing the liquid down her friend's throat, she grabs Etta's backup gun (What? Of course Etta has a backup gun!) and turns it on our bad guy. With the sound of her loved ones' ragged breaths rattling in her ears, the ghost of Connor's hands helps position her knees, her elbows, her hands, and for some reason Izzy's mind morphs the figure before her into a cardboard cutout of Spider-Man. She shoots him, ensuring the backup team at least can safely acquire the much-needed VIP antidotes. Then Izzy succumbs to the poison.

Who does Izzy unmask as the evil mastermind?

I'll never tell.

Just kidding. Remember Izzy's oh-so-friendly and charming handler, Jim? Remember how he pushed her to take on Knightley as a client and how she met with Jim in person to tell him about Isaac's tech? And remember how he met every one of her expectations at the time? Yeah, he's actually a tactical chameleon and currently one of the head honchos of the Taste Society. The only Shades he's "handling" are those he selected for their naivete to be his unwitting accomplices with any VIPs he was interested in.

Maybe Izzy should've spent more time trying to get to know him better after all...

Or maybe not.

Will Harper ever get to drive a tank?

Yes, actually. Through the wall of the bad guy's desert fortress, just in time for Levi to administer antidotes to our intrepid trio. Phew!

Are things really serious between Hunt and Etta? Or is that another one of Etta's fabrications?

Not even *I* know the answer to that one. Etta is extremely good at keeping secrets! But I can tell you her feelings for Dudley at least are real.

What about Oliver and Meow?

Well, they're both going to miss Izzy's cooking, but Oliver will keep collecting novelty T-shirts of questionable taste and Meow will keep accumulating cockroaches, and they'll both get invited over for roast dinners occasionally, so long as Meow and Petal decide to get along. Not everything in this world needs to change. Some things are perfectly imperfect just as they are.

How many rescued animals are going to end up running around Connor's estate?

No more than six, Izzy will promise. Probably. (And if they're foolish enough to include a goat in that number, they can kiss the flower arrangements for their wedding goodbye.)

Will Lily ever get around to writing a decent children's book?

Yes! Turns out having a child of your own really helps with that. Go figure.

Will the Taste Society outlive us all?

It's unlikely, especially after the devastating blow to their reputation our evil mastermind "Jim" just wrought. Besides, like so many other industries, tech is going to outpace human capabilities at some point, even those with that handy-dandy gene mutation.

Is Izzy going to go back to making coffee?

Nope! She's outgrown her old dream the same way she's outgrown her ex-husband. She's not sure what she's going to do now she's no longer a Shade, but it's going to involve helping people. Preferably not just rich and famous people either. Heck, maybe she'll end up joining Mae and Etta in their threatened PI business... Kidding! At least Izzy hopes I'm kidding... *evil grin*

Will Izzy and Connor's wedding run smoothly?

Ha ha. Hahahahahaha. Do you have any idea how many weapons a former black ops agent can secrete on their person, even while wearing a smokin'-hot formal dress? (Especially when their pride's been wounded after they were saved by a civilian!) And don't get me started on Oliver's T-shirt choice... Hint: it has a bow tie... over a very realistic naked gorilla chest...

What the heck am I going to read now?

If you don't mind your humorous mysteries with more action and a side of snarky dragon, you might enjoy my Fangs and Feathers series under the pen name Isla Frost. If you'd like to check them out, I recommend starting with [*Dragons Are a Girl's Best Friend*](#).

Thank you so much again for loving these books and characters along with me. Your support has meant the world.