

Chester “the molester” was a professional gambler and “card-counter” which, in hindsight, should have been Sequethia’s first clue that there was an unsavory aspect to his character. He was older, well-educated and had traveled the world in his former career as a Vice President for a global bank. Reportedly, he was very “talented” in many ways. However, Chester also had a tenuous relationship with the truth, considering that he was rarely acquainted with it, and his other “compensating factors” momentarily blinded Sequethia, Crystal and the others.

As Chester joined the girls for lunch, they were willing to suspend their common sense and first instinct to run in the other direction, given that they knew he had a reputation for dishonesty (and his nickname). Earlier in the day when Sequethia commented on how he had gotten such “big, bulbous arms”, Chester started explaining that a good vegetarian diet was a key to his physique. Sequethia had momentary amnesia about his “vegetarian diet” during lunch when Chester suggestively stuck his rather long tongue between the bun and his hamburger to lick the dripping ketchup.

Sequethia was equally enthralled when Chester started talking about the intricacies of “card-counting”. At first, she could just envision the bustling sounds of the casinos. She could almost hear the hum of excitement, the clanging of the tokens in the slots, the sounds of the machines and squeals of excitement. Within a few moments, though, all she could envision was the beautiful curvature of Chester’s pectoral muscle straining under his tight polo shirt. So she was caught unaware when Crystal started snuggling up to Chester and cooing “I’m sure you’ll teach me a few things about card counting, Chester”.

Sequethia was not surprised when Crystal came back to the room, hair all askew, visibly shaking later that afternoon. When Melanie asked “what’s wrong” Crystal said, “Chester tried to take advantage of me!” Although the others comforted her in solidarity, Sequethia couldn’t help herself. She just had to ask “Where were you when Chester tried this?” “By his pool”, said Crystal between her boos and her hoos, “He was giving me a backrub and tried to take other liberties”. Sequethia couldn’t help but to think “you learned your lesson, but it wasn’t about card counting”...

Eventually, Sequethia would learn compassion for Crystal, but she would need a few more lessons in A Course In Miracles to shift her perception.