

## Explanation for “Servant of Anu” by Tin Cetic

The goddess of love, Ishtar, is rejected by the human king Gilgamesh. She thus asks her father to send the bull of heaven to kill Gilgamesh. The god of the sky, Anu, agrees and sends the bull down to Uruk, causing fifteen years of famine and the death of hundreds of civilians instantly.

This colored-pencil drawing takes place at the moment when the bull of heaven lands on the ground. Since the epic of Gilgamesh isn't very descriptive, I was able to interpret what the bull looked like. I envisioned a giant holding an axe that could easily kill a human. I wanted to create the ultimate obstacle for Gilgamesh in his quest. I wanted to create the illusion that Anu is watching from above. By grouping the clouds together, Anu's eye seems to glare intensely at the scene.

This piece of art asks the question: What makes a God? Enkidu is described as an animal, the opposite of a god, yet the bull of heaven is somehow considered a god – a great contradiction.