

Reaper

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EXT. MEDIEVAL VILLAGE - DAY

In a humble, close-knit village, people are collecting wood, selling goods, or talking to others.

REAPER slowly enters the village under the shadow of some trees. He has black hair and eyes, and paper-white skin that is covered by a black cloak. He carries a scythe with a black jewel in the blade.

Reaper's P.O.V. as he walks through the village: the people are now black silhouettes and unaware of his existence.

Reaper's chest begins to glow a dull white underneath his cloak, and he places a hand on his chest. He changes directions and heads deeper into the village.

INT. THE HOUSE

A woman who is not in silhouette screams out in pain, sweat dripping from her face as she is surrounded by silhouetted people that wipe her face, prepare towels, and other small tasks.

The woman is in a pose indicating labor, and she nods to the silhouettes speaking to her, though their sounds are warbled and unclear.

In the back of the room Reaper is quietly watching the scene unfold, his chest still glowing. There is a final push, and the woman faints.

A white glow suddenly surrounds her, her breathing raspy.

Reaper steps forward, his emotionless face watching the woman, while the black figures suddenly become urgent.

Reaper raises a hand, his other clutching his scythe.

A white light rises from the woman, and, as a sphere of light gathers above her body, the woman's aura grows dimmer and dimmer. Reaper guides the light--her soul--into the jewel of his scythe, which shines to life to receive it.

The woman is dull. Her form is obstructed by a gray haze. The silhouettes crowd around her, emitting muted sounds, and Reaper goes to leave.

A clear, earsplitting cry stops him in his tracks.

Reaper turns to see the newly born infant, ENID, clearly defined and not obstructed by a black sheen. Reaper stares for a moment.

He places a hand on his very not-glowing chest. He glances back to the silhouettes, then again to Enid.

EXT. GARDEN OUTSIDE THE HOUSE - YEARS LATER - DAY

Enid (3) is totting around the yard chasing a butterfly. It flies out of reach and Enid stops to watch it.

The butterfly flutters around until it passes in front of Reaper's blank face. His eyes follow it until it goes out of frame.

Reaper turns his head to see Enid staring at him from across the garden. He looks for the butterfly but sees it is quite a ways away now. Reaper looks back to see Enid shuffling towards him.

As Enid nears, Reaper steps out of the way, and she runs past where he was standing.

Then she turns towards him and stares.

Reaper's face shows emotion for the first time in the form of surprise.

Enid smiles and waves. Reaper blinks, glances behind him, and then looks to his chest. Still no glow. He gives the tiniest wave back.

Enid reaches out to him, and Reaper backs away. She holds a hand out, opening and closing it.

Reaper stares at her hand, looks at his own old hands. He reaches out slowly. Their hands meet, and Enid grabs one of his fingers, cooing.

The butterfly suddenly returns and flutters between them, landing on Enid's wrist. Enid laughs excitedly, breaking her grasp, and chases the now-airborne butterfly away, leaving Reaper with his bewildered expression.

He glances at his hand.

BEGIN MONTAGE: ENID GROWING UP

Enid (6), playing with black silhouettes her size. Reaper in the shadows, watching.

Enid (8), frustratingly pointing at Reaper, who is emotionless, with two adult silhouettes behind her. One silhouette shakes their head. Enid grabs Reaper's hand with a frustrated cry, and holds it out to the silhouettes.

They pick her up and carry her away as she cries angrily. Reaper follows quietly.

Enid (12) offers a yellow flower to Reaper. He takes it, it shrivels and dies. Enid looks surprised but laughs it off.

Enid (16) is sitting with other black silhouettes. She looks back to Reaper who watches from afar. She gives a small smile and waves discreetly. Reaper waves back. He has the tiniest smile.

Enid (20) is getting married to a black silhouette. Reaper watches from far in the background.

Enid (23) is in labor. Reaper watches, placing a hand on his dull chest. It doesn't glow.

Enid (35) sitting on a river bank, watching her silhouetted kids play in the water. Reaper stands next to her. They look to be having a conversation. Reaper smiles fully.

Enid (60) standing in a graveyard. She places flowers on a grave. Reaper stands far from reach. He looks sad. A butterfly flutters in the background.

INT. THE HOUSE - YEARS LATER

Enid (90) is bedridden, her hair white and hands trembling.

Black silhouettes surround her. Enid is looking at Reaper, who is by her side. She offers a small smile.

Reaper's chest glows.

They both look at it as Enid herself gains a white aura.

Reaper places a hand on his chest. He looks back to Enid, and reaches a hesitant hand out. He pauses.

Reaper sadly, slowly, kneels down next to Enid, leaning on his scythe.

Enid is looking at her glowing hand. She looks back to Reaper's chest. Her confused expression changes to something calm.

Enid smiles tearfully, and holds a shaking hand out to Reaper. He stares for a moment. He reaches up, but hesitates, looking back to Enid.

Tears fall from her eyes as she clutches the blankets on her chest bravely. She smiles and nods encouragingly.

Reaper nods, and smiles sadly. As he takes her hand, the glow brightens and shines, flowing into the scythe's brilliant jewel.

Enid's eyes close. The glow dims. Reaper gently lets her hand go. Her form is obstructed by a gray haze.

She's gone.

Reaper's face is obstructed as he stands and leaves the room, the black silhouettes around him making warbled cries.

EXT. GARDEN OUTSIDE THE HOUSE - DAY

Reaper stands in the overgrown garden. His face is emotionless as the wind whistles quietly.

Suddenly, a butterfly flutters around, and he watches it as it dances in the air, landing carefully on his scythe. Reaper stares, and holds his finger out to it. The butterfly, startled, takes flight and leaves.

Reaper watches it flutter away. He starts into the distance quietly, in the midst of the silhouettes of the town. A figure passes and obstructs his view, and then he is gone.