

**THE HEAVENLY SWORD**

by

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OVER BLACK

TITLE CARD: "THE FINAL BATTLE"

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

AERIAL VIEW

A perfectly even circle fifty feet wide surrounds a lone dot in the center of an endless field. The ground is stained with blood and weapons of war are scattered all across the plains.

Moving in closer the circle begins to take form...It is formed by hundreds of SOLDIER CORPSES that are sliced and diced to beyond recognition.

In the center of the circle of death is a FEMALE. An angel among humans. Her beauty is beyond description and comparison. Long flowing strawberry blonde hair waves slightly in the wind behind her back. Her perfect Asian features glisten in the sunlight.

She holds a MASSIVE SWORD that appears to be two blades connected to each other. This is NARIKO.

Nariko's chest heaves with fatigue as she stares coldly in the distance in front of her. A look of sheer determination plastered on her face.

Change angle to reveal...

AN ARMY. More like a sea of soldiers, directly in front of her waving their weapons and shields in the air. There are at least 500,000 soldiers waiting for Nariko. They yell misogynistic daggers over their own war cries.

Behind the army is a gigantic FORTRESS...

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - THRONE - DAY

A makeshift throne has been made on the top of the fortress wall.

Sitting in a lavishly cushioned chair is KING BOHAN, a devilish looking man that constantly has an evil smirk on his lips. Flanked by BODYGUARDS, Bohan seems to be right at home considering there is a war going on outside his walls.

Sitting on Bohan's shoulder, is an extremely large RAVEN. It is almost as big as Bohan himself.

It sits quiet and calm, almost as if it is in charge of Bohan itself.

Bohan peers out towards Nariko with a lecherous grin.

BOHAN

Oh, isn't she a pretty little thing?

The Bodyguards all chuckle with approval.

BOHAN

Nariko!

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

Nariko keeps her stance and stares in Bohan's direction.

BOHAN (O.S.)

Do you really entertain the notion that you can take on my army by yourself? Your clan has been wiped out. Those not killed are now slaves in my kingdom. You are the sole survivor of your people. No one is coming to help you.

Nariko curls her lips into a scowl.

BOHAN (O.S.)

Is this how you want your race to end? Forgotten in the pages of history? My history?

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - THRONE - DAY

Bohan smiles as he continues to observe Nariko from his safe haven.

BOHAN

You are much too beautiful for death, Nariko. If you give me the sword, I will show mercy and make you my queen. All I want is the sword.

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

Nariko slowly peers down at the sword in her hands.

NARIKO'S VOICE

The Heavenly Sword. All my life, I have lived in its shadow. It was forged, the elders say, for the hand of a bloodthirsty god. Any mortal who wields it must pay a terrible price, feeling their life-force ebb with every blow they strike. As a child I would look upon the sword, so long unused and yet so revered, with distrust and dread. I did not doubt its power, but I wondered if such power could ever be turned to good. Yet within my clan the sword was worshipped and adored.

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

A village in the middle of the Feudal Japanese woods. For its size, the surrounding wall blocking it from outsiders is huge.

A large gathering of ROSHAN VILLAGERS has gathered in front of a hut that is larger than the rest in the village.

They all appear to be waiting for someone to exit the hut.

## NARIKO'S VOICE

One day in the year of the Fire-Horse, so legend had it, a son would be born whose destiny it was to lift the blade against a mighty enemy. Then, the story went, the sword would repay the blood my people had shed to protect it. It would enable us to triumph over evil, and ensure our people lived forever in peace.

A VILLAGE DOCTOR emerges from the hut with a NEWBORN BABY in his arms, a forlorn look on his face.

The Villagers all examine the baby with fear in their eyes. Some run away. Others throw their hands up in defeat. All breakdown and cry.

## NARIKO'S VOICE

The year of the Fire-Horse arrived, and with it a child: A girl: Me. The clan wept for their misfortune, and believed that the gods had taken against them. I was not the champion they had waited for. The first-born of their chief, I should have been their princess. Instead, I was reviled as a living curse, a reminder to them of their impending destruction and their powerlessness to prevent it.

EXT. PLAINS - DAY (PRESENT)

Nariko lifts her gaze from the sword and gazes at the endless wave of soldiers in front of her that want to tear her apart limb by limb.

## NARIKO'S VOICE

Now the shadow of the sword grows long. The day of my clan is drawing to a close, and in the dying light the hordes of the brutal King Bohan stand across the plains. What else can I do but protect the sword that he seeks, the sword that I hate; the sword that has undone my hopes from the time of my birth? It will kill me to wield it, but what is death to one who has never truly lived?

Nariko raises her sword and SCREAMS. Her scream echoes throughout the entire plains with a powerful rumble.

Without hesitation, she SPRINTS directly towards Bohan's waiting army.

Just as they collide...

SMASH CUT TO:

BLACK SCREEN

TITLE CARD: "THREE DAYS AGO"

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE - DAY

The village from Nariko's flashback comes to view once again. This time however, the village is full of life. The early morning sun bathes the villagers in an angelic light.

Children run through the village holding sticks, play fighting, but their laughter and screams of ecstasy assure everyone there is not an ounce of aggression among the kids.

One of the kids, KAI, a cute little girl of about twelve, moves into position to take on three BOYS.

KAI

Come on!

The three Boys look at Kai with a quizzical look.

BOY #1

You think you can take on all of us, Kai?

BOY #2

Yeah, who do you think you are?

Kai sways her stick back and forth with an exaggerated motion.

KAI

I am Nariko! The most beautiful and powerful warrior in the world! And you all will crumble by my blade like leaves in the wind!

The three Boys exchange glances with one another then charge Kai...

OPPOSITE SIDE OF VILLAGE

Women wash clothes in a small stream that flows through the center of the village.

The men of the clan engage in a sparing session against one another.

Among the men, is Nariko. She trains along side the men of the village. She appears to be way ahead of the men in the fighting skills department. Her movements are swift, her speed is top notch, and her strength is borderline inhuman.

One of the soldiers, KWON, occasionally glances in Nariko's direction with a mixture of disgust and jealousy.

Kwon reaches down and picks up a rock from the ground. He softly tosses it towards Nariko. It hits her on the back.

Nariko turns instinctively and fixes her gaze right on Kwon.

Kwon returns the cold stare and returns to his exercises.

Nariko curls her lips with anger and does the same.

After a few moments, Kwon reaches down and picks up another rock. He throws it again in Nariko's direction, this time a little harder...

It hits Nariko in the back of the head. She turns, furious.

NARIKO

You got something you want to  
say to me, Kwon?

KWON

Shouldn't you be washing clothes  
like the other women?

Nariko clenches her teeth.

NARIKO

You got a problem with me? Where  
I come from, if you have a problem  
with someone, you deal with it  
face to face. Not throwing  
stones like a little boy.

The rest of the soldiers stop and "Ooh" at Nariko's statement.

KWON

You little bitch.

Kwon lifts his sword and prepares to lunge in Nariko's direction.

Nariko raises her sword as well. She motions with her hand for Kwon to bring it.

Kwon ATTACKS.

As they lock swords together...

SHEN (O.S.)

Nariko!

Nariko and Kwon both stop their actions and turn in the direction of the voice...

SHEN, is an old man who is wise beyond his years. His face is wrinkled with the stress of his leadership responsibilities.

KWON

She attacked me, my lord.

Nariko's mouth opens with disbelief.

NARIKO

You little snake!

SHEN

Enough! Nariko, come with me.

Nariko gives Kwon a hard stare then falls in step behind her father.

SHEN

Get back to your exercises!

Kwon sticks his tongue out in Nariko's direction and moves it around explicitly.

Nariko just narrows her eyes.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Nariko and Shen walk slowly through the lush forest behind the village.

SHEN

You need to control that temper of yours, Nariko.

NARIKO

Father, these men have a problem with my presence. They have no respect for me or my abilities.

SHEN

Respect? You of all people should know that respect is earned, Nariko. It is not a birthright.

The father and daughter walk silently for a few steps.

NARIKO

Father, can I ask you something?

SHEN

Of course, my child.

NARIKO

Why have you taken it upon  
yourself to train me in secret?  
I am the only female that is  
trained to fight. Why have you  
put me through this? Why even  
train me at all?

SHEN

Nariko, you are very special,  
whether you like it or not. Our  
clan does not share that same  
viewpoint, however.

NARIKO

Why?

Shen takes a deep breath. This appears to be a question he  
has never wanted to answer.

SHEN

An ancient legend of our people  
stated that the first born of  
your mother and I would  
be the protector of our clan's  
most treasured object. But when  
you were born, and they saw you  
were a female, the clan's faith  
was shaken. I was shaken as well,  
but I knew it was my duty to train  
you to be our protector, female or  
not.

NARIKO

But what am I protecting?

Shen and Nariko arrive at a small shrine in the center of  
the woods.

Two GUARDS stand by guarding the entrance.

Shen gives them a nod and the two guards allow him and Nariko to enter the shrine.

INT. SHRINE

The shrine is nothing more than a fancy hut. Only one object stands in the center of the room.

NARIKO

Father, why are we here?

Shen approaches the center of the hut and stops in front of a display.

In the display is...

THE HEAVENLY SWORD

Shen carefully takes the sword off of the display.

NARIKO

Father! What are you doing?

Shen turns to face his daughter.

SHEN

My child, the time has come. The prophecy states that you will be the holder of the Sword. From this point forward, you must never let go of it, but you must never use it. Any mortal that wields this blade will die. Keep it with you always. The gods have left it with our people for safe keeping. If it gets into the wrong hands, we are all doomed.

Shen holds the sword out for Nariko.

Nariko stares at it warily.

SHEN

You can't run away, Nariko. It  
is your destiny.

Nariko purses her lips and sums up all the internal courage she has. She reaches out and takes the sword from Shen.

Nariko hangs it across her shoulder and lets the massive blade dangle behind her.

BEHIND NARIKO

The RAVEN from the beginning sequence sits quietly outside the doorway of the shrine...

CUT TO:

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE - NIGHT

A grand bonfire is burning in the center of the village. The entire clan has gathered in the center of the secluded village.

Shen and Nariko stand in front of the villagers, Nariko with The Heavenly Sword strapped to her back...

Kai stands in the background holding the hand of a middle aged woman who is obviously her MOTHER.

VILLAGER

This is madness!

Shen holds up his hand to try and maintain order. He's not doing a very good job at it.

ANOTHER VILLAGER

If you continue to defy the gods,  
we will be punished!

Nariko stands with her head down.

SHEN

Nariko is the one who will fulfill the prophecy. She was the first born during the year of the Fire Horse. She is the protector of the Sword!

And OLD MAN stands up from the back of the group.

OLD MAN

We cannot have the fate of our people be in the hands of this...

The Old Man gives Nariko look as if she is lower than a human. Like a master would give his dog.

OLD MAN

...Girl...

The villagers all SHOUT WITH APPROVAL.

Shen looks the Old Man in the eye.

SHEN

There is no one else. Our bloodline ends with Nariko.

OLD MAN

I say Kwon to be the protector of the Heavenly Sword!

The villagers again roar with approval. Kwon smiles with his new found celebrity.

SHEN

Kwon is not of my bloodline. We are not ones to change tradition people! The gods have created the prophecy and we must abide to it! Nariko is the protector and that is final! I want no more of this bickering! We, the Roshan Clan, have a duty that the gods have placed upon us! And that is to protect the Heavenly Sword from all evildoers!

Nariko looks at her father. A proud look on her face. Shen looks over at Nariko and gives her a nod.

OLD MAN

We are cursed! This girl will only defile our standing with the gods even more!

Nariko finally steps forward and speaks.

NARIKO

I have spilt sweat and blood for the 23 years of life I have lived on this planet. I have trained like no other soldier has trained. I am prepared to protect the Sword at all costs and I will not let you down. That is a promise.

The villagers all roll their eyes and begin to move back to their respective huts. Kai's Mother yanks Kai's hand as she motions for her to follow her to their hut. Kai tries to look back at Nariko, but her mother keeps stringing her along.

Shen walks over to Nariko and picks her head up with his finger.

SHEN

Don't let them affect your mission, Nariko. They don't see your importance to our clan, but I do and that is all that matters. Protect the Sword for me. Protect it for your mother. And protect it for you.

Nariko nods her head with new found confidence.

NARIKO

I will, Father.

CUT TO:

BLACK SCREEN

TITLE CARD: "TWO DAYS AGO"

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE - DAY

The morning sun is just rising over the village, bathing it in a new day's light.

INT. NARIKO'S HUT

Nariko sits cross-legged in the center of the hut. The Sword is still safely strapped to her back. Her eyes are closed and she is in deep meditation.

Nariko's eyes flicker intermittently...

EXT. WOODS - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Nariko is now an eight year old girl. Shen is putting her through a vigorous training session. Sweat pours down Young Nariko's face as she attempts to keep up with her father's relentless commands.

SHEN

Keep going, Nariko.

NARIKO

But I'm tired, Father!

SHEN

Fatigue is a sign that you are still alive. Remember that. Now continue!

Nariko weakly swings a long sword back and forth in routine increment. The sword is much too heavy for her tiny arms. She looks like she is going to pass out any second.

KAI'S VOICE

Nariko.

INT. NARIKO'S HUT (PRESENT)

Nariko's eyes slowly open...

Kai is standing in front of her, head cocked to the side.

KAI

What are you doing?

Nariko smiles. The sight of Kai lifts all of her negative emotion away.

NARIKO

Training.

KAI

But you're just sitting, doing nothing! Doesn't look like training to me.

NARIKO

You want to see something neat?

KAI

Yes, yes!

Nariko points behind Kai.

NARIKO

Look.

Kai turns around. There is nothing of interest.

KAI

Huh?

Kai turns back.

KAI

What am I look--

Kai stops mid sentence...

Nariko is gone.

NARIKO (O.S.)

Over here.

Kai turns back to where she was looking before...

And there is Nariko. Kai's jaw drops with amazement.

KAI

How did you...?

Nariko runs towards Kai and begins tickling her.

KAI

No, Nariko! Stop! You know I'm ticklish!

Kai struggles with Nariko as they both roll on the floor. The two girls share a special sister-like bond and this soft side of Nariko is touching.

After a beat, Nariko stops. Kai's laughter dies down.

KAI

What is it?

NARIKO

Shh...

Nariko cocks her ear upward as if straining to hear something in the distance.

At first there are only the sounds of nature. Then a faint noise starts to rise in volume. Like a heard of elephants approaching.

Nariko's eyes widen with fear.

SHEN (O.S.)

Nariko!

Nariko jumps to her feet. She turns to Kai.

NARIKO

Get the children and women to the hideout.

KAI

But--

NARIKO

Go!

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE LOOKOUT - DAY

Nariko swiftly climbs a wooden ladder that leads to the top of the front gate lookout surrounding the village.

SHEN (O.S.)

Do you hear me, Nariko!

Nariko finds Shen looking out into the massive plain that precedes the village.

ARCHERS of the village scramble to defense positions along the village's perimeter.

NARIKO

Who is it?

SHEN

Bohan.

Nariko switches her gaze towards the open plain.

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE PLAINS - DAY

A long TRACKING SHOT shows the incredible distance between the village walls and Bohan's impeding army...

When the army finally is shown, it is enormous. The ground is completely hidden by the marching soldiers that occupy the army.

In the center of the massive wave of soldiers, is a CART ON WHEELS. Sitting in the cart is Bohan.

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE LOOKOUT - DAY

Nariko turns back to her father.

NARIKO  
How much time?

SHEN  
Not much. They will be here  
before sun fall.

NARIKO  
I'll assemble a perimeter--

SHEN  
No.

Nariko's face fills with confusion.

NARIKO  
No?

SHEN  
Nariko, I want you to run.

NARIKO  
What?

SHEN  
Run. Run as far as you can.  
And don't look back.

NARIKO  
What are you talking about,  
Father? I will not run like some  
coward--

Shen's voice RISES.

SHEN  
He's after the sword!

NARIKO  
Then I will defend it with my  
life.

SHEN  
This is a battle we can not  
win. We can't afford to lose  
the sword...

Before Shen even finishes his sentence, Nariko is already climbing down the ladder.

SHEN  
No, Nariko!

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE - DAY

Kai runs through the village yelling to the villagers to flee the village.

KAI  
Everyone, head to the retreat!  
Retreat! Go! Go! Go!

The women and children of the village waste no time and flee the village through a rear exit on the opposite side of the village.

Kai runs with the crowd towards the exit. Just as she reaches the exit, she stops. Something catches her eye.

Right near the exit is a BOW AND QUIVER OF ARROWS. Kai observes it with a grin.

KAI  
Twing twang!

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE GATES - DAY

Nariko grabs a Long Sword from a rack of weapons and heads to the front of the lines of her fellow clan members.

The Clan Members all stand directly behind the front gate, ready to kill anything that enters.

Kwon is already there as acting commander.

KWON  
What do you think you're doing?

NARIKO  
Cut the nonsense, Kwon. We can not fight if we have an internal conflict of our own.

KWON

Then fall into line, soldier. I  
am the ranking commander here.

Nariko shakes her head with anger.

NARIKO

You're pathetic.

Nariko turns and steps into the second line of soldiers.

Kwon looks up towards the front gate lookout.

KWON

Archers! Prepare to fire!

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE LOOKOUT - DAY

The Archers all ready their bows with arrows and aim out  
into the distance.

Bohan's Army is gradually coming to view...

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE GATES - DAY

Nariko stares at the front gate's massive wooden door with  
intense eyes.

A SCARED SOLDIER speaks out loud to nobody in particular.

SCARED SOLDIER

I heard Bohan's army has over  
500,000 men.

Nariko turns to the Scared Soldier.

NARIKO

Keep your focus! Take them one  
at a time!

KWON

That's enough babbling! Prepare  
for close combat!

EXT. BOHAN'S CART - DAY

Bohan rides along with his army, a look of perverted excitement on his face.

Sitting next to his chair is that mysterious RAVEN.

BOHAN

Almost there.

The Raven CAWS loudly as if approving with Bohan.

Nariko's village is coming up very close now...

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE - DAY

Kai slowly creeps through the village, trying to remain discreet. The bow she found is now hanging over her shoulder...

KAI

I'll show them.

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE GATES - DAY

Nariko holds her ground. The clan is scared beyond description. Nariko is cool as ice. She's been training her whole life for this moment...

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE PLAINS - DAY

Bohan's Army walks in sequence towards the village. The ranks are evenly structured and the entire army is disciplined to the fullest extent...

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE LOOKOUT - DAY

Shen holds his arm in the air...

SHEN

Archers!

The Village Archers all pull back their bows with routine precision...

The tension builds...

SHEN

Fire!

The Archers all FIRE AT WILL...

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE PLAINS - DAY

The arrows fly through the air towards the approaching army...

CLOSE ON ARROW

We follow the flight of one of the arrows from the rear as it pierces through the air en route to the ranks of soldiers marching towards the village. The arrow descends -- It has a target -- SNAP! -- The arrow pierces through a soldier's bone and tissue...

He falls to the ground limp.

THE REMAINING ARROWS

all hit targets dead on and kill them instantly.

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE LOOKOUT - DAY

The Village Archers all cheer with glee.

Shen is not content.

SHEN

Keep firing!

EXT. BOHAN'S CART - DAY

Bohan observes his front lines being decimated by the arrows coming from the village.

He doesn't appear to be fazed by it.

BOHAN

It appears our hosts aren't  
too pleased with our welcome.  
Let's return the favor.

Bohan stands and points towards the village.

BOHAN

Kill them! Kill them all!

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE PLAINS - DAY

Bohan's Army SCREAMS and begins sprinting towards the village gates. They break their ranks and begin scattering across the entire plains.

EXT. BOHAN'S CART - DAY

Bohan turns to the back of his cart and yells to the soldiers behind it.

BOHAN

Archers!

THOUSANDS OF ARCHERS emerge from the ranks -- They drop down to a knee -- Aim upwards with their bows -- They fire...

The arrows sail through the air -- The sky is nearly blocked out by the arrows...

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE LOOKOUT - DAY

The arrows come flying in fast and hit many of the Village Archers -- They fall hard -- Some even fall off the lookout.

Kai manages to sneak up to the top of the lookout. She finds a dead Village Archer and replaces his position.

Kai pulls back her bow -- Aims...

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE PLAINS - DAY

Bohan's Army continues to sprint towards the village gates. They are nearly there...

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE GATES - DAY

Nariko and her clan keep their eyes glued to the giant wooden door that blocks the village from the outside.

The SCREAMS OF BOHAN'S ARMY are audible.

KWON

Ready your weapons!

The clan lets out a GRUNT -- They hold up their swords in attack position...

THE WOODEN DOOR BUCKLES...

Some members of the clan flinch at the noise.

THE DOOR BUCKLES AGAIN...

Nariko clenches her teeth with anticipation...

BOOM!

The Wooden Door is DESTROYED. Bohan's Infantry pours into the village.

KWON

Attack!

The Villagers and Bohan's Army clash in a maelstrom of violence...

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE LOOKOUT - DAY

The Village Archers continue to fire down on the soldiers flooding into the village.

Kai takes aim with her bow -- Sends a shot at a Bohan soldier -- A direct hit.

KAI

Yeah!

Kai continues to fire in rapid succession at Bohan's soldiers with impressive success...

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE - DAY

The battle has permeated throughout the entire village. The villagers put up a good fight, but they are no match for the skill and power of Bohan's Army.

Nariko is directly in the heart of the battle. Soldiers throw themselves at her -- She knocks them right back down. Her fighting skills are uncanny -- unmatched.

She fights like it was what she was born to do.

Nariko finds herself surrounded by three of Bohan Soldiers. They circle her like vultures...

BOHAN SOLDIER

Looks like one of the bitches  
knows how to swing a sword.

BOHAN SOLDIER #2

Let's put her in her place!

BOHAN SOLDIER #3

Get on your knees, whore!

Soldier #1 rushes Nariko -- Nariko side steps his attack -- She grabs his hand holding his sword -- BREAKS THE WRIST -- The sound is horrendous -- Soldier #1 screams in excruciating pain -- Nariko swings her sword -- Slices his midsection...

Soldier #2 yells -- Charges as well -- He takes three quick slices -- Misses all of them -- Nariko knocks his sword away with her own -- KICKS HIM IN THE CHIN -- Sends him flying across the village...

Soldier #3 takes his time -- He's not going to do something stupid -- Nariko stalks him like a cat -- Soldier #3 finally makes a move -- He stabs at Nariko with his sword -- Nariko sweeps his feet from underneath him -- While in midair, Nariko STABS DOWN WITH HER SWORD -- It pierces Soldier #3's chest plate before he ever touches the ground.

Nariko retrieves her sword -- Observes her surroundings...

It's a bloodbath...

Nariko dives in headfirst into the melee -- Killing all that get in her way...

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE LOOKOUT - DAY

Shen watches as his village walls crumble under the mighty power of Bohan's Army. He turns to his soldiers -- Yells at the top of his lungs.

SHEN

Retreat! Fall back!

Kai hears Shen's command from the other side of the lookout -- She stops firing. She jumps down off of the lookout -- SPRINTS towards the rear village exit...

EXT. BOHAN'S CART - DAY

BOHAN'S GENERAL relays the message to him.

BOHAN'S GENERAL

They're retreating, my lord.

Bohan smiles.

BOHAN

My sword, General.

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE - DAY

Nariko slices and dices her way through the never ending wave of Bohan's Army -- It seems to be in vain. Her fellow clan members are dying by the scores...

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE LOOKOUT - DAY

Bohan's soldiers make their way up the ladder that leads to the lookout. Shen notices them -- He tries to escape -- They grab him.

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE - DAY

Nariko looks up -- Sees her father in the clutches of the enemy...

NARIKO

Father, no!

SHEN

Nariko, run! They must not  
get the sword!

Nariko spins around -- Takes in her surroundings. There's too many soldiers for her to kill -- She slowly peers over her shoulder at...

The Heavenly Sword -- Still attached to her back...

CLOSE ON NARIKO'S HAND

In slow motion, Nariko's hand moves to the sword's handle. She grabs it -- Slowly removes it from its sheath...

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE LOOKOUT - DAY

Shen notices what Nariko is doing...

SHEN

Nariko, no!

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE - DAY

Nariko fully removes the sword from behind her -- She holds it in front of her. The sword is quite a sight now being held in battle. Two huge blade attached one underneath the other make the weapon at least six feet long.

Nariko holds up the sword -- She screams...

What follows is probably one of the greatest displays of sword combat ever seen...

Nariko slashes a Bohan Soldier -- Cuts him into two pieces -- Most of Bohan's Army stops with amazement --

The remaining members of Nariko's clan stop as well -- Did that sword just do that?

A Bohan Commander points at Nariko.

BOHAN COMMANDER

Get her!

A set of Bohan Soldiers charge Nariko -- Nariko parries all their attacks with graceful ease -- She stabs behind her -- Penetrates a Soldier's abdomen -- She retrieves the sword -- Slices upwards -- Three soldiers fly back, cut deep.

BOHAN COMMANDER

What the hell is wrong with you?  
You call yourselves soldiers?  
Kill the bitch!

Another group of soldiers flank Nariko -- Nariko flips -- Slices down hard on a soldier -- Completely cutting him in half -- Vertically.

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE LOOKOUT - DAY

Shen -- Still in the clutches of Bohan's Soldiers -- Observes with complete fear.

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE - DAY

Nariko is going berserk. She slashes in every direction. Limbs, heads, body parts, all fly in completely random directions from her blows...

BOHAN COMMANDER

Are you trying to piss me off?

RANDOM BOHAN SOLDIER  
She's a demon!

RANDOM BOHAN SOLDIER #2  
She's possessed!

Kwon observes from the crowd that has formed around Nariko...

KWON  
By the gods...

Bohan's Commander jumps into the circle.

BOHAN COMMANDER  
She's just a woman! Let me show  
you how it's done!

The Bohan Commander readies his weapon. Nariko gets into her attack stance -- Bohan Commander charges -- Nariko side steps -- Bohan Commander attacks with some powerful blows -  
- They actually knock Nariko off balance.

The Bohan Soldiers begin cheering.

BOHAN COMMANDER  
Give me the sword you hell whore.

Nariko points the sword at the Commander.

NARIKO  
Come and get it, big boy.

Bohan Commander lunges forward -- He swings down hard with his sword -- Trying to slice Nariko's cranium --  
Nariko holds the sword up -- Blocks all of his attacks --  
Then -- Nariko PULLS THE SWORD APART -- She now holds each blade in one hand.

This distracts the Commander -- Nariko takes advantage --  
She knocks his sword down with one blade -- Slices his throat with the other.

Nariko kneels behind a now motionless Bohan Commander --  
After a few seconds -- The Commander's head SLIDES OFF HIS NECK.

Nariko looks down at the sword with amazement. This power is intoxicating. She looks back up at Shen.

They lock eyes.

SHEN

What have you done, Nariko?  
What have you done?

The sound of CLAPPING comes from the front of the village...

BOHAN stands at the village entrance. He saw the whole battle. A creepy grin is on his face.

BOHAN

Very entertaining! Very  
entertaining!

Bohan's face morphs to stone cold evil.

BOHAN

Kill her.

ARCHERS enter the village. Among them, Archer Commander points at Nariko.

ARCHER COMMANDER

The sword! Kill her!

SHEN

Run, Nariko!

Nariko connects the blades together again to form one blade. She sheathes the sword behind her back -- Spins on her heel -- Runs towards the rear exit of the village.

ARCHER COMMANDER

Fire!

Arrows SWARM around Nariko as she makes her escape. Arrows come very close to hitting her, but she manages to escape the village by the skin of her teeth...

The rest of Bohan's Army surround the remaining villagers. They hold them prisoner.

Bohan points in the direction Nariko ran in.

BOHAN  
Get me my sword!

The Archers sprint towards the rear exit of the village, on Nariko's tail.

EXT. WATERFALL - DAY

Nariko runs along a river at full sprint. She occasionally looks back to see the Archers in hot pursuit.

Nariko finally comes to the end of the line...

A 100 FOOT WATERFALL

Nariko peers down at the watery pit.

ARCHER COMMANDER (O.S.)  
Give us the sword and we will  
spare your life.

Nariko turns back towards the Archers.

NARIKO  
Tell your King I'll be back  
for his head!

With that Nariko turns to jump off of the waterfall...

ARCHER COMMANDER  
Don't let her escape!

The Archers all fire arrows in Nariko's direction. She glides through the air in a graceful motion -- Falling towards the water far below...

Nariko sails in FREEFALL towards the water...

SPLASH!

She hits the water hard.

TOP OF WATERFALL

The Archers lean over the edge to see Nariko's demise. She is nowhere in sight.

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE - NIGHT

Night has fallen. Bohan's Soldiers have the surviving members of Nariko's clan in shackles.

Among the prisoners is Shen. Bohan stands in front of him pacing back and forth.

BOHAN

My dear friend, Shen. How long has it been?

SHEN

Not long enough. I knew you were war hungry, Bohan. But I never expected this. Not even from you.

BOHAN

How sentimental. Please hold the emotion for someone who actually gives a damn.

Bohan kneels down and holds up Shen's chin with his finger.

BOHAN

Where's the sword?

SHEN

What sword?

Bohan smiles. Without warning, he BACKHANDS Shen across the face.

BOHAN

Don't play games with me, old friend. I know that your tribe has been chosen, for a very peculiar and unknown reason mind you, to guard the Heavenly Sword created by the gods.

SHEN

Do to me what you wish. The sword will never be yours.

Bohan stands up and turns his back to Shen.

BOHAN

Where is that beautiful daughter of yours, Shen? She was quite a looker from an early age. She must have gotten her looks from her mother.

Shen peers up with anger at the sound of his daughter's name.

BOHAN

Did the prophecy not state that the first born from your loins would be the protector of the sword?

SHEN

Leave her out of this, Bohan. If you so much as breathe on her, I'll--

Bohan spins around.

BOHAN

You'll what?

SHEN

You don't want to know.

Bohan grins.

ARCHER COMMANDER (O.S.)

My lord!

Bohan turns to find the Archer Commander with his fellow Archers flanking him.

BOHAN

Where's the sword?

ARCHER COMMANDER

Uh, we didn't have a chance to retrieve it, Your Highness. The woman with red hair was seen carrying it. She jumped off a cliff. Most likely dead--

Shen bows his head.

BOHAN

The sword, Commander!

The Archer Commander swallows hard with fear.

ARCHER COMMANDER

The woman still has it, my lord.

Bohan slowly steps towards the Archer Commander.

BOHAN

You come to me with knowledge of the Sword's whereabouts, but you do not have it? Does that not seem counterproductive, Commander?

ARCHER COMMANDER

I assure you my lord we will get it--

Before the Archer's Commander finishes, he is STABBED IN THE STOMACH, with Bohan's sword. The Archer's Commander gasps his final breath, then falls to the ground dead.

BOHAN

I will not tolerate failure! Take the prisoners to the prison camp!

Bohan turns back to Shen.

BOHAN

Let's relocate to my place. We have some catching up to do, dear Shen.

Two of Bohan's Soldiers grab Shen and lead him out of the village.

The RAVEN swoops down and lands on Bohan's shoulder. It sits there quietly.

BOHAN

Don't worry. The sword will be ours in due time.

CUT TO:

EXT. RIVER - NIGHT

A strong current flows through the river at a high speed. Floating down the river is an unconscious Nariko. Her body follows an uncontrollable path that she is unaware of.

NARIKO'S EYES

They flutter back and forth rapidly...

EXT. CLOUDS - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Nariko floats through a blue sky unconscious. Several puffy and perfect white clouds pass her by as she ascends upwards. She slowly floats upwards. Up, up, up...

HEAVENLY VOICE (V.O.)

Nariko...

Nariko remains unconscious.

HEAVENLY VOICE (V.O.)

Nariko...

EXT. RIVER - NIGHT (PRESENT)

Nariko's body continues to sail downstream--

A PAIR OF HANDS GRABS HER

Kai's hands...

KAI  
Gotcha!

EXT. RIVER BANK - NIGHT

Nariko lies on the river bank next to the flowing rapids of the river. Kai looks over her, occasionally rubbing her forehead.

Nariko's eyes slowly open.

KAI  
You're awake!

NARIKO  
Where am I?

KAI  
You jumped off a waterfall!  
Are you crazy, Nariko? Praise  
the gods you are still alive!

NARIKO  
Where's Father? The others?

KAI  
Gone.

NARIKO  
Dead?

KAI  
Not dead. Gone. Those that  
ran made it to the hideout.  
We should head back there.

Nariko sits up. She reaches back to feel the Heavenly Sword still on her back. Kai stands up.

Kai stares at the sword with awe.

KAI  
Where did you learn to fight like  
that? That was amazing.

Nariko shakes her head with a mixture of confusion and regained consciousness.

NARIKO

I don't know.

Kai waves her hand and starts running into the forest.

KAI

This way!

EXT. MOUNTAIN FOREST - NIGHT

Kai and Nariko run up a grand mountainside forest en route to the summit. The moon shines brightly onto the foliage giving it a heavenly presence as the two girls make their way through the brush.

Nariko starts to fall behind...

NARIKO'S EYES

Her pupils dilate...

FLASH CUT

Images of Nariko's battle in the village. Nariko takes on Bohan's soldiers...

BACK TO NARIKO

Nariko's eyes continue to bulge out of her head...

FLASH CUT

Nariko slices and dices limbs and body parts off of her enemies with easy strokes of the Heavenly Sword....

BACK TO NARIKO

Nariko comes to a stop in the middle of the forest. Kai turns.

KAI  
Hurry, Nariko!

Nariko doesn't budge. Kai walks towards Nariko.

KAI  
What's wrong?

NARIKO  
What have I become? I took on  
a battalion of the finest  
soldiers in the world and lived.

Kai cocks her head to the side.

KAI  
Maybe the gods have a plan for  
you.

Nariko looks up at Kai. She gives her a quizzical look.

NARIKO  
Don't talk nonsense, Kai. The  
gods are just ramblings of old  
men with nothing better to do  
than scare the children into  
obeying rules.

KAI  
You shouldn't talk like that,  
Nariko! The gods are watching  
over us all the time! They are  
protecting us!

Nariko shakes her head with fatigue. She won't win this battle.

NARIKO  
We're not far from the retreat.

Nariko walks past Kai and continues her climb up the slope leading to the top of the mountain. Kai just looks at Nariko as if not wanting to believe what she just said.

CUT TO:

INT. ROSHAN CLAN MOUNTAIN RETREAT

Hundreds of women, children, and elderly people congregate in the large structure that has been constructed for their escape. Jugs of water and bags of food line the walls. Small lanterns light the interior with a dim light.

THE DOOR OPENS

Kai enters. KAI'S MOTHER emerges from the group with a relieved look on her face.

WOMAN

Kai! Why would you leave like that? You had me scared to death!

KAI

But, Mother! I had to see if there were any survivors that needed help!

KAI'S MOTHER

No one survived! You know that!

Nariko slowly enters the retreat. The entire group of women and children stop all movement and noise. They stare at Nariko with cold eyes.

KAI

See?

Kai's Mother glares hard at Nariko.

KAI'S MOTHER

Why have you come here, heathen? Haven't you done enough for one day?

KAI

Wha--?

Kai's Mother slowly walks towards Nariko. Nariko and Kai's Mother do not release their gaze from each other. Kai's Mother comes face to face with Nariko. They stare at each other for a beat. Then--

SMACK!

Kai's Mother smacks Nariko across the face hard.

KAI'S MOTHER

This is all your fault, devil child!

Nariko doesn't react. She keeps her head low.

KAI'S MOTHER

You have been nothing but a curse to this clan your whole life. How many have died in vain because of your birth? And now you defile the gods by wielding their weapon? The gods are angry with us, that's for sure.

Nariko's eyes start to fill with water.

KAI'S MOTHER

Your father was a fool to keep you alive. We all agreed that you should be brought out to the woods and left for the wolves, but your father would not heed our warning. Now look at us. Prisoners in our own land. People die when you are around, Nariko. Your mother was your first victim when you she gave birth to you, and we are sure to follow.

The Old Man steps forward from the crowd.

OLD MAN

We do not want your curse  
following us anymore, Nariko.  
Leave us at once. We will pray  
the gods for forgiveness, but we  
will not tolerate your presence  
any longer. Our men are dying in  
battle because of one person.  
That person is yourself, girl.

Nariko bites her lip to keep the tears from flowing.  
Without looking up, she turns on her heel and leaves the  
retreat.

KAI

Nariko, wait!

Kai turns to her mother.

KAI

How could you say that to her?

KAI'S MOTHER

You'll understand one day,  
Kai.

Kai's face fills with anger.

KAI

Who do you people think you  
are?! She fought Bohan's entire  
army by herself protecting our  
soldiers! What did you do?!  
You ran like cowards!

KAI'S MOTHER

Mind your tongue, Kai.

KAI

You are not my mother!

Kai turns and runs after Nariko.

KAI'S MOTHER

Kai, get back here!

EXT. MOUNTAIN FOREST - NIGHT

Nariko walks at a brisk pace back down the mountain. Her face is now flowing with tears falling down her beautiful face.

KAI (O.S.)

Nariko! Nariko, where are you going?

NARIKO

To find my father.

Kai reaches Nariko.

KAI

Take me with you!

NARIKO

No.

KAI

Please! I have no place here! I cannot stay with them after what they said about you!

NARIKO

Maybe it's true.

KAI

No! It can't be! Not what I saw!

Nariko turns around and grabs Kai.

NARIKO

How many men have died because of me, Kai?! If this sword and this stupid prophecy never existed, there would have been no bloodshed! But I was born and people are dead because of me!

Kai shakes her head.

KAI

No! What I saw was the princess of our tribe take on an army of invading soldiers and cut them down as they tried to kill her people! You are not a curse from the gods, Nariko! You are a gift!

Nariko finally breaks down and cries. She falls to her knees and buries her face into her hands.

KAI

Please take me with you, Nariko. You and Master Shen are the only people from this clan I respect now. I want to help.

Nariko looks up at Kai through glassy eyes.

NARIKO

Are you sure?

KAI

Yes.

Nariko slowly gets to her feet. She wipes the tears from her face and recollects herself.

NARIKO

Thank you, Kai.

Nariko and Kai embrace in a warm hug.

CUT TO:

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - NIGHT

Establishing shot of Bohan's enormous castle. It is surrounded by a wall that encloses the castle completely.

INT. BOHAN'S CHAMBER

SMACK!

A bound and shackled Shen is smacked to the ground by Bohan.

BOHAN

Damn fool. Do you really want  
to make this hard on yourself?

Shen spits out blood and laughs to himself.

SHEN

Bohan, still the bully. Only  
can use force to get what he  
wants.

BOHAN

Well the saying goes things  
come to those who wait, but  
come faster to those who take.  
I am going to ask you one more  
time, Shen. Where is the sword?

SHEN

You won't get away with this,  
Bohan. The gods will punish you  
for this.

Bohan kicks Shen in the stomach. Shen recoils in pain.

BOHAN

I know your little girl has it.  
You would be one of those to  
believe in a prophecy no matter  
how disjointed its fragments  
may be.

Shen slowly sits up.

BOHAN

I see you are as stubborn as  
always, Shen. That's a shame.

Bohan slowly walks to a throne that is situated in the rear of Bohan's chamber. Sitting next to the throne on a perch is the RAVEN.

BOHAN

Apparently my men are too incompetent to capture even a gentle butterfly such as your daughter. But I have other means.

The chamber door SLOWLY OPENS...

A MAN enters wearing black robes with pale white skin.

BOHAN

Ah, Flying Fox, my favorite mercenary.

FLYING FOX

Having girl trouble, sir?

Shen observes Flying Fox with curiosity.

BOHAN

I'm the one that asks the questions here. But as a matter of fact I am.

Bohan points at Shen.

BOHAN

This man's perfect specimen of a daughter happens to have a sword that I dearly want. You can handle a little girl, can't you, Fox?

Flying Fox holds both of his hands out to the side. In a flash, KNIVES emerge from his sleeves and stick out from between his fingers.

Shen flinches at the speed from which the knives stick out.

FLYING FOX

Women are such a beautiful thing.  
Their emotional energy is  
intoxicating...

Flying Fox twirls the knives between his fingers with skilled precision and fluid motion.

FLYING FOX

A man's most formidable adversary  
is a woman's emotional energy.  
Women have the power to control  
man with their cunning emotional  
strength.

Bohan rolls his eyes as if he has heard this speech a hundred times before.

Flying Fox begins moving his hands around with the knives twirling between all of his fingers. The motion is so fluid, the knives look like they are attached to his hands.

FLYING FOX

But that emotional energy can  
be harnessed and used against  
a woman. The key to a woman's  
demise is her own emotion.

BOHAN

So will you get me my sword or  
not?

FLYING FOX

For the right fee.

BOHAN

Whatever that is, I'll double  
it.

Flying Fox bows to Bohan then exits the chamber.

BOHAN

What a character.

One of BOHAN'S GENERALS enters the chamber.

BOHAN GENERAL

My lord, after interrogating the prisoners of war we have discovered the remaining survivors of the village are stowed away atop a retreat at the summit of a mountain.

BOHAN

Then go get them, General.

BOHAN GENERAL

As you wish, my lord.

Bohan's General bows quickly and exits the chamber. Bohan turns to his bodyguards.

BOHAN

Please get this dog out of my chambers, gentlemen.

The Bodyguards grab Shen and drag him out of the room.

BOHAN

Finally some peace and quiet. Everyone loves to talk nowadays.

Bohan turns to the Raven.

BOHAN

Soon the girl will be dead and the sword will be ours, my lord.

The Raven turns towards Bohan, almost as if it is preparing to talk...

THE RAVEN

Your arrogance in other's people's abilities to complete tasks is sickening, Bohan.

The Raven talks! It's voice is deep and powerful.

BOHAN

My lord, I assure you that my men are the finest in the land. Flying Fox is the most deadly assassin in the world. He has killed entire armies by himself--

THE RAVEN

You underestimate the power of The Sword and its holder. Even in the hands of a puny mortal, it can have deadly results.

Bohan laughs.

BOHAN

She's just a female. She's as harmless as a fly.

The Raven turns and stares Bohan in the face.

SLAM CUT TO BLACK.

TITLE CARD: "ONE DAY AGO"

EXT. PRISON CAMP - DAY

A makeshift POW camp has been erected in the middle of a clearing in the forest. Steel cages are occupied by Nariko's clan members.

Among the prisoners is Kwon. He leans against the bars with a dejected look of hopelessness on his face.

Most of Bohan's Soldiers are either half-asleep or torturing a few unlucky clan members.

One of the clan members is tied to a tree with Bohan Soldiers throwing small rocks at him. His face is bruised and bloodied from the number of hits he has taken already.

PRISON SOLDIER

Where's your bitch at now?

PRISON SOLDIER #2  
How embarrassing. Your strongest  
warrior is a woman!

EXT. CAMP OUTSKIRTS - DAY

Observing from the bushes on the boundary of the prison  
camp are Nariko and Kai.

Nariko watches with anger as her clan member is tortured  
for sport.

KAI  
They're monsters!

Kai reaches for her bow behind her.

KAI  
I'll show them--

NARIKO  
No.

Kai stops.

KAI  
No?

NARIKO  
I want you to stay here and  
keep out of sight.

KAI  
But I want to help!

Nariko turns to Kai.

NARIKO  
I can't concentrate if I have to  
worry about the both of us, now  
can I?

Kai sighs a breath of frustration.

NARIKO  
I'll be back in a flash.

Nariko moves to make her way towards the prison camp. Kai sits with her arms crossed across her chest with anger.

EXT. PRISON CAMP - DAY

The two Prison Guards take a break from their torture of the Roshan Clan Member.

PRISON GUARD #1  
You know, Bohan has been acting  
real strange lately.

PRISON GUARD #2  
You know, you're right. Ever  
since that bird showed up, Bohan  
has been really adamant about  
us getting that sword.

Prison Guard #1 shrugs his shoulders.

PRISON GUARD #1  
Bet you I can hit an apple of the  
top of this peasant's head!

Prison Guard #2 laughs.

PRISON GUARD #2  
You're on!

EXT. PRISON CAMP ENTRANCE - DAY

Nariko walks towards the camp entrance completely in view. She has no regard for being incognito.

Kwon notices Nariko first from his cell. His eyebrows rise.

KWON  
What the...

The Prison Guards gradually notice Nariko walking directly towards them at the front of the camp. At first they can't believe what they are seeing.

PRISON GUARD #1  
What the hell is this?

PRISON GUARD #2  
Is she serious?

The Prison Guards look at each other and realize this is a blessing in disguise.

PRISON GUARD #1 & #2  
The sword!

They both retrieve their weapons and move into position to intercept Nariko.

EXT. CAMP OUTSKIRTS - DAY

Kai looks on from the bushes with an apprehensive look on her face.

EXT. PRISON CAMP - DAY

Nariko continues her path towards the center of the camp. The Prison Guards have now positioned themselves in a semi-circle, blocking her path to the cages holding the prisoners.

Kwon looks on from his cell with disbelief.

KWON  
She's completely lost her mind.

Nariko stops and eyes all of the guards standing in her way.

The guards and Nariko stare at each other for a long beat. Neither one wanting to make the first move. Finally...

PRISON GUARD #1  
Get her!

The Prison Guards rush in an undisciplined mess towards Nariko. Nariko smiles. She pulls The Heavenly Sword out slowly from behind her.

The Guards attack her all at once -- Nariko blocks attacks that come at her from all directions -- Prison Guards but all of their might into their attacks -- but they are no match for Nariko's speed and agility.

One of the Prison Guards attempts to slice Nariko from behind -- Nariko leans back -- Her back perpendicular to the ground -- Slices sideways -- Slashes the Prison Guards torso.

Nariko slowly moves backwards -- Trying to get into more open space -- The Guards change strategy -- Attack her two at a time -- Nariko adjusts her fighting style -- She BREAKS HER SWORD IN TWO -- Uses the two blades with lightening speed to block and attack.

Kwon watches from his cell. He cannot believe what he is seeing. Nariko is taking on an entire Prison Guard battalion.

EXT. CAMP OUTSKIRTS - DAY

Kai looks on with amazement as Nariko takes the Guards on with no strain.

EXT. PRISON CAMP - DAY

Nariko has taken out a big chunk of the Prison Guards. Only a few remain now.

PRISON GUARD #1  
She's the devil!

PRISON GUARD #2  
Tuck your dress in and kill the wench!

Prison Guard #1 charges Nariko -- Nariko blocks his attacks in rapid succession -- Prison Guard #2 picks up a wooden stool -- Throws it at Nariko from behind her -- Nariko SPINS and slashes down with one of her blades -- The wooden stool is shattered into hundreds of wooden splinters.

Prison Guard #1 tries to take advantage of Nariko's attention shift -- Slices down on Nariko -- Nariko rolls out of harms way.

PRISON GUARD #1

Damn it, woman! Will you stay in  
once place so I can kill you?

A third Prison Guard charges Nariko -- Nariko jumps in the air -- Wraps her legs around Prison Guard #3's neck -- Flips him over onto his back -- Squeezes her ankles hard -- Prison Guard #3's neck shatters.

Prison Guard #1 and #2 make a last ditch attack on Nariko -  
- Nariko ducks and slices sideways --  
Slices through both of their kneecaps -- The two Prison  
Guards fall to the ground minus lower legs howling in pain.

Nariko scans her surroundings, looking for another threat.  
Suddenly--

A BATTLE AXE slams on the ground in front of her. Nariko  
jumps back to find...

TWO SEVEN FOOT TALL SOLDIERS, each armed with body armor  
and an eight foot long battle axe ready to chop through  
anything it so desires.

Nariko reconnects her blades and forms one sword. She  
swings hard and hits the Tall Soldiers with her sword...

THEIR ARMOR IS IMPENETRABLE. Even for the Heavenly  
Sword...

One of the Tall Soldiers PUSHES Nariko and sends her flying  
several feet backwards onto her back.

The two Tall Soldiers laugh.

PRISON CELL

Kwon watches on with fear. If it's for Nariko, it is not  
known.

BACK TO SCENE

Nariko gets to her feet and prepares to defend herself. The two Tall Soldiers form a pincer attack and charge her from both sides.

The Tall Soldiers swing wildly with their axes -- Nariko tries to block the attacks -- They're too strong -- Nariko is knocked off balance more and more with each blow -- The Tall Soldiers finally hit her sword both at the same time -- Sends Nariko falling to the ground -- The Tall Soldiers raise their weapons -- This is it -- The final blow...

POP!

An ARROW pierces through one of the Tall Soldiers head and connects with the other soldier's head, killing both instantly.

The two Tall Soldiers fall to the ground, still connected to each other by the arrow through both of their heads.

Nariko turns to look where the arrow came from...

EXT. CAMP OUTSKIRTS - DAY

Kai is standing in attack form with her recently fired bow. She gives Nariko a smile and yells to her.

KAI  
I stayed put!

EXT. PRISON CAMP - DAY

Nariko lies back and closes her eyes with relief. She is visibly drained from the fight.

KWON (O.S.)  
Free your clan members, Nariko!

Nariko opens her eyes and gets to her feet. She walks to the cages -- She SWINGS HER SWORD -- cuts the bars hot butter.

Kwon steps up to Nariko and gives her a cold stare.

Kai joins Nariko at her side and looks up at Kwon's evil glare.

Kwon finally speaks.

KWON

Thank you, Nariko.

Nariko is taken aback by Kwon's words. She has no response. She looks back down at Kai.

KWON

What of the women and children?

NARIKO

They are safe at the retreat.

KWON

Good.

NARIKO

Quickly, follow me.

KWON

Where are you taking us?

NARIKO

We have to find my father.

Kwon doesn't budge.

KWON

No.

Nariko REACTS with surprise.

NARIKO

No?

KWON

We have suffered enough due to your actions, Nariko. We will not follow you anymore. You are a marked heretic now that you wield the Heavenly Sword.

NARIKO

This sword is our only chance  
against Bohan.

KWON

But at what cost?

Nariko's anger starts to resurface on her face.

NARIKO

I will not stand around  
participating in idle banter while  
my father is held prisoner by a  
tyrant. If you don't have the  
decency to want to get the man  
back that has given you everything  
then good riddance.

WHOOSH!

A knife WHIZZES by, slicing Kwon's throat clean. He's eyes  
widen with surprise as he clutches at his bleeding neck  
arteries.

Nariko grabs Kwon in her arms and lowers him to the ground.

NARIKO

Kwon! Don't die on me!

Kwon gasps for breath as his life quickly leaves his body -  
- Nariko squeezes her hand on the wound to keep him from  
losing anymore blood -- There's just too much -- Kwon's  
eyes roll back into his head.

KAI (O.S.)

Nariko!

Nariko turns to find...

Flying Fox with Kai in his grasp.

NARIKO

Let her go!

FLYING FOX

Now why would I do that? That  
wouldn't be any fun now would it?

NARIKO

If you so much as scratch her--

FLYING FOX

Oh I plan on doing more than that.  
I also hope you haven't become to  
attached to the women and children  
at the top of the mountain.

Nariko's eyes widen.

FLYING FOX

Bohan's army is already there. I  
recommend you come see. It should  
be a wonderful sight.

NARIKO

Who are you?

FLYING FOX

I am what lies deep in the dark  
corners of your mind, Nariko.  
You will learn to fear me.

KAI

Help me, Nariko! I'm scared!

Nariko SCREAMS and charges Flying Fox, Heavenly Sword  
raised to strike.

Flying Fox retrieves a SMOKE BOMB from his robe. He throws  
it down...

POOF!

SMOKE fills the entire immediate area. Nariko and her  
clansmen cough, trying to wave the smoke out of their eyes  
and throats...

The smoke finally clears. Flying Fox and Kai are long  
gone.

NARIKO

Damn it! Coward!

Nariko turns to her clan. They are scared out of their minds.

NARIKO

I need to go back for her.

The clansmen all look at one another. One of them steps forward.

CLAN MEMBER

Tell us what to do, Nariko.

Nariko nods her head. She holds her hand out. The Clan Member grabs it and holds it tight.

NARIKO

Thank you.

Nariko takes a deep breath. She quickly formulates a plan in her mind.

NARIKO

I'll go after, Kai. I want you all to make your way to Bohan's Castle. We can make our last stand with a sneak attack. We need my father if we are going to have a chance to win this war.

The Clansmen all nod their heads and murmur sounds of approval.

CLAN MEMBER

We will meet you there, Nariko.

Nariko nods again and turns to run back into the forest.

CUT TO:

INT. BOHAN'S DUNGEON

The dungeon is bleak and dark. Hundreds of prisoners sit against walls, their arms chained to the walls.

Among the prisoners is Shen. He leans against the wall with a dejected look on his face. He leans his head back against the wall and closes his eyes.

INT. SHEN'S HUT - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN that bears a striking resemblance to Nariko is the middle of giving birth in a cramped village hut. Shen stands by her side as the Village Doctor assists her with the birth.

The baby, Nariko, finally emerges and the entire hut turns solemn. Shen observes the child with disbelief. The woman looks at the baby with a short glance then her eyes roll back into her head.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Shen has Baby Nariko in his arms as he slowly walks through the thick brush of the woods. He reaches a clearing in the woods. He lays Baby Nariko on a TREE STUMP. He unsheathes his sword -- Baby Nariko looks up, not knowing anything that is going on in the world around her -- Shen holds the sword above his head -- He prepares to slice down on his infant daughter -- He shakes his head with rage -- Lowers his weapon.

SERIES OF SHOTS

- Shen training a Nariko that is no older than 4 years old. Her movements are erratic and her attention span is very short.

- Shen training an 8 year old Nariko. Her movements are a little more refined, but nowhere near Shen's expectations.

- Shen training a 13 year old Nariko. Her movements are much more impressive and her skill and quickness are becoming noticeable.

- Shen training a present day aged Nariko. Her skills are perfect and her movements are top notch. Shen still is not impressed, however. He drills Nariko hard with his body language.

END SERIES OF SHOTS

INT. BOHAN'S DUNGEON (PRESENT)

Shen opens his eyes back up. He looks upwards.

SHEN

She is the chosen one. I know it.  
You know it.

One of Bohan's DUNGEON GUARDS enters frame. He kicks Shen in the ribs.

DUNGEON GUARD

Quit your babbling!

CUT TO:

INT. BOHAN'S CHAMBER

Bohan sits in his grand throne room surrounded by beautiful women. The Raven sits on top its perch next to Bohan.

The women massage Bohan's shoulders, feed him fruit, and fan him. Bohan has a satisfying smile on his face.

BOHAN

Now this is paradise...

Bohan's General enters the chamber. Bohan looks at him with annoyance.

BOHAN

What?!

BOHAN'S GENERAL

Sir, the remaining survivors hiding atop of the mountain have been captured. We wanted to establish an ambush for the girl and the sword, but Flying Fox would not allow us to stay. He insisted he would handle it himself.

Bohan nods his head with compliance.

BOHAN

Yes, yes, yes.

BOHAN'S GENERAL

Uh, there's one more thing, my lord.

BOHAN

Yes?

BOHAN'S GENERAL

The Prison Camp we established for the prisoners of war was completely annihilated. Everyone is dead and the prisoners are gone.

BOHAN

I see. Looks like our girl is becoming feisty. Resume your defensive posts on the perimeter. If Nariko is as bold as I make her out to be, she will attempt an offensive. See that it does not happen, General. And find my sword, General. Fast.

Bohan's General bows.

BOHAN'S GENERAL

As your wish, my lord.

Bohan waves his hand for his General to leave. Bohan leans back and closes his eyes. He is in total relaxation mode.

BOHAN

I now see why the gods created women.

Bohan opens his eyes and places a hand underneath one of his concubines' chins. He lifts it up.

BOHAN

To entertain me.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Nariko is in a full sprint through the woods. Her face shows she is trying to block out the pain of her effort.

NARIKO

Kai! Where are you!? Do you  
hear me, Kai?

Nariko starts to slow down. She's becoming fatigued.

NARIKO

Come on! Pain lets you know you  
are still alive!

Nariko comes to a stop. She doubles over and tries to catch her breath.

HEAVENLY VOICE (O.S.)

Nariko...

Nariko straightens up. She turns in all directions trying to locate the voice.

NARIKO

Who's there?

Nariko becomes agitated. She cannot locate the voice.

NARIKO

Show yourself!

BEHIND NARIKO

The sword on her back starts to glow. She doesn't notice.

NARIKO

Come out you coward!

Suddenly, Nariko is ENVELOPED IN A WHITE LIGHT. The light comes from the Heavenly Sword hanging on her back.

Nariko tries to fight the light's power but it is too much for her to handle. She falls to her knees.

NARIKO  
What...is...this...light?

Nariko falls to the ground. The light appears to be pinning her to the ground. She can't move.

NARIKO  
Kai...

Nariko's eyes slowly close...

EXT. CLOUDS - DAY (DREAM SEQUENCE)

Nariko finds herself floating in an endless sky of clouds.

NARIKO  
Where am I?!

Directly in front of Nariko, an ODD SHAPE OF RANDOM LIGHT takes form. It pulses lightly as it hovers in the clouds in front of Nariko.

HEAVENLY SHAPE  
Nariko...

NARIKO  
What is this place? Who are you?

HEAVENLY SHAPE  
My identity is not important.  
Turmoil is on the horizon for your  
race and you are the only one that  
can stop it.

NARIKO  
This isn't real! This is just a  
dream!

## HEAVENLY SHAPE

You must believe, Nariko. A renegade deity by the name of Legion has invaded your world and seeks the Heavenly Sword the gods have created in his quest for ultimate power of both Heaven and the Planet.

## NARIKO

I don't care! I have to find, Kai! I'm her only hope!

## HEAVENLY SHAPE

You will find only sorrow if you continue your quest of revenge, Nariko. All will be lost if Legion succeeds in retrieving the Sword.

Nariko shuts her eyes.

## NARIKO

This isn't happening! None of this is real!

## EXT. WOODS - NIGHT (PRESENT)

Nariko awakens to find herself on the forest ground. A steady rain is now falling from the night sky causing the ground to form into muddy slush.

Nariko feels for the Heavenly Sword behind her...

Still there...

## NARIKO

It was just a dream.

Nariko climbs to her feet and sprints deeper into the woods.

CUT TO:

EXT. PLAINS OUTSKIRTS - NIGHT

Nariko's Clan slowly marches towards the plains that lead to Bohan's Fortress.

CLAN MEMBER  
Everyone remain silent.

The Clan Members slow down their movements. Just as they are about to reach the plains...

BOHAN GENERAL (O.S.)  
Well, well, well!

The Clan Members all turn to the sound of the voice...

A BATTALION OF BOHAN'S SOLDIERS is waiting in the wings. They have the Clan outnumbered.

The Clan Members drop their weapons and raise their hands in surrender.

BOHAN GENERAL (O.S.)  
I must admit. An offensive is very admirable. But the best offense is a good defense, peasants. Where's the girl?

None of the Clan Members make a sound.

The Bohan General turns to his soldiers.

BOHAN GENERAL (O.S.)  
Take them to the dungeon. I'm sure their Master Shen will enjoy their company.

The Bohan Soldiers apprehend the Clan Members and march them towards the Fortress.

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE - NIGHT (RAINING)

Nariko reaches her village. It's the first time she's seen it since the battle. It is in shambles. Huts are destroyed. Pottery and weapons of war lie scattered around the village.

Nariko continues walking through the village. As she passes the dismantled huts, she reaches the Lookout on the Village walls...

FLYING FOX AND KAI stand atop it, looking down on Nariko.

FLYING FOX

Nariko. So glad that you could join our party.

NARIKO

Let her go or you die slow.

FLYING FOX

Your rhetorical threats are amusing, Nariko. I much rather prefer the real thing.

KAI

Nariko!

Flying Fox wraps his fingers around Kai's throat. Something is tied to her neck...

FLYING FOX

I wouldn't bother going back to your village's mountain retreat. Those that struggled with Bohan's Army, I personally killed, and I must say, much to my delight.

NARIKO

You're sick.

FLYING FOX

No, Nariko. Not sick. Serious.

With that, Flying Fox SHOVES KAI off of the lookout. Before Nariko can react...

SNAP!

Kai's neck bone is SHATTERED by the noose hanging around her neck...

NARIKO

Noooo!

FLYING FOX

The death of one so young is so beautiful.

NARIKO

Kai!

FLYING FOX

Ready to play, Nariko?

Nariko takes one last look at Kai's lifeless body hanging in the rainy moonlight.

Flying Fox unleashes several knives from his sleeves...

Nariko pulls out the Heavenly Sword...

NARIKO

You are going to die screaming.

Flying Fox grins. He JUMPS OFF OF THE LOOKOUT TOWARDS NARIKO -- He PUNCHES Nariko in the face -- Sends her staggering back.

FLYING FOX

I find it hard that the gods deemed you worthy to bring peace to the world. A female has too much emotional conflict for such a task.

Nariko KICKS Flying Fox in the chest -- The impact barely fazes him.

NARIKO

You talk too much.

Flying Fox holds up his knives like fingers and waves Nariko towards him.

FLYING FOX

Let's dance.

Nariko SCREAMS -- Charges Flying Fox -- She swings heavy blows -- Flying Fox dodges the attacks -- He almost knows what move Nariko is going to do before she even does it -- Flying Fox turns -- Ducks -- Jumps -- All in perfect sync with Nariko's movements.

Flying Fox closes his eyes.

FLYING FOX

You're emotions are screaming to me, Nariko. I can see your movements before they happen.

Nariko tries to hit Flying Fox with his eyes closed. Flying Fox dodges all attacks -- His reflexes are incredible -- Even with eyes closed he can predict all of Nariko's movements.

FLYING FOX

Yes! Yes! I can read you like an open book!

Nariko swings one more time -- Flying Fox dodges -- Kicks Nariko across the face -- The blow spins her around -- Flying Fox takes his knives and SLICES DOWN HARD on her back --Four fresh wounds breakout on Nariko's back -- She screams in pain.

FLYING FOX

You cannot defeat what you are afraid of, Nariko! That is why they call it fear! I told you that you would learn to fear me!

Nariko musters her strength -- Swings at Flying Fox's legs with the Sword -- He LEAPS HIGH -- Lands on top of the Lookout.

FLYING FOX

Not fast enough.

Nariko clenches her teeth and scales the ladder leading up to the Lookout.

Nariko plants and readies her attack on Flying Fox. Flying Fox laughs...

HEAVENLY SWORD (O.S.)  
Release your emotions, Nariko.

Nariko looks down at the Sword. Is it speaking to her?

HEAVENLY SWORD (O.S.)  
Trust your instincts.

Nariko returns her gaze to Flying Fox. She inhales deep...

Flying Fox TOSSES A GROUP OF KNIVES at Nariko with  
lightening quick release...

Nariko HOLDS UP HER SWORD -- The Sword blocks all of the  
blades heading in her direction -- They stick to the Blade  
like thumbtacks -- Nariko flicks the Heavenly Sword --  
Sending Flying Fox's blades to the ground.

FLYING FOX  
Impressive.

Flying Fox JUMPS IN THE AIR.

FLYING FOX  
Try this on for size!

Flying Fox sends SCORES OF KNIVES from his sleeves in  
Nariko's direction...

Nariko waves her Heavenly Sword around in front of her --  
The Blade catches all of Flying Fox's knives.

Flying Fox lands back on his feet.

FLYING FOX  
Looks like our vixen has  
finally awoken.

Nariko holds the Sword out in front of her, pointing at  
Flying Fox.

NARIKO  
You haven't seen anything, yet.

Flying Fox grunts and charges Nariko...

Flying Fox ejects more knives as replacements for fingers -  
- He stabs and swings at Nariko -- Nariko ducks, dodges,  
and rolls out of harms way.

Nariko swings a long blow at Flying Fox -- Flying Fox  
dodges -- Slices down on Nariko's arm -- Nariko doesn't  
flinch -- She elbows Flying Fox in the face -- Sends him  
flying off of the Lookout...

Flying Fox lands hard on his back. Nariko peers down at  
him from above. Her face remains stone.

Flying Fox coughs as he gets back to his feet.

FLYING FOX

I always did like a challenge.

Nariko jumps down off of the Lookout...

Nariko and Flying Fox exchange blows with the entire  
village being used as their battle ground. They push each  
other in various directions throughout the village --  
Trying to find a weakness in the other's defense -- Neither  
one having any luck.

FLYING FOX

Come on. Show me some emotion on  
that pretty face, Nariko.

Nariko's face remains cold as she swings at Flying Fox with  
her sword.

FLYING FOX

The little girl begged for her  
life before you got here. I  
wanted to gut her like a fish, but  
I decided hanging would be much  
more delectable.

Nariko's face flinches. That's all Flying Fox needs -- He  
PUNCHES HER IN THE FACE -- Sends her reeling backwards.

Nariko holds her face as she bends over in pain. Flying  
Fox begins chuckling.

FLYING FOX

Poor, poor girl. Looks like  
I will have two trophies to bring  
back to Bohan. Easy money.

Flying Fox slowly strides towards Nariko. She still is bent over clutching her face. Flying Fox prepares to dig his knives deep into Nariko's back for the final blow.

FLYING FOX

Sweet dreams, my child.

Flying Fox swings down...

BAM!

Nariko UPSWINGS with the Heavenly Sword -- The HANDLE OF THE SWORD hits Flying Fox in the chin -- It snaps his head backwards...

Nariko SPLITS HER SWORD IN TWO -- Slices down on both of Flying Fox's wrists...

Flying Fox falls to his knees as his arms spill blood onto the village floor from his now gaping wrists. He screams in pain.

FLYING FOX

My hands! Not my hands!

Flying Fox falls to the ground and begins rolling around in pain. Nariko walks calmly over to him.

NARIKO

I told you, you would die screaming.

Nariko turns. Flying Fox continues his excruciating cries of pain as he writhes on the ground.

Nariko runs over to Kai's still hanging body. She cuts the rope and catches Kai in her arms.

Nariko gently lays Kai softly on the village ground.

Behind Nariko, Flying Fox movements begin to slow. He twitches a few more times then he moves no more...

Nariko runs her hands along Kai's face with a look of sadness quickly enveloping her face.

NARIKO

Why couldn't I save you, Kai?

Tears fall down Nariko's face mixing with the rain water already on it.

NARIKO

It's all my fault...I should have protected you...

Nariko hugs Kai's body close and begins to weep. The rain continues to pelt down on the two of them.

Nariko picks up Kai's lifeless body. She exits the village with Kai still in her arms.

FADE TO BLACK.

TITLE CARD: "THE FINAL BATTLE"

EXT. SUNRISE - DAY

Establishing shot of the sun signifying a new day.

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE PLAINS - DAY

Nariko stands in the middle of the plains outside of her village. The Heavenly Sword sticks in the ground next to her. A makeshift grave is below her with a rock acting as a headstone.

Nariko stares at the grave.

NARIKO

I have to do something, Kai.  
You probably won't like it, but it must be done.

Nariko looks over at the Heavenly Sword.

NARIKO

This sword is the reason for all of this. It's a curse that I can never forgive.

Nariko turns back to the grave.

NARIKO

But this is the only instrument of death I can use that can defeat Bohan. I am going to die if I fight or not. I might as well take out as many of those accursed thugs myself before I join you in death.

Nariko wipes a tear that slowly drips down her cheek.

NARIKO

Thank you, Kai for giving me some happiness in a life that was constructed for only sorrow and bloodshed. They will pay for what they have done.

Nariko turns and YANKS THE HEAVENLY SWORD from the ground. She sheathes it behind her and stalks away from the grave.

CUT TO:

INT. BOHAN'S DUNGEON

The dungeon gates open as Bohan storms into the massive prison. All of the women and children of the village have joined the other prisoners here. Bohan storms towards Shen, who is still chained to the wall.

Bohan lifts him up by the neck.

BOHAN

Good morning!

Shen squints to get used to the sunlight coming from the small cracks in the walls.

BOHAN

I have tried to be nice, but now  
my patience is wearing thin.  
Where is that beautiful girl,  
Shen? Where is my sword?

Shen looks directly into Bohan's eyes. He SPITS IN HIS  
FACE.

SHEN

May the gods have mercy on your  
soul.

Bohan throws down Shen. He takes out his sword and  
prepares to cut Shen.

BOHAN

Damn you, fool!

BOHAN'S GENERAL (O.S.)

Sir!

Bohan stops mid-swing.

BOHAN

What is it now?!

BOHAN'S GENERAL

I think you better have a look  
outside, my lord.

Bohan looks down at Shen.

BOHAN

I'll be back. For your liver!

Bohan storms up the dungeon steps.

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - THRONE - DAY

Bohan climbs up to his throne overlooking the plains. The  
Raven firmly on his shoulder. His General points out  
towards the plains in the distance.

BOHAN

Well, I'll be...

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

In the far distance, Nariko stands staring at Bohan. A circle of dead soldiers surrounds her. She holds the Heavenly Sword in her hands tightly.

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - THRONE - DAY

Bohan's General turns to Bohan.

BOHAN'S GENERAL

My lord, she has killed the entire perimeter squad. That's over 100 men.

The Raven CAWS LOUDLY. Bohan looks at it briefly.

BOHAN

Ready the entire army.

BOHAN'S GENERAL

Sir?

BOHAN

Did I stutter?! I want nothing left of the bitch! I just want the sword. By the end of the day, I don't want a spec of her bones left, General! Do you hear me!

The General nods.

BOHAN'S GENERAL

Yes, my lord!

Bohan turns back to Nariko.

BOHAN

You're mine now, Nariko.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

AERIAL VIEW

We are now back at the first scene of the film.

A perfectly even circle fifty feet wide surrounds a lone dot in the center of an endless field. The ground is stained with blood and weapons of war are scattered all across the plains. Moving in closer the circle begins to take form...It is formed by hundreds of SOLDIER CORPSES that are sliced and diced to beyond recognition.

In the center of the circle of death is Nariko.

Nariko's chest heaves with fatigue as she stares coldly in the distance in front of her. A look of sheer determination plastered on her face. Change angle to reveal...

BOHAN'S ARMY. More like a sea of soldiers, directly in front of her waving their weapons and shields in the air. There are at least 500,000 soldiers waiting for Nariko. They yell misogynistic daggers over their own war cries.

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - THRONE - DAY

Sitting in his lavishly cushioned chair is Bohan. The Raven sits atop Bohan's shoulder, looking out at Nariko.

Bohan peers out towards Nariko with a lecherous grin.

BOHAN

Oh, isn't she a pretty little thing?

The Bodyguards all chuckle with approval.

BOHAN

Nariko!

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

Nariko keeps her stance and stares in Bohan's direction.

BOHAN (O.S.)

Do you really entertain the notion that you can take on my army by yourself? Your clan has been wiped out. Those not killed are now slaves in my kingdom. You are the sole survivor of your people. No one is coming to help you.

Nariko curls her lips into a scowl.

BOHAN (O.S.)

Is this how you want your race to end? Forgotten in the pages of history? My history?

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - THRONE - DAY

Bohan smiles as he continues to observe Nariko from his safe haven.

BOHAN

You are much too beautiful for death, Nariko. If you give me the sword, I will show mercy and make you my queen. All I want is the sword.

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

Nariko slowly peers down at the sword in her hands.

Nariko lifts her gaze from the sword and gazes at the endless wave of soldiers in front of her that want to tear her apart limb by limb.

Nariko raises her sword and SCREAMS. Her scream echoes throughout the entire plains with a powerful rumble. Without hesitation, she SPRINTS directly towards Bohan's waiting army...

Bohan's General raises his hand on the other side of the plains.

BOHAN'S GENERAL  
Kill her! Get the sword!

The Army YELLS and begins sprinting towards Nariko...

Nariko charges at full steam towards the ridiculous amount of soldiers in front of her. A look of unrequited anger fills her face...

THEY COLLIDE

Nariko SWINGS HER SWORD in a complete circle around her -- She takes out a number of Bohan's Soldiers from the get go.

Nariko swings the Heavenly Sword as if it is the only thing her body is programmed to do. She cuts and slashes what seems like an endless amount of soldiers.

They keep coming in hoards as she tries to push through the massive wedge the Army is forming.

Nariko jumps -- BREAKS HER SWORD IN TWO -- Slices both swords in all directions -- Blood flies -- Screams of pain follow.

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - THRONE - DAY

Bohan observes the battle from the comfort of his throne. He smiles as Nariko keeps doing the impossible. She is taking out an army single-handedly.

BOHAN  
She is a strong one, my lord.

The Raven remains silent.

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

WHOOSH!

Nariko's swords cut through another two soldiers. The amount of dead bodies piles up. Nariko can barely walk without stepping on one.

Bohan's General reaches Nariko.

BOHAN'S GENERAL  
She's mine!

The Soldiers form a circle around Nariko and the General. Nariko and the General circle one another, none wanting to make the first move.

BOHAN'S GENERAL  
You are strong. I'll give you that.  
But you are still no match for me.

Bohan's General lunges forward. He stabs at Nariko. She parries the attack -- Knocks the General off balance.

Nariko sees an opportunity for a strike -- She takes it...

CLINK!

The General lifts his sword at the last moment, preventing Nariko from severing his head from his shoulders.

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - THRONE - DAY

Bohan's face fills with agitation.

BOHAN  
Quit playing with her and kill  
the wretched girl!

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

The General hears his master and nods his head. He leaps at Nariko...

Nariko strafes out of harms way. She sweeps the General -- The General falls to his back -- Nariko stabs down with her swords...

The General rolls out of harms way.

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - THRONE - DAY

Bohan stands up with anger.

BOHAN

You are a complete waste of air!  
How are you the General of my  
army?! You can't even take out  
a woman!

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

The General flips back up to his feet. Nariko smiles at him.

NARIKO

Looks like your master is ashamed  
of you.

BOHAN'S GENERAL

Shut up, wench! I'm going to  
enjoy ending your life!

Bohan's General KICKS UP DUST from the ground -- It blinds Nariko -- The General takes quick strikes at Nariko...

Nariko barely blocks in time, but she manages to avoid all of the General's attacks.

Bohan's General lifts his sword for one last powerful blow.

BOHAN'S GENERAL

Just die already!

Bohan's General slices down hard with his sword -- Nariko spins -- Plants her blades...

DIRECTLY INTO THE GENERAL'S BACK

The General stiffens with pain as the swords poke out the front of his body...

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - THRONE - DAY

Bohan is beyond livid now. His best soldier has been taken down by Nariko.

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

Nariko removes her blades from the General's back. The General falls to his knees and falls flat on his face.

Nariko looks back up at Bohan...

Bohan's army freezes with disbelief...

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - THRONE - DAY

Bohan looks down at Nariko with contempt.

BOHAN

This is madness. No one is  
this powerful...

The Raven JUMPS OFF OF Bohan's shoulders and hovers in front of his face.

THE RAVEN

I have trusted you for the last  
time, Bohan.

BOHAN

My lord?

THE RAVEN

Your pathetic tactics have done  
nothing but waste my time. Your  
services are no longer needed.

BOHAN

Wha--?

Before Bohan can finish...

THE RAVEN STABS BOHAN IN THE CHEST WITH HIS BEAK.

Bohan screams in pain.

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

Nariko and the remaining soldiers in the army stare at Bohan atop of his throne with confusion.

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - THRONE - DAY

Bohan continues his screams of pain. Suddenly...

The Raven turns into a BLACK CLOUD. It starts to dissipate and TRANSFER into Bohan's body...

Bohan's eyes close as he falls to his knees. The Raven completely dissolves from view.

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

All is still on the battlefield as both Nariko and Bohan's army wait for Bohan to make another move...

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - THRONE - DAY

Bohan's eyes finally SHOOT OPEN. His irises are BLACK. His skin is paler as well.

He looks down at Nariko with a smile.

BOHAN  
Hello, Nariko.

His voice is much more coarse and rough. Like the voice of the Devil himself...

Bohan jumps down off of the Fortress walls and lands in the crowd of soldiers.

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

Nariko stares at the new Bohan with complete fear in her eyes.

Bohan smiles.

BOHAN

I am Legion. I have come to this  
world for the Heavenly Sword,  
Nariko.

LEGION waves his arm in a fast motion around his body -- A  
SHOCKWAVE emits and sends the Army flying backwards.  
Nariko is spared.

LEGION

Give me the sword!

Nariko connects the two blades together again and squeezes  
the handle even tighter. She lifts it, ready to attack.

NARIKO

So this is all your doing!

LEGION

Your puny human strength is no  
match for a god, Nariko. You  
don't stand a chance.

NARIKO

Try me.

Legion SCOWLS. He lifts his hand and points it at Nariko.  
An ORANGE SHOCKWAVE gathers in his hand.

Nariko stares at the orange light with no clue on how to  
defend it...

Legion THROWS THE SHOCKWAVE at Nariko. Just as it is about  
to hit her...

A WHITE LIGHT EMITS FROM THE HEAVENLY SWORD.

A FORCEFIELD SURROUNDS Nariko. Legion stares at Nariko  
with disbelief...

The Sword begins to glow. A WHITE LIGHT breaks off from  
the blade and falls to the ground. It starts to form into  
a shape. Like a human.

Nariko watches on in amazement as the white light turns  
into...

A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN. An Angel...

The Angel stares at Legion with emotionless eyes.

ANGEL

Legion. You have gone too far  
this time.

LEGION

You!

ANGEL

You know the gods have forbidden  
any warfare between us and the  
Humans.

LEGION

I want that sword.

ANGEL

I cannot allow my sword to  
fall under a tyrant's control.

Legion prepares another shockwave in his hand.

LEGION

Die!

Legion throws the shockwave at the Angel. The Angel holds  
up her hands, holding the shockwave in place. She PUSHES  
FORWARD and redirects the shockwave in Legion's direction.

Legion is sent sprawling backwards.

Nariko looks on with utter amazement.

NARIKO

Are you the voice that has been  
speaking to me in my dreams?

The Angel turns to Nariko.

ANGEL

Yes. We need to defeat Legion,  
Nariko. I cannot allow him to  
succeed in his quest for my  
sword.

Nariko nods her head with courage.

The Angel MORPHS BACK to its cloud of light. It ENVELOPES Nariko...

Nariko falls to her knees, eyes closed. She returns to her feet. Her irises are now WHITE.

Legion gets to his feet and laughs.

LEGION

Using a human to do a god's  
job?

ANGEL NARIKO breaks the sword into two pieces again. Only this time instead of just two smaller swords...

THE SWORDS ARE NOW CONNECTED BY CHAINS. The chains attach to Angel Nariko's wrists...

She swings the blades around showing the new range her weapon now has.

Legion smiles.

LEGION

I will kill both of you and use  
the sword to destroy each and  
every one of your precious humans!

Legion storms towards Angel Nariko...

INT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS

Legion CRASHES through the stone walls of the fortress. He finds himself inside a...

FOYER

Angel Nariko enters the Fortress through the hole in the walls that Legion formed.

## ANGEL NARIKO

Your quest for this sword has led to the deaths of many innocent people. The members of my clan that have died, have died in vain.

## LEGION

Do you really think you pathetic humans have any significance in the bigger picture of the universe? The gods don't care about you! You are but mere pawns in a bigger game!

The Angel speaks to Nariko from her soul...

## ANGEL'S VOICE

Don't listen to him, Nariko. This type of treachery cannot be tolerated among the gods. We must end this now.

Legion lowers his center of gravity and gets into a fighting stance.

## LEGION

Hmph!

Legion charges Angel Nariko -- Angel Nariko SWINGS her blades -- Legion SMACKS THEM AWAY -- He SHOULDER CHARGES Angel Nariko, sending her through another wall...

## INT. BOHAN'S CHAMBERS

Angel Nariko lands hard. Legion RUSHES IN, a look of pure evil on his face.

Angel Nariko jumps to her feet -- Legion unleashes a FURY OF PUNCHES -- Angel Nariko manages to keep them away from vital parts of her body -- She counters -- KICKS Legion in the chest -- Sends him flying across the room.

Legion takes his time getting to his feet.

LEGION

Why do you resist? Do you really think you can defeat me? A god!?

ANGEL NARIKO

I will do what I must!

Angel Nariko prepares to lunge at Legion -- Just as she jumps...

Legion SLAMS THE GROUND with both of his hands...

THE GROUND FALLS APART. The two fighters fall through the floor into the dark hole beneath them...

INT. BOHAN'S DUNGEON

Angel Nariko and Legion both land on their feet. The prisoners in the dungeon are taken by surprise at the sight that has just fallen in their lap.

Shen jolts awake from sleep and finds Bohan and Nariko fighting in front of him. Only Bohan is not himself and Nariko is surrounded by a white aura.

The impact of Angel Nariko and Legion falling into the dungeon RELEASES HIS SHACKLES from the wall...

The rest of the imprisoned villagers and clan members observe with utter amazement.

Bohan's Soldiers also stand frozen, not knowing how to react.

Angel Nariko FLIPS -- Dodges a powerful attack from Legion -- She SWIPES her blades on chains -- They HIT Legion across the face -- This only pisses him off even more -- Legion FORMS A SHOCKWAVE IN HIS HAND -- THROWS it at Angel Nariko with incredible speed -- Angel Nariko cannot dodge in time -- She is KNOCKED BACK -- Her impact makes a dent in the stone wall.

LEGION

You fool! You are only prolonging  
the inevitable! Your goddess  
witchcraft is no match for my  
powers! Bow before me and I will  
kill you swift and clean!

Shen watches as his daughter slowly comes to on the ground.

SHEN

She is the chosen one...

Legion SENDS more SHOCKWAVES in Angel Nariko's direction --  
Angel Nariko rises to her feet -- SWINGS HER BLADES -- They  
deflect all of the shockwaves -- Dissolving them in thin  
air.

ANGEL NARIKO

I was chosen to protect this  
sword with my life. Sworn to  
kill all those that attempt to  
steal it.

Angel Nariko takes a look at her father. Shen gives her a  
slight nod of approval.

Angel Nariko turns back to Legion.

ANGEL NARIKO

Even a god.

Angel Nariko TWIRLS her chain blades -- The wind that is  
formed by her weapons PICKS UP DEBRIS FROM THE GROUND --  
The Debris FLIES in Legion's direction.

The debris hits Legion in the face -- He falls back  
disoriented.

Angel Nariko POUNCES -- She slashes away at Legion -- The  
weapons don't do any real damage -- But it keeps him off  
balance.

Legion GRUNTS WITH FRUSTRATION as he tries to regain  
control of the battle -- Angel Nariko's attacks are just  
too damn fast.

Angel Nariko finally SWEEPS Legion's feet from underneath him with her blades -- As he is in mid-air -- Angel Nariko THROWS A FOREARM at his chest.

The impact sends Legion falling to the ground hard...

Angel Nariko runs over to him -- Ready to deliver the final blow -- She JUMPS...

BAM!

Before she can hit him -- Legion UPPERCUTS HER -- The powerful punch sends Nariko FLYING UPWARDS...

EXT. BOHAN'S FORTRESS - TOP - DAY

Angel Nariko finds herself all the way at the top of the fortress, and outdoors.

Legion LEAPS UP THROUGH THE HOLE and lands on his feet next to Angel Nariko.

LEGION

That is the problem with you humans.  
You always look to the past to  
make your present more meaningful.

Legion kicks Angel Nariko in the stomach.

LEGION

The fact that the prophecy  
miraculously fell into your  
bloodline makes you think that  
you are a special.

Legion picks up Angel Nariko -- He wraps his hand around her throat -- Cocks his arm for a blow...

BAM! Angel Nariko is hit square in the face -- She flies across the roof of the Fortress.

LEGION

I knew I shouldn't have waited  
for you to reach adulthood to  
put my quest for the sword in  
effect. I felt I owed you a  
fair shot at defending the  
sword before I took it.

Legion reaches down and picks up Angel Nariko -- She is  
fighting to hold on to her consciousness.

LEGION

But with Bohan's inefficient  
approach at retrieving the sword,  
I have had to wait and wait and  
wait.

Legion lifts Angel Nariko's chin with his finger.

LEGION

I should have killed you the  
minute you came into this world.

Angel Nariko's eyes slowly roll to focus onto Legion's.  
Legion moves his hands to the sides of Angel Nariko's head.

He starts to squeeze slightly...

LEGION

Any last wishes before I crush  
your skull?

Angel Nariko's hands slowly start to GRIP HER BLADES  
tighter...

ANGEL NARIKO

Yes...

Angel Nariko JUMPS STRAIGHT UP -- BACKFLIPS in the air --  
KICKS Legion in the chin -- Sends him staggering back.

Nariko lands on her feet.

ANGEL NARIKO

Wait for me in hell.

Legion SCREAMS with disgust -- He sprints towards Angel Nariko.

Angel Nariko dodges -- Ducks -- Jumps -- Evades all of Legion's attacks.

Legion lunges one last time...

NARIKO SWINGS HER BLADES UPWARDS -- Legion is hit -- He is sent straight up into the air...

In the air, Angel Nariko slices and dices at Legion with no remorse -- Legion winces in pain as each blow penetrates his body.

Angel Nariko WRAPS HER CHAINS around Legion's ankles -- She THROWS him back down towards the ground.

Legion falls towards the roof of the Fortress -- Nariko falls after him -- She RECONNECTS THE HEAVENLY SWORD -- She STABS downward into Legion's chest.

LEGION

This isn't over, Nariko.

ANGEL NARIKO

For you it is.

Legion hits the ground...

WHOOSH!

His body EXPLODES INTO A BALL OF FIRE.

Angel Nariko is thrown back by the force. She lands several feet away on her back.

Legion slowly starts to melt. He screams in pain as his body disintegrates.

Angel Nariko watches on with intense eyes as Legion's body is finally turned to dust.

She lets out a breath of relief as she lies on the ground for a moment, trying to decipher what has just happened.

Angel Nariko climbs to her feet and slowly walks to the edge of the Fortress roof...

DOWN BELOW

What's left of Bohan's Army is starting back up at her. Angel Nariko looks at them with an emotionless look.

After a beat, the soldiers BOW TO ONE KNEE. They drop their heads with respect to Nariko.

Suddenly, she starts to CONVULSE. She SHAKES and TWITCHES uncontrollably...

Her MOUTH OPENS. A CLOUD OF WHITE LIGHT emerges from her mouth...

THE ANGEL

returns to form in front of a now normal Nariko. Nariko falls to her knees as she struggles to regain herself from the lack of power that has now overtaken her.

The Angel looks at Nariko with a proud look.

ANGEL

Thank you, Nariko. You have protected your race and the gods from certain doom.

Nariko stares at The Angel with confusion on her face.

NARIKO

Why? Why did I have to go through all of this?

ANGEL

You are the chosen one, Nariko. It was your destiny to lead your people to the Promised Land.

The Angel waves her arm around in a semi circle.

ANGEL

This is your Promised Land. A  
land of peace and tranquility.

NARIKO

Peace!? Tranquility?! Hundreds  
of my people are dead because of  
this prophecy!

The Angel doesn't respond.

Nariko looks down. She bites her lip.

NARIKO

Is this where I die now?

The Angel still remains silent. Nariko explodes with  
anger.

NARIKO

Is it?!

Nariko's eyes fill with water.

The Angel walks to Nariko and grabs her shoulders.

ANGEL

You have performed a formidable  
transgression, Nariko.  
You have wielded a sword that  
was forbidden to be used by  
humans by the gods themselves.

Nariko bows her head with defeat.

ANGEL

But taking your life would be  
an even more heinous transgression.

Nariko looks up with surprise.

ANGEL

You have mastered The Heavenly  
Sword, Nariko. Not even a god  
has been able to do that.

The Angel walks away from Nariko. She retrieves The Heavenly Sword, which is now lying on the ground several yards away.

ANGEL

The Heavenly Sword must never fall into the wrong hands. Legion has been defeated, but many more will attempt to take the Sword and use it for reasons not meant to be.

The Angel turns back to Nariko.

ANGEL

Your services are still needed, Nariko. Will you protect the sword from all wrongdoers in the name of the gods and the human race?

NARIKO

Do I have a choice?

ANGEL

You are a human, Nariko. The gods have bestowed your race with free will.

The Angel approaches Nariko and holds out the Heavenly Sword.

ANGEL

There is always a choice.

Nariko just stares at the Heavenly Sword. Her mind appears to be elsewhere...

ANGEL

Is that all you wish for?

Nariko looks back at the Angel with a quizzical look.

NARIKO

What?

Suddenly ANOTHER CLOUD OF LIGHT forms next to the Angel.  
It turns into the form of another being. A child...

Nariko's mouth opens with disbelief.

NARIKO

Kai?

Kai's spirit looks at Nariko with a smile.

KAI

Hi, Nariko!

NARIKO

Kai!

Kai's face morphs into a serious look.

KAI

I can't come back, Nariko.

Tears fall down Nariko's face.

NARIKO

Why not? You didn't deserve  
to die.

KAI

Because, if I come back, then  
everyone that has died deserves to  
come back.

Nariko closes her eyes and nods painfully.

KAI

But don't worry, Nariko. Kwon  
is with me. I'll be alright.

Kai holds out her hand. Nariko reaches out and touches  
it...

KAI

Goodbye, Nariko. Thank you for  
everything. I mean that.

Kai's image slowly fades away.

Nariko swallows hard, trying hard to make the tears disappear. The Angel returns her gaze to Nariko, the Sword still out for Nariko to grab.

Nariko grabs the sword. She sheathes it behind her.

The Angel smiles.

ANGEL

You have made a wise choice,  
Nariko. The gods are indebted  
to you.

NARIKO

Just make sure hell is ready  
for more souls. There's a lot  
more coming their way.

The Angel slowly starts to dissolve.

ANGEL

Good luck, Nariko. I will always  
be with you. And remember.  
Protect the sword with your life.

The Angel dissolves into a ball of light. It floats towards the Heavenly Sword and BECOMES ONE WITH IT.

Nariko stands motionless at the top of the Fortress. Something catches her attention...She turns to find...

SHEN watching her.

NARIKO

Father!

Nariko runs to Shen. They embrace in a long and warm hug.

SHEN

Oh, I thought I'd lost you,  
Nariko!

Nariko buries her face into her father's shoulder. She's like a little kid crying to her father after a bad day.

SHEN

I always knew you were the chosen one, Nariko.

Nariko lifts her head.

NARIKO

No, Father. I chose. I chose.

Shen smiles.

SHEN

That you did, Nariko. That you did.

Shen hugs his daughter one more time.

NARIKO'S VOICE

I have been given a great burden. I traveled a trail of tears only to succeed and be given another to embark on. I have escaped my own death in exchange for the deaths of others that attempt to steal The Heavenly Sword.

INT. BOHAN'S DUNGEON

Nariko and Shen walk through the dungeon freeing their clan members.

The villagers, including Kai's Mother, all look at Nariko in a new light. They look at her as a hero now. No more insults, no more hits across the face, just utter respect.

NARIKO'S VOICE

I am always reminded that I am the chosen one and that I have been deemed worthy by the gods to protect their most valuable possession. But I say fie to that. I have chosen my own path and no one can tell me different.

EXT. ROSHAN VILLAGE PLAINS - DAY

Nariko slowly exits the village walls towards the vast open plains outside her village.

NARIKO'S VOICE

A chosen one is only as good as  
the choices he makes. I choose  
to protect my people. I choose  
to defend The Heavenly Sword.

Nariko stops.

ACROSS THE PLAINS

Is another grand army. This army seems even bigger than  
Bohan's...

In the center of the wave of soldiers is ANOTHER TYRANT  
RULER. He smiles with glee as he points towards Nariko's  
village.

CLOSE ON NARIKO'S EYES

NARIKO'S VOICE

And if you choose to get in my  
way...

BACK TO NARIKO

Nariko pulls out the Heavenly Sword. She holds it in  
attack stance, ready to take on the entire army rushing  
towards her village...

NARIKO'S VOICE

...You choose death.

THE END