

# IMMORTAL

a Nonfictional-Fiction  
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Note from storyteller:

So you would have a story. ¿But what story would you have? ¿One of joy or one of woe? ¿A story of great strength or weakness? ¿One of love or one of hatred?

I shall tell you a story that was sung ages before it was written. I shall tell you a story of life.

# CHAPTER 1:

# The Goddess

## Verse 1:

The Goddess washed away her immortality in the pool of the waterfall. She did this because she loved a Mortal. When the Gods saw her do this they told her, “Drink from the pool and your immortality will be restored.”

She refused. When the Gods questioned her decision she told them, “My love is immortal.”

## Verse 2:

The Goddess went to the Mortal and they were happy. He took her back to the village of his people and they were accepted. She had healing abilities. Her touch had the power to heal.

She healed the people whenever they had need. Eventually the people grew curious about her abilities. The Goddess told them her story, but she would not tell them where to find the pool of immortality. She told the people, "It will bring you no joy."

Many of the people grew angry and they banished the Mortal and Goddess from the land.

### Verse 3:

The Goddess took the Mortal back across the great desert to the forest in its center. In the center of the forest was the pool of immortality.

Later the Goddess gave birth to a son. The birth of the child left his mother wounded. She knew she did not have long to live.

The Mortal knew the only thing that could save her was water from the pool of immortality. He went with great haste to the pool with the hope of bringing water to his love.

But the Gods had summoned a great serpent to guard the pool so that no mortal could take what the Goddess had refused.

When the Mortal came to the pool he fought the great serpent with all of his strength, but he could not get to the water. The battle with the serpent left him injured.

He returned to his Goddess. She lay on a cot nursing the baby. The Mortal began to sob. When the Goddess saw his tears she asked, “My love, why do you cry?”

He said, “My love is dying.”

She held his head to her chest and he heard her heart beat. She told him, “Your love will never die.”

The Mortal opened his eyes when her heart stopped beating.

### Final Verse:

The Mortal took the child into the desert because he didn't have any way to feed him. A journey to his old village across the perilous ocean of sand was the only hope for his son.

The Father and the infant traveled into the darkness of the desert with the stars to guide them and the moon to light their path. The night was cold and the Mortals' broken heart grew weaker. The only thing that kept his heart beating was the will to keep his child safe. He gathered rocks and constructed a dome shaped shelter around the infant. The rocks were still warm from the sun and would keep the baby warm through the cold desert night.

The Father lay his head next to the infant and said, “May love be with you and protect you always my child.”

The Mortal died from his injuries and a broken heart that night. The moon was full as it shone down on the infant.

# CHAPTER 2:

## The Son

### Verse 1:

When daylight came so did the scorching heat. The baby cried and the strength of his mother and father were with him.

Eventually a community of travelers came across the body of the Mortal. A wise man named Papa found the infant in the rock shelter and took him to a woman who had recently given birth. The woman's name was Mama. Mama nursed him back to health. They knew the child was the son of a great

man because the father had died saving him. Because of this, the child was named “Son”.

They buried the body of the father and planted a small cactus over his grave.

## Verse 2:

The travelers wandered far and wide selling spices and knowledge to survive. In the years spent traveling with his family Son was educated in the art of music. His sisters taught him to dance to the rhythm of his heart. His brothers taught him to be fearless. His family raised him with love.

When he was old enough to choose his own path in life Son was taken to the wise woman to seek her council. The woman gave Son a peace pipe and told him to breathe in the smoke. She told him that his dream would decide his fate.

## Verse 3:

In his dream Son carried a beautiful woman into a room made of sunlight. He could not see her because the light was blinding, yet he felt he knew her. He lay her down in a bed made of starlight and as he did she whispered into his ear, “Welcome home.”

Son closed his eyes and he fell. He fell further and further into darkness until he fell into a forest. He stood up and saw the tall trees. He felt the grass under his feet. When Son turned around there was a ninja with eyes of blood

facing him. Son battled the ninja in the forest until the ninja suddenly disappeared.

Son heard the sound of flowing water. He followed the sound until he came to a river. In the river was a beautiful woman wearing a cloak made of moonlight. He could not see her because the light was blinding, yet he felt he knew her. She began to sing a beautiful song. Upon hearing this, Son dropped his sword and waded into the river to meet her. As he drew closer to the woman he heard a dark song. Son heard a splash in the river behind him and he knew it was the ninja.

#### Verse 4:

Son awoke and told the wise woman his dream. She interpreted his dream.

The wise woman told Son, “The room of light is a paradise. You will meet the daughter of a God and you will know her because her aura will be as bright as the sun, moon, and stars. Your love can save you, but you will be blinded by hate. In your blindness you will seek Death, but when you face Death you will fight. For her, you will fight Death and seek life. The river is life, and it is in the river where you will find her again. But even then, Death will follow you.

If you wish to defeat Death you must face Death. You must become stronger than Death. This is your fate.”

And so it was that Son decided to become a ninja warrior.

#### Verse 5:



Son was sent to the warrior on the mountaintop. The warrior was called Sensei. Every day Son trained. Every day he bled. Sensei told him, "If you wish to inflict pain on others, you must understand what pain feels like."

In combat Son's first opponent was many times his size. When he saw this, Son began to doubt himself. Sensei told him, "Even the mighty elephant must beware the strike of the deadly cobra."

Son trained for many years. When Son had grown from a child to a young man, Sensei gave him a bow and arrow and said, "Pull the arrow back into the bow string. Feel your strength. Feel your power. Feel how easy it would be to let the arrow fly from your hand into the heart of your enemy. Feel how difficult it is to hold the arrow back. When you can hold back your arrow for one day on this mountain, your training here will be complete."

With that, Sensei left Son on the mountain alone to complete his training. Seasons passed and Son grew weary surviving on the mountain, which was now covered in snow. There was no more fruit to be eaten from the trees or bushes. Every time a deer came in sight Son would draw back his arrow in the bow, but the creatures had keen hearing and would run away.

Son knew there was only one way for him to catch his prey. He climbed into a tree as the sun rose and waited with his arrow held back in the bow. The energy he used to hold back the arrow kept him warm as the falling snow began to cover him. Son stayed in the treetop all day using the last of his strength to hold the arrow, but there was no animal to be hunted. As the sun set an elk came to the base of the tree to eat. Son took aim and let his

arrow fly. The arrow passed through the creatures' heart and into the earth beneath it. Son ate his kill and made his way down the mountain back to his family where he would be greeted as a warrior.

### Verse 6:

When Son returned to his people a messenger from another tribe asked for his help. A child from the messengers' tribe who possessed the ability to see into the future, had been kidnapped by a ninja clan. The ninja hoped to use her power for their own purposes. Sons' mission was to intercept the ninja before they reached their village, and recover the girl. No one was to be killed in the rescue and the enemy could not know who Son was, so Son was given the garments and weapons of a ninja.

Son waited in the swamplands until one night he saw a fire. He went stealthily to observe the situation. From a distant treetop he could see a small child and two ninja. He noticed that the child's hands and feet were not bound. As he looked at her she looked back at him.

Suddenly she ran in his direction and the two ninja took chase, laughing as if it were good sport. The girl came to the base of the tree that Son was hiding in. The two ninja approached slowly. As they came closer Son dropped from the tree branch, throwing two ninja spikes into the shoulders of his foes before he landed in front of the girl. The two ninja fell to the ground moments later. Son had dipped the spikes in a sleeping potion so he would not need to kill them to make an escape.

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