

SING FOR ME

Written by

Miguel Thompson

EXT. SAND DUNES - DAY

Sand dunes stretch far into the skyline. The wind blows sand westward.

NEIL (V.O.)

Am I dying? I must be dying. I feel
my sins burn in my throat. I tried
to play for them, that was my final
sin. My God, my God. Why have you
abandoned me?

NEIL (early 20s), ragged, runs towards the towering sand dunes, looking behind him like he's being chased.

He trips, and clutches his guitar.

He gasps for air, blood seeping through his shirt.

DEATH

Neil.

Neil turns around quickly, startled.

At the top of the dune - DEATH.

He wears all black with an electric guitar slung over his shoulder.

Neil stands up, protecting his guitar behind him. His arm stretched forward, protective.

Neil's hands tremble, his eyes flicker with pain.

Death stares at him.

DEATH (CONT'D)

You play?

Neil looks down at his guitar and then back at Death.

Neil hesitates for a moment.

NEIL

I can't. These songs aren't meant
to be heard.

Death studies him, then walks down the dune.

DEATH

I've heard the begging before. I
don't have time for it. I've seen
the ending too many times.

He stands just above him, like a judge.

Neil raises his guitar.

His wound stings and he backs down.

DEATH (CONT'D)
C'mon, Neil.

Death points to the guitar.

DEATH (CONT'D)
Your guitar - let it sing.

Neil looks at Death in shock, then looks back down at his guitar.

Neil takes a deep breath.

NEIL
It's heresy.

DEATH
Not here.

The wind whistles.

He closes his eyes.

Neil strums on his guitar.

He begins to sing.

NEIL
(singing)
Who will take my eyes?
Who will take my mouth?
Beasts with no control.
Forced to eat me whole.

The sand vibrates to the music.

Neil winces with pain. He clutches his side.

Neil gets up and continues to play.

Death looks on intently.

NEIL (CONT'D)
(singing)
Tried to stay away.
Forced to live with hate.
Who will take my eyes?
Who will take my mouth?

Death lets out a jagged laugh.

DEATH
I haven't heard music in a long,
long time.

He looks up at the sky.

DEATH (CONT'D)
Thought my ears would never hear it
again.

NEIL
How did you know my name?

DEATH
Hm? Oh! I know a lot about you,
Neil. I've been listening.

NEIL
Am I dead?

DEATH
Not yet. You still have one more
song to play.

He lays down on the sand.

Neil looks at Death, then slowly sits next to him.

The pair look out together.

DEATH (CONT'D)
You should've seen it, what it all
used to be. It was roaring. Let me
show you.

Death plunges his hand into the earth and pulls out a guitar
cable.

Neil watches in awe.

He brushes off some dirt and plugs it in.

The guitar SCREAMS to life with raw distortion.

Death plays a soulful guitar solo that pierces through the
heavens.

Death exhales a sigh of relief, while closing his eyes.

Neil fumbles for a little bit.

Then, he begins to play the same chords as before.

Death plays a solo full of unresolved notes, like a regret.
The song ends unresolved, the final note lingers in the air.

NEIL

I want to keep playing.

The wind blows across the dunes, silence.

Neil stands up guitar in hand and watches the sun.

The sun sets on Neil's face, he smiles.

Silence.