

THE FEUD

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2019

1. EXT. - FOREST - DAY

A 10-12 year old BOY makes his way through the forest. He has long curly fair hair, blue eyes and in general looks almost angelic. He is stopped by a beautiful sight of a shrub in full bloom.

Bees hum over the flowers and the boy looks at the blossom in full delight. He inhales the aroma, smiles, then picks the most beautiful flower and carries on wading through the trees and bushes.

2. EXT. - MEADOW - DAY

The sun is high in the sky, there is no cloud, no wind, it is a very warm and tranquil day.

The boy appears from the wood and faces a large glade. He has a twig in his hand, he walks across the glade and bashes the furry heads of dandelions covering the meadow. He suddenly stops, great bewilderment reflecting on his face.

The boy sees a dazzling pretty GIRL of about his age, with straight dark hair, sleeping peacefully under a hay stack. For a few seconds he scrutinises her face and body, his eyes still being full of astonishment. Then he gets down on his knees in front of her and slightly touches her hair.

The girl wakes up and jumps on her feet in horror. For a couple of seconds she stares at him, her eyes wide open, then screams and runs away. He runs after her trying to catch her but she turns out to be faster: she hides behind the trees on the side of the glade opposite that where the boy first appeared. The boy suddenly stops at the edge of the wood as if he cannot cross some invisible line. He still has a flower, now a bit withered, in his hand.

3. EXT. - MEADOW - MORNING

The girl slowly walks in the grass humming a song under the breath and picking flowers.

The boy silently follows her at a distance with his eyes while hiding in grass so that he cannot be seen by her.

The girl sits on the grass and makes a wreath of flowers still humming and not hearing the boy coming up close to her. The boy stealthily approaches her from behind and touches her shoulder. She gets startled and sees the boy who stretches out a flower to her. After hesitating for a moment she accepts the flower and weaves it into her wreath without looking at the boy.

The girl puts the wreath on her head. The boy looks at her in admiration.

The girl now turns her head and looks directly at the boy, boldly and with great curiosity, and then as if against her will slowly raises her hand and strokes the boy's hair. Then she pulls her hand off, smiles and runs away. He smiles too and chases her. They laugh and run in the meadow.

4. EXT. - MEADOW - DAY

The boy and the girl lie on the grass, laugh, talk and look in the sky pointing at the clouds.

5. EXT. - BANK OF A RIVER/SHORE OF A LAKE - EVENING

The boy and the girl are on the bank of a river (or a shore of a lake). The boy throws stones on the water flat, so they bounce off the surface several times. The girl tries to do the same (or it can be the girl who teaches the boy to throw stones). At some point the boy unexpectedly for himself and for the girl kisses her on her cheek. They look, in awe, into each other's eyes for some time.

6. EXT. - FOREST - NIGHT

A fair-haired woman, the MOTHER OF THE BOY, with a burning torch makes her way through the forest looking for her son. Great concern and suppressed fear are written on her face.

7. EXT. - VILLAGE - NIGHT

A dark-haired woman, the MOTHER OF THE GIRL, cries and rushes around calling her daughter. Other WOMEN FROM THE GIRL'S TRIBE, all dark-haired, try to calm her down.

The girl appears from the forest. The mother of the girl dashes towards her, and when reaching her slaps the girl on her face. She shouts and cries, the girl cries too. The mother then grabs the daughter and brings her close to her chest. They hug each other and both cry silently. Other women from the girl's tribe look at them, each with their own attitude.

8. EXT. - MEADOW - NIGHT

The mother of the boy appears at the edge of the forest and other WOMEN FROM THE BOY'S TRIBE, all fair-haired, step out from behind the trees too.

The mother of the boy sees the boy who runs towards her across the glade. She gives her torch to one of the women, spreads

her arms, smiles painfully and, relieved, silently embraces the boy.

9. EXT. - THE BOY'S VILLAGE - NIGHT

The women from the boy's tribe sit around the fire, some food being cooked in a pot. One of the senior women, WOMAN 1, is absorbed in her thoughts. She raises her eyes and looks at the boy. Their eyes meet.

10. EXT. - BATTLEFIELD - NIGHT

Flashback of woman 1. Two groups of men, fair-haired and dark-haired, fight with swords. Fire rages in the background, blood running under their feet. Men on both sides fall, then come new men, who also fall dead.

11. EXT. - BATTLEFIELD - EARLY MORNING

The battlefield is full of dead bodies.

Women from both tribes, on two sides of the field walk slowly and find their dead. They cry, they go mad.

The mother of the boy (10 years younger) walks towards her dead husband on unbending legs, her face is as white as chalk. She doesn't cry, as if she turned into stone. She awkwardly falls on her knees, then falls like a sack of potatoes next to her dead spouse.

The mother of the girl (10 years younger and pregnant) is shattered and sobs relentlessly over the body of her husband.

12. EXT. - THE GIRL'S VILLAGE - NIGHT

The dark-haired women from the girl's tribe sit around the fire eating, one of the women serving the others some stew from the pot on the fire. The girl's mother doesn't eat. She has a tough expression and is absorbed in her heavy thoughts.

13. INT. - GIRL'S VILLAGE HUT - MORNING

The girl's mother gets ready: she puts her protective outfit on and picks her weapon: she fixes a bow on her shoulder and arrows in a leather bag on her belt, and she tucks a knife in her tall boot. She is collected and resolute. She looks around at her daughter who pretends to be asleep and leaves.

14. INT. - BOY'S VILLAGE HUT - MORNING

The boy gets out of his bed and packs his sack with bread and milk found in.

15.EXT. - THE BOY'S VILLAGE - MORNING

The boy heads towards the forest. At the forest edge he looks around, gives a long farewell look to the village seen in the distance and dives into the forest disappearing behind the trees.

16. EXT. - MEADOW - MORNING

The girl's mother stands at the edge of the forest, behind the trees and aims at something with an arrow.

The boy's mother stands at the edge of the forest, hidden by the trees and aims at something with her arrow.

Beat.

The boy's mother sees something that makes her put her bow down.

The girl's mother sees something that makes her put her bow down.

The boy and the girl run towards each other across the glade laughing. They stop, hug, then hold hands and run away.

The girl's mother watches them leaving, somewhat confused.

The boy's mother watches them leaving, great concern being written on her face.

The boy's mother suddenly senses something and turns abruptly.

The girl's mother aims her weapon straight at the viewer (at the boy's mother).

The boy's mother aims her weapon straight at the viewer (at the girl's mother).

The two women on the opposite sides of the meadow hold each other at weapon point.

THE END