Dawn by Pedro Chaves

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A splendid day is taking place. The sun is shining, the park full with people bathing in the sun or walking.

A MAN is sitting against a tree. He is playing with some grass. Twisting it between his fingers.

RAZIEL is all dressed in black, looking early twenties but in a way impossible to tell. A KATANA rests next to him.

Footsteps are heard.

RAZIEL keeps looking at the grass between his fingers.

RAZIEL

What do you want Zechiel?

ZECHIEL approaches. Resting next to the tree.

We have now a better look of him.

ZECHIEL looks in a kind like RAZIEL, but more flashier, since he is dressed in a long Chinese robe and carries a katana on his back.

ZECHIEL

Just passing by.

RAZIEL

Passing by? (beat)

Please, time may have passed since our last encounter, but don't take me for a foul, what really gives me

the honors of your visit?

ZECHIEL softly smiles.

ZECHIEL

Can't foul you, can I?

RAZIEL

Not anymore, at least not in this millennium.

ZECHIEL

We were wondering about your whereabouts.

RAZIEL

What about them Raziel? It's not like you can't track me down..

ZECHIEL

Why didn't you came back?

Beat.

RAZIEL

Why would I?

ZECHIEL

Because it's the place where you belong.

RAZIEL smiles. He notices a group of people playing soccer.

RAZIEL

Look at them, just look at them playing, so innocent, enjoying the simple pleasures of life.. But not for long, you see, all of those men have a story, and even if they look playful at this instance, but from the moment this game will end, they will..

A player is dribbling all alone. RAZIEL drops the grass from his hand.

RAZIEL (CONT'D)

.. just..

He snaps his fingers.

RAZIEL (CONT'D)

..fall..

CUT TO:

The PLAYER suddenly splashes on the ground, everybody runs to him. He looks amazed.

PLAYERS

What happened?

PLAYER

I don't know..

BACK TO:

RAZIEL

..deeper into the abyss of mankind..

ZECHIEL looks smiling.

ZECHIEL

You pulled that out in 2002 World Cup didn't you?

RAZIEL

What can I say, didn't want France to win.

ZECHIEL

You still didn't forgave them for "Louis Quatorze" did you?

RAZIEL

They blessed a king that proclaimed himself God, I don't get it, how can a God die?

ZECHIEL

Why didn't you stopped them?

RAZIEL

Divine will, you know how it goes..

ZECHIEL

They won the World Cup in 98 though..

RAZIEL stand up.

RAZIEL

I was on holidays...

(beat)

Let's walk..

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

RAZIEL and ZECHIEL are walking, weird enough nobody seems to notice them.

RAZIEL

So I was asked to come back..

ZECHIEL

So it seems..

ZECHIEL looks around the park, he notices some works are taking place.

RAZIEL

I don't think I'll come..

ZECHIEL

I was expecting such answer..

Doesn't really surprise me though.

But tell me, why do you prefer to stay here? It's not like you fit, and look at this setting, can't be for the looks now can it.

RAZIEL

Still annoying I see. I know, I could have gone to Honolulu, enjoy the sun, but thing is: I like this place, those trees an hundred years old, trees that covered those people grand-parents. That tree I was resting against, was here since the dawn of this city.

ZECHIEL

I noticed those works over there..

RAZIEL

Mankind at his best: those works over there, it's for the construction of a parking lot. Those humans are tearing down a entire park, just for a parking lot, ironic isn't it,..

ZECHIEL

A tree was your reason?

RAZIEL

Did you ever wondered why he gave them free will? All those rights?

ZECHIEL

No, and that's not our job description if I may add.

RAZIEL

All those years I've been wondering about their evolution and purpose. At one point I even believed they changed, isn't this supposed to be the summon of mankind! The time of their biggest achievements?

ZECHIEL

Your point being?

RAZIEL

I'll show you..

EXT. CITY - DAY

RAZIEL and ZECHIEL are walking side by side in the crowed streets of the city. People still don't seem to notice them.

ZECHIEL

You were troubled?

RAZIEL

Yes.

ZECHIEL

That's a pretty long time to be troubled then..

RAZIEL

Foul, I didn't had the same ones for all these centuries, every time I could find a answer, something else just popped up..

ZECHIEL

Like what?

RAZIEL looks around and notices a young man, walking in the direction of a group of Arabs.

RAZIEL

Couldn't possibly be at a better time!
Look!

They both stay put, watching the scene.

The young man tries to walk further but one of the Arab kids bump into him on purpose, making the young man drop his books.

They start pushing him. People look at the scene but ignore what is taking place!

RAZIEL (CONT'D)

See? This is one of my points, a fellow man is in need and still.. No one comes to his help!

RAZIEL(CONT'D)

Those guys could even stab him three times, rape his corpse and still no one would react! See, this society of today, what we so call 'civilization' just got even worse! They only care about their personal lives without even noticing the human being next to them! You know, in the 15th century if something like that would happen the whole city would come with forklifts and torches.. Too bad this civilization doesn't allow that anymore!

ZECHIEL

I see, so you mean people are selfish?

RAZIEL

Not only that! If for instance I would give that boy some strength and courage...

RAZIEL snaps his fingers and suddenly...

The YOUNG MAN that lies on the floor suddenly stands up, grabs one of the Arabs by his right arm and twists it, while side kicking another one in the jaw, 'JACKY CHAN' style! Two other try to go at him but he dodges all their punches, and without effort kicks their arses.

People stand looking at the scene. But they stopped this time, they look at the young man, not with a pleasant look, but with one of dislike.

Two old ladies just speak to each other really softly.

OLD LADY 1

Those kids nowadays, they don't respect strangers anymore..

OLD LADY 2

Racism Margareth, racism, it's awful I agree with you!

RAZIEL laughs.

RAZIEL

Now, isn't that hilarious!!! I love when racism gets even more raciest

ZECHIEL

But aren't you picturing the stranger community in the wrong way?

RAZIEL

Human perspective is one of a kind isn't it?

ZECHIEL

Even though...

RAZIEL

Racism has become a sword of Damoucles, you can't call a stranger racist since you would be defined 'racist', ironic isn't it.

Suddenly next to them an old lady gets her bag stolen. The THIEF runs away at high speed.

RAZIEL (CONT'D)

But it doesn't stop there, the other side of that sword is that those of the minority that work hard, even more..

RAZIEL highers his left arm, ready to snap his fingers, but..

He doesn't! A small smile is barely noticable on his face.

RAZIEL (CONT'D)

..than most of the people most of the times get an unfair treatment! Think about all those politics parties against strangers: is that fair for the ones that never did a thing wrong?

The THIEF seems to escape when a man, an Arab blocks his away and takes the bag from him. And goes give it back to the old lady with a big smile. The OLD lady thanks him heartly.

RAZIEL (CONT'D)

Why do they have to pay for something some fuckups did... You know I'm not gonna blame the strangers, I'm not even gonna blame the politicians nor the 'fuckups'.

ZECHIEL

Who are you blaming then?

RAZIEL

Those fucking hippies just blew society for everyone with those concepts! Talk about free speech.

ZECHIEL

But wouldn't that kind of speech makes you like a certain Fuhrer.

RAZIEL

Yes, if it's a abuse and considering a whole community of evil. But abusing the word 'racism' for self defence against everything that happens in this society and making it the best friend of the minorities in society, I find it quite offensive.

ZECHIEL

So you blame the hippies for that?

RAZIEL

Part of! You know that those last years fast food has been loosing millions for a new concurrent, right?

ZECHIEL

Which one?

RAZIEL

The 'veggie' restaurants...

ZECHIEL

No kidding ...

RAZIEL

I wish... They have been growing faster than Michael Jackson's career has been dropping over the last years.

ZECHIEL

There is nothing wrong with eating healthy, now is it?

RAZIEL

Oh, hell no, but it's just funny that at those places you got more 'asswhipes' by the square feet than you have hookers on Hollywood Boulevard.

ZECHIEL

So bad..

RAZIEL

And I'm talking during rush hour...

CUT TO:

INT. VEGGIE BAR - DAY

RAZIEL and ZECHIEL are inside the Veggie restaurant, a lot of students are eating there.

RAZIEL points at a MAN and GIRL deep in an huge discussion.

STEFAN (22) is the perfect prototype of the hippie, his favorite brand isn't CK but Oxfam, on his bag lying on the floor you can notice some stickers saying 'ANTI-BUSH', a Marihuana flower,..

JESSICA (21) same style.

Both are eating some veggie burgers, with carrot juice.

STEFAN

.. And it was amazing all those persons singing at the campus against the war, really.. We were really achieving something for the well being of this world.

JESSICA

So the classes got cancelled? Even if this is the last week of class?

STEFAN

Well, it's a fight for human kind hon', those are more important things than sitting in a class!

JESSICA

You're amazing Stefan, really, I wish I could be as dedicated as you for this world.

STEFAN

Oh, c'mon, of course you are, didn't you went to the 'Anti-guns' meeting last week?

JESSICA

Yeah, I did, it was amazing how we showed those cops, stoned a few one myself!

STEFAN

See?

(smiles)

I love this burger!

JESSICA

Oh, you wanna go to that concert tonight?

STEFAN

Oh, sorry hon' but I won't make it, I have so 'Qi Gon' classes and afterwards I have the meeting for the legalisation of marihuana, I think finally we are into something!

JESSICA

Waw, you are so amazing Stefan..

RAZIEL looks at ZECHIEL.

RAZIEL

And this is today's youth...

ZECHIEL

What? Can't people have some ideas of their own? You just quoted free speech a few moments ago.

RAZIEL

Yes, free speech, men's choice, men's OWN choice! But they don't make a choice for there own anymore do they! Why do those veggie restaurants have such success? Coz it's hype to be a vegetarian blaming I-don't-know which president.

They walk out of the snack bar.

RAZIEL (CONT'D)

Most of those kids don't even know why they are blaming something or even why they are fighting for a certain organization, they just do it because 'hey, it's "in" to be part of this'.. Now, I'm sorry, but isn't that lame considering our history?

ZECHIEL

How so?

RAZIEL

A thousand years ago, people fought for someone, a person they loved, a country they believed in, a fight they understood and where able to take on! Where is that pride, that knowledge, th- that way of life gone?

They are now walking out of the bar.

EXT. CITY - DAY

Both walk in the high-crowded streets. Still, no one seeming to notice them.

ZECHIEL

Still, Raziel, for a guardian you achieved to reach a interesting perception of human knowledge.

RAZIEL

Don't tell me they never let you down? Didn't they ever disappointed you? After all those years Zechiel! After all this time..

ZECHIEL

They are still children.. But I still have a question for you: if you despise them so much, why do you stay here?

RAZIEL

Because of the music.

ZECHIEL

The music?

RAZIEL

Some of them can hear music, can see things that are not there, it's funny in a crowed street you can notice those people.

(beat)

Look!

On the crowed street, a GIRL is walking, smiling and taking her time, her shoulder is moving a little. A ROCK song is heard. But only she can hear it!

A JOGGER passes next to her, he is also hearing music while running.

And crosses a street where a woman is waiting with some people to cross the street. She is shaking with her shoulders, and so are some other people.

ZECHIEL

Amazing.

RAZIEL

(smiles)

Yes! It's because those people are dreamers! They didn't gave up their heart, their search for adventure, they believe! They just believe!

ZECHIEL

In what?

RAZIEL

Innocence, in a better world! A world full of life and adventure! And love. In true, pure love! I consider them the 'Ally McBeal'-type.

ZECHIEL

The 'Ally McBeal-type'?

RAZIEL

Yes, 'Ally McBeal' was a show in the mid-nineties about a young female lawyer that had her own innocent perception of the world! Just like them!

ZECHIEL looks at those 'Ally' people.

ZECHIEL

They are your reason if I understand.

RAZIEL

Yes! With them around I'm curious how this will turn out! They are in a extreme minority but they are the ones that can accomplish things beyond dreams!

(smiles)

There is still hope for this place!

They just arrived at the park where ZECHIEL found RAZIEL.

RAZIEL (CONT'D)

Looks like we are back.

ZECHIEL

Would you come back with me?

RAZIEL

No, I thought you would have understood already, I'm not going back. I wanna see how this ends.

ZECHIEL

That's not part of our work, don't forget, even if they screw up, they are only humans, kids compared to us, our the age of this planet. But, they have to grow, they will understand by themselves. If not it will just follow the same path has it always do: self-destruction and a new start.

RAZIEL

I won't let it go that far Zechiel..

ZECHIEL

That's not for you to decide anymore Raziel! I give you a choice, or you come with me, or it all ends today!

RAZIEL

From the start this never was a courtesy visit.

ZECHIEL

No, I'm sorry but my orders are to take you with me..

ZECHIEL draws his katana.

ZECHIEL (CONT'D)

Any way possible...

RAZIEL

Why? Why now?

ZECHIEL

As you said things are changing.. And not in the good way, and when the changes occur, some people wouldn't like to have you coming between it.

RAZIEL

What do you mean?

ZECHIEL

It's not of your business Raziel. Make up your mind, come with me, or turn your back against heaven.

RAZIEL looks amazed. He looks at his tree.

RAZIEL

I won't.. I'm sorry.. But I won't come back.. Nor you, nor the entire heaven will take me away from this place!

RAZIEL draws his sword.

RAZIEL (CONT'D)

I won't let them down, like you all did! Even if I have to turn my back to heaven I won't turn my back to mankind and let them self-destruct at your people's will!

ZECHIEL

(smiles)

Foolish,.. You understand things to late.. To late to make a change..

RAZIEL

Even though.. I'm a dreamer like them, I hear the music, I'm a dreamer too! And that's why I will fight!

ZECHIEL

So be it!

Suddenly ZECHIEL runs into RAZIEL, so quick it just seemed he just instantly appeared in front of RAZIEL. He swings his katana, but RAZIEL blocks the blow, using his elbow to soften the blow.

The fight goes further, taking place around the tree, both are so fast that it's hard to follow the whole fight with a bared eye.

ZECHIEL seems to have the upper hand on the fight.

ZECHIEL (CONT'D)

You can't win against us!

RAZIEL

You never know if you never try!

They continue to parry eachothers blows, when suddenly ZECHIEL swings his katana against RAZIEL katana extremely hard, making it fly against his sword.

RAZIEL dodges the next swing, and side-low kicks Zechiel, grabbing suddenly his left arm, twisting it, and making his katana fly away too.

They both go apart. And look at eachother.

ZECHIEL

This has been gone for too long.

RAZIEL

True.

They suddenly run to each other ready to continue hand to hand.

RAZIEL jumps and kicks ZECHIEL twice while in air, but ZECHIEL blocks all.

He replies with his elbows, but they are parried by RAZIEL. The fight goes on even rougher than before. They don't seem to notice the outside world anymore.

Suddenly ZECHIEL blocks one of RAZIEL kicks. He smiles, and takes a small katana from his back, that was hidden! And swings it at RAZIEL.

RAZIEL tries to dodge it by spinning but to late it cuts him in the back. ZECHIEL kicks RAZIEL making him fly against the tree.

ZECHIEL

It all ends today...

RAZIEL falls down, leaning against the tree. ZECHIEL doesn't take a rest and goes straight for RAZIEL for the final stab, he trusts his katana...

BUT..

RAZIEL blocked it with the hilt of his katana that was stuck in the tree.

RAZIEL

You are right..

ZECHIEL looks amazed. RAZIEL suddenly swings his hilt, making his katana come out of the tree, and cuts ZECHIEL. He stands, turns and stabs ZECHIEL.

RAZIEL (CONT'D)

It all ends today...

ZECHIEL falls on his knees.

ZECHIEL

You did it... You just declared war on heaven.. For the ones you despise..

RAZIEL

. .

ZECHIEL

Was it worth it..

ZECHIEL smiles. So does RAZIEL.

RAZIEL

It was, even though some might not deserve, it is up to me and all us of to support life.

ZECHIEL

A dreamer..

(smiles)

It will come back at you.. You must know you can't change the inevitable. This world is doomed either way.

RAZIEL

I know Zechiel, I know.. But has you said, I'm just a dreamer!

RAZIEL turns his back, and starts walking away.

ZECHIEL

You're not going to finish me..

RAZIEL

(walking away)

Go home Zechiel!

ZECHIEL

(smiles)

You might regret those things one day Raziel. We will come back, even stronger.

RAZIEL turns.

RAZIEL

Might be, but I'll be here and I'll hold you back, just like now.

He smiles and walks away.

The tree stays behind, and even with his pain and scars, it stands tall and big!

FADE TO BLACK.