

Wandering Heart

By

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FADE IN:

EXT. GRASSY FIELD - DAY

A strong breeze passes over the grassy field.

Trees from the neighboring forest sway smoothly from side to side.

Samurai Warlord HATORI MATSU gazes off into the distance. He grips his Katana sword tightly while another breeze glide across his face. He is a powerful, feared & respected warrior in his mid forties.

KEIKO (O.S)

Hatori, please reconsider this
fight, my lord.

KEIKO HOIYAMA, early twenties, a beautiful woman plagued by a loving heart, stands behind him.

Hatori answers without turning around.

HATORI

Maybe it best you return home,
Keiko. When I finish up things
here you and I are going to have a
talk.

Keiko wraps her arms around Hatori.

KEIKO

My Lord ... please don't do
this. All of this is my fault. If
anyone deserves to be punished it's
me.

Hatori severs the hold between him and Keiko. He turns to face her & sheathes his sword.

HATORI

If I didn't know any better, it
sounds like you're trying to
protect him.

KEIKO

No my lord, you see ... it was ...

KYO

That's enough Keiko!

KYO NATSUKO, a handsome, skilled warrior in his mid-twenties. He stand to the rear of Keiko staring at Hatori with a battle ready demeanor.

KYO

There is no need for you to explain yourself anymore.

Hatori places his hand on his sheathed sword.

HATORI

I was beginning to think you had lost your courage. If you did it wouldn't surprise me since you apparently lost your honor.

KYO

Watch your tongue, Hatori! I saved you countless times in battle. So don't you dare speak to me about honor.

Hatori looks away in disgust.

HATORI

I raised & trained you like a son. Took you in & cared for you. But how do you repay me? You sleep with my betrothed!

EXT. Woods - Day (CONTINUOUS)

A shadowy figure hides within the forest overseeing the meeting on the grassy field.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. HATORI'S MEDITATION CHAMBER - NIGHT

Hatori sits in deep thought.

The chamber door slides open.

AZUMI (O.S.)

Sir.

HATORI

Ah, please come in Azumi.

Elite Ninja AZUMI TASAKA enters the room. She is barely out of her teens, attractive, professional and deadly.

HATORI

Aumi, tomorrow I will face Kyo. If for whatever reason I should fall, I want you to cut him down without mercy.

AZUMI

Sir.

Azumi exits the room, closing the sliding door.

INT. BATHING CHAMBER - NIGHT

Keiko enjoys a relaxing candlit bath.

The candlelight illuminates the shadow of another person in the room.

KEIKO

Do you enjoy watching me bathe? I won't be offended if you continue to watch. Please come closer.

Inching out from the shadows, Azumi appears.

KEIKO

Do you wish to join me?

Azumi stands in silence.

Keiko rises out of the water. Suds and tiny droplets drip off the back of her legs.

Azumi looks down to the floor.

KEIKO

Come.

Azumi barely moves.

Keiko steps out the bath & embrace her.

END FLASHBACK

EXT. GRASSY FIELD - DAY

KYO

It's time you & I finished this. Keiko my love, please seek a safe place.

Keiko moves out of the way.

Both Hatori & Kyo move into a battle ready stance.

HATORI

(Whisper)

Today you will die.

Both men rush in drawing their swords & attacked.

A calm breeze graced the grassy field.

Kyo slowly collapsed.

Hatori slowly sheathes his sword.

He turns & smiles at Keiko.

A sword erupts from his abdomen.

He falls to his knees, blood spilling from the wound.

HATORI
(Gaspng)
How ... could ... you?

EXT. GRASSY FIELD - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

Azumi walks over to Keiko.

The two women engage in a passionate embrace.

Taking his last breath, Hatori stares at Keiko.

A tear slowly runs down Keiko's face.

KEIKO
(Whisper)
I am so sorry, Hatori.

FADE OUT: