## Grim

written by

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## INT. HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

Two students are walking down the science hallway. One has a colorful notebook opened up and is quietly mumbling various vocabulary words to herself. This is SAM.

The other holds open a tattered black journal writing as furiously as he can with all of his papers almost falling out. This is ALEX.

ALEX

...and in reality they're just putting chemicals in the air to make us all stupid and easily manipulated.

SAM

Uh huh.

ALEX

Oh come on, are you even listening to me? I'm telling you this is going to destroy society. I thought at least you would listen.

SAM

I'm listening. I just have to study for the test, I really don't want to fail this time.

ALEX

What'll it matter? You won't have to worry about it once we're all enslaved by the government!

SAM

You don't understand! I'd rather die than take this test. I wish lightning would just hit me, right now.

A loud thunder clap causes Alex to jump and duck for cover.

ALEX

Y-You really shouldn't say things like that Sam. Didn't you hear that very convenient thunder clap? What if it comes true?

Oh come on Alex, it was just a joke!

The two friends walk into Biology together.

INT. BIO CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER

When Sam and Alex walk in they notice an unsettling figure in the back of the class. She is wearing all black and looks rather ominous. This is KIM.

ALEX

Woah. H-hey, Sam? Have you seen that girl before? I'm not crazy, right?

SAM

Mm no, I don't think so.

ALEX

Yeesh, she looks like death. OH MY GOD. Maybe it is death.

SAM

HA HA. You're very funny.

ALEX

(turning to a student
behind him)

Hey. Can you see that girl over there?

STUDENT

Uh, yeah...

ALEX

Who is that?

STUDENT

Huh? That's Kim, remember? Kim Reager?

ALEX

(to Sam)

More like Grim Reaper, am I right.

That's a little bit too on the nose.

Alex points to a page in his journal labeled "Conspiracy Rules".

ALEX

The most dangerous things are hidden in plain sight.

The two sit in their seats and fall silent as they tune into Kim's conversation with another STUDENT.

KIM

I just think being able to see the internal organs is fascinating.

SAM

Oookaay...that's a little strange.

Alex begins furiously writing in his journal again.

SAM (CONT'D)

At least wait a little bit before adding it to the conspiracy journal.

ALEX

Sam, if you're going to die I'll need to warn the others. I'm never wrong about my conspiracies.

SAM

You've been wrong about a lot of other things, though.

ALEX

Name one time when I've been wrong.

SAM

The time you thought Mr. St Martin was a vampire?

ALEX

He had vampiric tendencies and you know it.

That doesn't mean you had the right to throw garlic at him!

ALEX

In my defense-

TEACHER

Alright class, does anyone have any questions before we begin our test?

STUDENT

What would happen if I died before you handed out the test?

TEACHER

Well, that's a little--

KIM

(quietly)

Scientifically speaking, your hair and fingernails would become more exposed and appear to "grow" while your corpse decays and shrivels away, but we probably wouldn't get the chance to watch that because they would put you underground long before we could see such fascinating effects.

Sam and Alex look at each other in horror, then look around the room in disbelief trying to see if anybody else heard Kim's disturbing comment.

Alex writes some more.

SAM

(quietly to herself) What the hell, what the hell.

TEACHER

I bet you're all dying to get started.

KIM

What is life but the process of dying?

ALEX

(to Sam)

That's so freaking creepy!

SAM

Yikes. I hope we're not on her list yet.

TEACHER

Alright, seeing as there are no more relevant questions, let's begin.

The whole class grunts simultaneously.

TEACHER (CONT'D)

Complaining won't save your grades.

INT. HALLWAY - END OF CLASS

Sam and Alex walk in step together. Alex is hunched over and scheming while walking.

ALEX

Did you hear what she was saying?! You cannot tell me that she is not the grim reaper disguised as a student. She's tricky, hunting her prey...

SAM

She can't actually be the grim reaper, can she?

ALEX

She was muttering something in Latin. How could you trust that?

SAM

You're right, but she could be saying anything. Didn't you fail Latin anyway?

ALEX

That's hardly relevant.

Kim suddenly pushes by them, turning around to "glare". She walks away quickly and turns into the English wing.

Wow, you'd think even death might be a bit more polite.

ALEX

Death has no reason to conform to societal expectations!

SAM

(teasing)

I wish you would.

ALEX

We need to stop by your locker, I left some stuff in it.

SAM

You should carry more than just your journal in your bag. We're gonna be late if we don't hurry up!

ALEX

Alright, alright. We'll be quick.

INT. ENGLISH WING - CONTINUOUS

Sam & Alex arrive at Sam's locker. In the locker is a wilted rose which has a tag attached signed "Grim" in messy cursive.

SAM

Okay, grab what you-

Sam picks up the rose and Alex leans over look at the attached tag.

ALEX

GRIM? See, I was right! The Grim Reaper is after you!

Sam drops the rose and starts pacing back and forth.

SAM

Oh my god, oh my god! I didn't actually mean I wanted to die! I'm just really bad at dealing with my problems!!

ALEX

Shh shh. Calm down a bit, she can smell fear.

I-I can't die yet. There are too many dogs I haven't pet, too many Netflix shows I haven't watched. I haven't even found a date for prom, or figured out what college I'm going to; I just can't die in this god-forsaken high school!

ALEX

You kinda asked for it.

SAM

That's it. We have to do something!

ALEX

I have a plan, but we have to make sure she's not--

Alex suddenly throws himself against a locker in fear, making a cross with his fingers.

SAM

She's right behind me, isn't she?

Alex nods fearfully. Sam turns around and makes eye contact with Kim.

Sam and Alex share a look of panic Sam begins to run away.

Alex stares at Kim in fear while slowly crouching to pick up the rose and put it in a bag labeled "evidence", but Sam grabs his arm and pulls him away.

INT. BAKALE'S CLASS

Sam and Alex walk in a take their seats behind Kim. She's reading a book called "Getting Away with Murder".

SAM

(loud whisper)

HOW'D SHE GET HERE SO FAST?

ALEX

She's too powerful! She definitely teleported! And it looks like she's getting ready to attack!

Oh no no no no.

ALEX

Don't worry, we're prepared. I always knew this day would come.

Alex pulls out a lunchbox labeled "CLASSIFIED".

SAM

Just when I thought this couldn't get any weirder.

ALEX

Hey. The contents of this box could very well save the lives of millions, including yours!

Alex opens his lunchbox and whips out a water gun labeled 'holy water'.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Here we go. This baby should do the job.

Alex begins to squirt water at Kim. She nonchalantly reacts to the droplets brushing them aside.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Hell yeah.

SAM

She's still breathing

ALEX

Right, time to kick it up a notch

Alex hands Sam a thick clove of garlic.

SAM

Didn't officer Carmichael tell you no more garlic after St. Martin

ALEX

Desperate time call for desperate measures. And besides, the slammer isn't that bad. Now are you gonna nail her in the head or what?

Sam takes the clove in and winds up to yeet while Alex again starts to squirt water at Kim, more feverishly this time.

Kim begins to turn around in her seat

KIM

What the hell are you doing you incompetent piece of -

Before she can finish Sam chucks the garlic clove at her. Kim stares in silence at the her, then Sam jumps out the side of the chair and tries to sneakily roll away. Kim looks at Alex. Alex glances back at Sam, then also tries to roll away. The Teacher turns around to see what all the racket is and he sniffs the air.

TEACHER

Who dares to bring that wretched weed into my domain!

SAM

Sorry, fam.

TEACHER

We're not "fam". Ugh, now get out of this classroom. I can't stand the scent of the forbidden fruit.

ALEX

Tide pods?

TEACHER

No you damn fool, the qArLIc!

Alex and Sam run out of the classroom.

INT. HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

The hallway is mostly empty aside from a few kids standing at lockers.

ALEX

I bet Bakale's a vampire too...

Kim storms out of the room, pushes Alex out of the way, and stands in front of Sam.

KIM

Despite your childish attempts to inflict harm, I insist you meet me in the history wing after class. Vale

Kim continues down the hallway and Sam and Alex stand frozen in position until she's out of view. Sam unfreezes but Alex remains.

SAM

Well, at this point it's inescapable. I'm gonna go.

ALEX

What? Are you nuts? Do you want to die?

SAM

Do you really think we can cheat death? I don't see any way out except to just go with it.

ALEX

Wait. I've got an idea. You're charismatic right?

SAM

I-I guess...

ALEX

Good. You're gonna flirt with death.

SAM

Sorry, what?

ALEX

I have a plan! You talk to her and stall, while I ambush her with both of my little friends here.

Alex holds up the squirt guns and "blows the smoke" off of both of them.

SAM

Oookay. But you have to be completely sure of what you're doing. My life is in your hands!

ALEX

You know I got your back.

The bell rings, signifying the end of the day.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Go. I need some time to get ready.

SAM

See you on the other side.

The two nod and split up.

INT. BATHROOM

Alex runs into the bathroom with his lunchbox, mumbling to himself.

He fills up the squirt guns and practices shooting at things in the bathroom.

He pulls a bandana and ties it around his forehead, following it up with some eye black.

Finally, he pulls out a party blower, puts it in his mouth and looks at himself in the mirror.

ALEX

Time to party.

INT. OUTSIDE OF THE BATHROOM

Alex races out of the bathroom and runs towards the stairs.

INT. HISTORY WING

Sam walks down the hall nervously, candles lining it all the way down.

INTERCUT - STAIRWAYS / HISTORY HALLWAY

As Sam nears Kim at the end of the hall, it cuts to Alex running up the first flight of stairs. As he runs up the second, he stars to slow down, and as he progresses he slows to a crawl, heavily breathing through his party blower.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Got to... save... Sam.

## INT HISTORY WING

Alex then spots Kim and Sam towards the end of the hallway, seemingly having pleasant conversation.

KIM

Ego laeta sum quia mecum venis

SAM

Ego - What?

KIM

I am so happy that you're coming with me.

SAM

OH. I'm glad I'm going with you too!

Sam and Kim go in for a hug causing Alex to panic and sprint towards them while blowing the party blower frantically and holding the guns out in front of him.

ALEX

NO. SAM! DON'T EMBRACE DEATH!

SAM

Wait, Alex, she's not--

Kim and Sam separate as Alex lunges forward and squirts Kim with both guns.

KIM

What the hell? This was my favorite cloak, you moron.

SAM

Alex...she was just asking me to go to prom with her.

ALEX

She--what?

KIM

I find Sam highly intriguing and would like to take her to prom. Is there an issue?

ALEX

Sam, you're going to prom with death?

(shrugs)

She's pretty cute.

KIM

Excuse me?

SAM

It's true!

KIM

Not you. What did you say about death?

ALEX

(sheepishly)

It's just...there was so much evidence...

SAM

Yeah uh. Funny story, Alex kinda thought you were the human embodiment of death and he might've convinced me a little bit...Sorry about that.

KIM

Oh, don't worry, I get that a lot.

ALEX

Wait so the rose was from you?

KIM

Who else?

ALEX

Yeah, not to be rude but you should probably work on your signature.

KIM

Cursive has never been my forte.

ALEX

I guess I am wrong about conspiracies sometimes...

Well, at least they're interesting. (to Kim) This kid once tried to convince me that Furbies are the Devil's Spawn and were out to kill my little brother.

KIM

I'm not sure he's wrong about that one.

SAM

You too?

ALEX

At least we know that no one's dying today!

SAM

Yeah, today ended up being a pretty good day.

SAM and KIM embrace while a crowd gathers and applauds. The camera pans around at the reactions of students and faculty, ending on one grinning gentleman.

MYSTERIOUS VOICE

Awww. This is absolutely adorable. Young love. Always makes you feel so alive.

STUDENT

I know. I kind of had a feeling that...

The STUDENT stares in terrified silence as we see who is standing next to him. It is DEATH. DEATH looks down at the list of souls to harvest in his hand, and sees SAM's name at the top.

DEATH

Aw, heck. I can't ruin this.

DEATH scratches out SAM's name from the top of the list. In blood.

DEATH (CONT'D)

I can wait a few more decades. Probably won't have to wait that long, given how much that kid loves her Snoballs. Ha! DEATH slaps the terrified kid on the back after making his joke.

DEATH (CONT'D)

You know, I do hate to waste a trip up here, so I don't suppose you've seen a certain (checks list) Gabriel Bakale around?

The STUDENT points toward MR. BAKALE, who just happens to be turning a corner.

DEATH (CONT'D)

Hey, Bakale! You're not getting away this time, punk!

BAKALE (SMUGLY)

Well, well, look what the cat dragged in. Fool! You think I didn't prepare for this moment? Begone, foul wight!

BAKALE hurls a fistful of garlic at DEATH.

DEATH (EXASPERATED)

Let's be clear. I'm Death. Thanatos. The Annihilator of Men. The Destroyer of All Earthly Pleasures. I am NOT a vampire. I get so sick of everyone acting like those blood-sucking fiends are so spooky and sexy. I'm freaking Death! Wooden stakes and sunlight aren't gonna stop me from messing you up good, son! When am I going to get my own series of young-adult romantic novels?!? Also, vampires hating garlic... totally misunderstood. Fun fact -- doesn't hurt them. They literally just hate the taste of it and they're super whiney about it. Say it gives the food a soapy tang, like how a lot of people can't deal with cilantro.

BAKALE stares at DEATH for an awkward moment before making a break for it.