

## Edge Of Earth

### "Crimson II: Incantation"

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Let no man breach the gate to this most blasphemous  
of halls  
Lest bitterness and chaos be the harvest they wouldst  
reap  
He must n'er become a slave to this Child's beck and  
call  
For she must never waken from her Crimson Sleep..  
The monastery stood towering above the ruined city  
It shadowed all the new emerging settlements and  
homes  
To look down on the ruins was to sympathize and pity  
All the suffering and heartache, all the graves and  
broken bones  
For buried there a testament to the evil of a queen  
A misery that spread across a weak and stricken land  
The crimson birth that swamped the earth in dark and  
deadly dreams  
And all mankind did bow beneath the power of her  
hand

And in the monastery garden sat a woman with a book  
A manuscript that lay within her frail and trembling  
arms  
She looked around her nervously as guilt rose in her  
heart  
But the sway of curiosity had drawn her out too far

She wavered on the threshold of a dangerous decision  
For this dark tome was no for human eyes to ever read  
The pages dripped with legions of persuasive words  
and visions  
So the volume had been hidden well, but now it had  
been freed

For no apparent reason had the woman been drawn in  
Perhaps it was a twist of fate, an absence of real  
thought  
She wandered to a room that before she'd never been  
And all at once the interest of her senses had been  
caught  
For no apparent reason had the women been drawn in

Where rows of dusty books lay in an ominous display

But one ancient leather binding had the grain of human skin

And seized with curiosity she stole this book away

And now she sat alone in the concealment of the night  
She was hungry now to liberate the writings from their cage

The glimmer of a feeble moon provided her with light  
As she opened up the cover and began to read the page

Fly, soul, the body's guest,  
Upon your impish arrant  
Let none be guiled by false confession  
Truth shall be your warrant  
Fly soul for your body must die

But for those who seek eternity  
For those who yearn prosperity  
From this single act of sanity  
Will raise you far above humanity

Oh willing host who doth not know  
The full desire of this prisoner  
You walk where angels fear to go  
Thou shalt soon embrace the reckoner  
Thy halo of glory, hope's true gage  
May prove to be an evil pilgrimage

Something had happened beyond her control  
A moment of madness unfettered a soul  
That would relish a freedom denied once before  
By a desperate nation with it's back to the wall  
Within a split second of reading this text  
The spirit was free and had fled from it's nest  
It was eager to grow from this sudden reprieve  
And thus in the woman a life was conceived  
From the beginning the world was misled  
As a baby was born in a monastery bed  
The miracle happening here on this Earth  
Was perceived as a glorious new Virgin Birth

From the moment in time that baby was born  
The sun did now rise on a new Crimson dawn  
And the creature just bided it's time undiscovered  
So safe in the cradling arms of the mother

[Lead: Dan]

But for those who seek eternity

For those who yearn prosperity  
From this single act of sanity  
Will raise you far above humanity

Secure from the world, the child remained hidden  
A serpent disguised in the Garden of Eden  
And all who looked down on this newly born babe  
Were ignorant now of the path this would take  
The people were blind to the subtle control  
That was exercised daily upon every soul  
With no room to question this delicate life  
All fears would be drowned and all doubts would be stifled

But one single mind did stand out from the crowd  
Though quiet at first - with hardly a sound  
The Mother Superior harbored suspicion  
Brought to her heart by three simple vision

[The Visions:]

The first was a planet engulfed by the sea  
No dry land in sight, not a mountain or tree  
No rock jutted out from the endless horizon  
Or flowers to mark out the changing of seasons

No animals dwelt in the forests or fields  
All life was extinct; it's fate had been sealed

By the curse of a violent unstoppable flood  
Mankind had been drowned in an ocean of blood

The next revelation was vivid and cruel  
It depicted two swordsmen engrossed in a duel  
The one held a sword that was silver and pure  
The other a sword that was red to the core

They fought as the sun rose high in the sky  
Their fight would not end until one of them died  
No room did they have for an error to make  
For the future of life was the trophy at stake

But one of the warriors flouted the rules  
And with cunning and guile had the other one fooled  
As he held up his hands in a gesture of peace  
The silver opponent allowed this retreat

Then the man with the red sword attacked from behind  
Left the silver sword fighter defeated and blind  
Then carnage ensued that no man could condone  
As the bloody red blade sliced through sinew and bone

All day did the swordsman attack without halt  
Though the other lay dead from the frenzied assault  
Until by the twilight and all that remained  
Were the echoes of death and a fresh crimson stain

And so came the third of these unyielding visions  
A picture of war and ferocious divisions  
An army of saviors marching as one  
Aware that the end had already begun

They arrived in a field, which was wide and expansive  
They waited in silence both ready and pensive  
The grassland was strewn with small crimson petals  
Their fragrance was sweet with the stench of the devil

And slowly but surely they fell into sleep  
Their consciousness gone as they slumped in defeat  
And there they still lie bereft of their willpower  
Brought to their knees by the strength of a flower

The three visions, the Mother Superior bore  
A bitter forewarning of what was in store  
This infant so frail must not grow to be strong  
The world was at risk if she waited too long  
So veiled by the blackness of night she did creep  
And enter where mother and child were both asleep  
And onwards she moved to where the crib lay  
She leant over the baby and started to pray  
She prayed for forgiveness for what she would do  
She prayed that the knife in her hand would aim true  
But all of a sudden she was now paralyzed  
The baby daughter had opened her eyes

[Lead: Mike]

And into those eyes, the woman gazed  
The look in her face was both haunted and crazed  
She was smothered and swamped in confusion and sadness  
The first to be gripped by this foul crimson madness  
This brutal psychosis could not be explained  
No one single cause was suggested or blamed  
But no one could think that a child was involved  
And the mystery illness remained unresolved

So all seemed as normal for seven short years  
A veil of deception dissolved any fears  
But there was one lapse in the child's disguise  
And that could be seen in the depths of her eyes

The message could clearly be discovered there  
In the glimpse of the universe found in her stare  
Her gaze hypnotic, unbearably strong  
Suspensions were growing, it wouldn't be long  
Oh willing host who doth not know  
The full desire of this prisoner  
You walk where angels fear to go  
Thou shalt soon embrace the reckoner

Now and then a question would be raised  
Strong misgivings threatened to be voiced  
But these were judgments wiser not to say  
To doubt the child could prove to be a rash and deadly  
choice  
By now the Crimson reign had proved too much  
The monastery was shadowed under dread  
But fear decreed that hostile thoughts be crushed  
For the creature had the power to crawl inside your  
head  
The mother in her darkest moment knew  
The time had come for action to be taken

A journey must be made to hidden truths  
She must return and read again the book she had  
forsaken

This tome presented many further views  
Essential rules of power were revealed  
And thus the pages offered up one clue  
The child bore one significant Achilles Heel  
Should the Crimson Queen be blinded, then powerless  
she'll be  
Bereft of piercing vision, her victims will be free

Salvation lies in banishing this creature to the dark  
Let not your hand be hesitant or death will be your  
mark  
Lest regained sight should speed her flight away from  
burning hell  
A steady heart must seal her back within her crimson  
cell

And thou who didst release this most vindictive enemy  
Must serve to be her warder there for all eternity

One quiet night the lady traveled out beyond the  
monastery  
Her quest was one of urgency and human preservation  
She traveled with companions to reach the ruined city  
Where lay the means to save her kind, a path to their  
salvation

When there they searched for evidence of where the  
Queen once slept  
And came upon a gateway, which was tightly closed  
and barred  
A stark inscription warned them of the risk of their next  
step  
But choices were no more; they had already come too  
far

Let no man breach the gate to this most blasphemous  
of halls  
Lest bitterness and chaos be the harvest they wouldst  
reap  
He must n'er become a slave to this Child's beck and  
call  
For she must never waken from her Crimson Sleep:

[Lead: Mike]

With fresh resolve the women carried on towards their  
goal  
And found themselves a cell where crimson shade  
were scattered  
A sight so dreadful it chilled their very souls  
The cell had long been drained and all around the  
glass lay shattered

A movement in the shadows  
A flash of blazing light  
The child stood before them  
With murder in her eyes  
The women ran towards her  
To try to stem the tide  
Of purse and crimson anger  
There was nowhere left to hide  
Too slow was their reaction  
They were thrown back off their feet  
Their throats were filled with panic  
As they stared at harsh defeat  
Too weak was their protection  
They couldn't staunch the trail  
Of vitriol and vengeance  
Meted out for this betrayal  
So the mother's brave compatriots  
Consumed with damning pain  
Died writhing in the dirt  
They were bleeding and insane  
They'd looked into the child's eyes  
And crumbled in despair  
From images too hideous  
For human minds to bear

Salvation lies in banishing  
This creature to the dark  
Let not your hand be hesitant  
Or death will be your mark"  
But there was still one single hope  
No room for fear or doubt  
The mother knew there was no choice  
She had to end this now

She crawled across the bloodstained ground  
Her eyes averted from the steely glare  
But secretly she knew she'd found  
A way beyond this nightmare

[Lead: Simon/Mike]

A few more seconds spanned the path  
Between success or damnation  
Mankind would face the aftermath speed  
Of this deadly confrontation  
Got to strike for the eyes  
Leave the monster running blind  
Go to cross the line  
Got to strike for those unforgiving eyes

She veiled herself with trivial thought  
A mask of insignificance  
Her daughter failed to see beyond  
The fabric of irrelevance

For a moment they were face to face  
No sign of what was soon to be  
But still her mind refused to break  
Those thoughts must not be seen  
Got to strike for the eyes  
Leave the monster running blind  
Go to cross the line  
Got to strike for those unforgiving eyes

[Lead: Simon]

Striking hard, striking fast in desperation  
The world around is filled with shades of red  
Forced to stand in weak anticipation  
As rivulets of blood run down the Child's head  
The chamber fills with screams of violent rage  
Of petulance and impotent frustration  
Consumed with frenzied tidal waves of hate  
The princess falls to earth in dark sedation

Her blindness stunts the growth of nascent power

That grows within her like some poisonous flower  
The blade of darkness strikes her to the hilt  
And so the flower inside begins to wilt  
But time is short for action to be taken  
No chance to dwell on pity or mistakes  
No chance for dark excuses to be found  
The moment of Salvation must be now!

Cast me to the crimson flames  
Thou hast the power should I be blind  
To overthrow my wicked reign  
And throw me to the pit of time  
Cast me to the crimson flames  
Thou shalt bar the doors of hell  
Incant these words of sacred rule  
Seal me in my crimson cell

[Lead: Dan]

And thus was read the incantation  
Voices echoed round and round  
The woman smiled in weak elation  
Mesmerized inside the sounds

[Lead: Dan]

And with these chants of higher lore  
So mortal flesh began to fade  
Soon child and mother were no more  
Their earthly bodies now decayed

Cast me to the crimson flames  
Thou shalt bar the doors of hell  
Incant these words of sacred rule  
Seal me in my crimson cell

[Lead: Mike]

And still inside the chamber stands  
A single cell with crimson hue  
Resealed by spoken word of Man  
Imbued with power from spiritual Truth  
Two souls imprisoned for eternity  
Light and dark forever bound  
Two souls that never can be freed  
A pathway back will not be found  
For trapped beyond some foolish reach  
And far away from prying eyes

No channel now to lead or preach  
No chance to influence or guide



The final sacrifice she took  
Ensured the hope of the human race  
And thus she holds the sacred book  
A captive in her crimson space

Lest bitterness and chaos be the harvest they wouldst  
reap  
For she must never waken from this Crimson Sleep

[Lead: Dan]

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