

## “In The Shadow Of Death” Page Sample #2

(Continues....)

MC: Oh, man...my time is just about up, I know it.

*(MC looks around, spies PERSON #2 reading a hardback book. MC goes over to him, standing so that PERSON #2 is between him and DEATH.)*

MC: How you doing?

PERSON #2: *(Looking up from the book)* Fine. Why so nervous?

MC: I think Death is after me. What can I do?

PERSON #2: Hey, chill out! Death is a part of life. It's something to look forward to!

MC: Say what?

PERSON #2: Sure! *(He looks over at DEATH and waves. DEATH does not respond.)* Look at it as an excellent adventure. Death is our friend, freeing us from worry, pain and responsibility. My advice is to run toward it, embrace it!

MC: You gotta be kidding! No way!

PERSON #2: Yes way! Watch this!

*(PERSON #2 hands his book to MC then goes over to DEATH and puts his arm around his shoulders, buddy-buddy. He grins at MC as he acts familiar with the unmoving specter.)*

PERSON #2: Hey, lookin' good, bone-daddy! How ya been?

*(He playfully nicks DEATH's bony chin with his fist as he hangs around his neck.)*

PERSON #2: My pal over there thinks you're some kind of bogeyman. *(He looks back at MC.)* Me and my pal Death been hanging out together for years! We rock and roll! He's really \_\_\_! *(Substitute whatever catchphrases that are "current" in this dialog.)*

*(He slaps DEATH on the back a little too hard, and the grim reaper finally slowly turns his head and looks at him.)*

PERSON #2: Catch you later, dude! *(He saunters back over to MC.)* See? No sweat!

MC: *(Reluctantly)* I don't think I'm ready for that. Here's your book.

PERSON #2: Hey, you want to borrow it? It might help you out!

MC: What is it?

*(PERSON #2 hold up the book, with it's large printed jacket. The words read, "Final Exit.")*

PERSON #2: It's forwarded by Dr. Death, and it comes with a free plastic bag and easy instructions. Plus a money back guarantee!

MC: No, thanks.

PERSON #2: You can have it when I'm finished with it. I'll leave it to you in my will!

MC: *(Waving him off and rubbing his head as if in deep thought or pain.)* Don't bother!

*(PERSON #2 shrugs, then goes back to reading the book. He walks off stage, holding the book in one hand and using the other as if acting out something he is reading. He points a finger at his head and acts as if shooting a gun, pantomimes pulling a rope up from his neck, pulls a finger across his throat,*

*etc. MC shakes his head and turns around to seek the advice of another when he nearly runs into DEATH who has confronted him. MC screams in fright and backpedals, almost falling down, and starts to run in the opposite direction. He bumps into and almost knocks down PERSON #3, who grabs his shoulders to steady him.)*

PERSON #3: Hey, watch where you're going! Are you all right?

MC: What? Oh, yeah...NO! I'm not all right! Can you help me?

PERSON #3: I'll try, what's wrong?

MC: Death is hot on my heels and I can't shake him. Got any advice?

PERSON #3: As a matter of fact, I do!

MC: *(doing a double-take)* You do? Nobody else had anything worth listening to. Let me guess...ignore him, right?

PERSON #3: No...

MC: Embrace him?

PERSON #3: Nope. But you do need to stop running and face him.

MC: Then what?

PERSON #3: Well, if it were me, I would say, "Grave, where is thy victory? Death, where is thy sting?"

MC: I've heard that before...is that part of a song?

PERSON #3: It's from God's Word. And it says that Jesus Christ suffered death for each of us in our place. And then He defeated him forever!

MC: *(Doubtfully.)* Well, if He defeated Death, how come he's still around, taking people?

PERSON #3: Because as fallen men, we are already dead in our sins toward God, and death reigns in our mortal bodies. But when we choose life and repent, turning to Christ, we receive His life in us. Death holds no more terror, for someday it will be swallowed up in victory.

MC: Wow...I didn't realize that! But how can I have your assurance?

PERSON #3: Simple. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved!

MC: *(Hesitating.)* I'm not sure.... maybe I should give it a little more thought... get a second opinion. This is a big step, you know...

PERSON #3: *(Looking past him at Death on the far side of the room.)* Well, if I were you, I'd take some big steps right now... cause it looks like Death is on his final approach!

**(Begin Track #3, the "Final Approach" music. The music is quite dramatic and should be practiced with to maximize the impact.)**

*(MC swings his head around, and Death has begun moving toward him with the scythe raised high!)*

*(MC starts to run and has made it a few steps away, when suddenly Death raises a hand and **points at him** dramatically. MC finds himself nearly paralyzed, and struggles to move from his near-frozen position. He manages to move in slow motion, as if each step takes a supreme effort. Death is slowly moving closer.)*

MC: *(To PERSON #3, shouting pleadingly.)* Help me! I can hardly move a muscle! I can't escape!

*(Continues....)*