

Aether

EXT. -- PATH LEADING AWAY FROM VILLAGE. - EVENING

AETHER and STARLIGHT are running away from the village which is hidden behind a brick wall but it is a clear sign of civilisation. They run through the gates and down a path which leads into the woods. The scene is clearly set in winter as the sky is dark and murky and the ground is covered in a layer of snow and the trees are lightly dusted in snow. As STARLIGHT and AETHER run it begins to lightly snow.

As they reach the forest border, a purple fog is creeping over the walls of the village and chases after, behind them.

EXT. -- DEPTHS OF THE FOREST. - LATE EVENING

OVER HEAD - AETHER and STARLIGHT are running through the forest still, as they run across the shot the title of the film 'AETHER' reveals, we can see their footprints left in the snowy ground as they run, and then the purple fog comes into shot again. It lingers on the title 'AETHER' as AETHER and STARLIGHT run out of shot and the fog then continues its pursuit and covers the title and the screen.

CLOSE UP SIDE VIEW - STARLIGHT trips and falls whilst running and lands face first on the ground, as they begin to move to get up the purple fog catches up with them and begins to consume their body as they reach out towards AETHER.

(CUT TO) WIDE SHOT - AETHER, still running, stops at a tree and turns to see STARLIGHT being consumed by the fog behind them.

CLOSE UP on AETHER - AETHER looks at the scene of STARLIGHT behind them with shock and horror clear in their expression.

POV SHOT (AETHER) - STARLIGHT lunges, reaching out towards AETHER as they are beginning to be absorbed entirely into the purple fog which is chasing them.

CLOSE UP on AETHER - AETHER hesitates for a moment looking at the scene of starlight and turning their head to look forward into the forest to see what is ahead of them.

(CUT TO) POV SHOT - View of the forest that AETHER can see which is more trees and a small lake.

(CUT TO) CLOSE UP on AETHER - They turn their head back towards STARLIGHT after hesitating and surveying the forest ahead of them. OVER THE SHOULDER SHOT - STARLIGHT'S hand is now the only part of them which is visible within the fog and then disappears completely as AETHER fully turns around. At this moment AETHER takes action and begins to run towards STARLIGHT.

SIDE VIEW - Aether runs towards the fog and then runs straight into the fog chasing after STARLIGHT.

EXT. -- INSIDE THE FOG. - NIGHT.

(SOFT MUSIC BEGINS TO PLAY)

The snowy forest is now no longer visible and we are inside the fog itself. It is a slightly swirling mass of warm pinkish purple with flecks of other colours like yellow and teal visible within it. In the centre of the scene we can see STARLIGHT who appears to have turned into a white statue of their former self. AETHER runs across the scene until they reach STARLIGHT, where they then kneel down in front of STARLIGHT and reach out towards them.

CLOSE UP on STARLIGHT'S statue form - AETHER reaches out towards them, slightly hesitating, but then laying a gentle hand upon the side of STARLIGHT'S face. Aether leans in to embrace STARLIGHT.

(LIGHT WIND-CHIME JINGLES PLAY W THE MUSIC)

ZOOM OUT - from the close up of AETHER touching STARLIGHT'S face, it zooms out to show the whole scene of them embraced together in the fog, AETHER also having turned into a statue alongside STARLIGHT.
FADE TO WHITE.

(CUT TO) EXT. -- VILLAGE SQUARE. - AFTERNOON

(SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE) The statue of AETHER and STARLIGHT stands in the centre of a village square on a round brick plinth, their houses are visible in the background. Woodland sprites similar to AETHER and STARLIGHT mill about the village, there is a couple who look similar to AETHER and STARLIGHT at the front of the shot, facing away from the camera, looking upon the statue with their arms around each other.
FADE TO BLACK.

THE END