

# LINK - THE HERO OF THE WILD VS THE TARNISHED - THE ELDEN LORD

♪ ([Sacred Grove - LoZ: Twilight Princess](#))

We cut to a forest in the evening, surprisingly quiet and peaceful. A hooded young man is sitting down near a bonfire he lit up, resting after a tiring day of exploring the woods. He's humming peacefully to himself--how he knows the Song of Storms is anyone's guess--as he prepares an absolutely mouthwatering stew over the fire. The smell seems to attract all sorts of friendly animals like squirrels and even a Korok who had been hiding in the tree above. The young man smiles and is more than happy to share. He puts a pot lid on top of the stew just to make sure it stays warm. Things seemed peaceful...

...Until suddenly he hears a rather [ominous sound](#) that frightened away the animals around him, followed by heavy footsteps. The sword on his back gives a familiar jingle to give its master a warning that he was not alone. His face hardens as he looks behind him to see where that sound was coming from.

We cut to a figure in gray armor who we can clearly tell is the **Tarnished**. They had entered an area that they were not familiar with at all, but the guidance of Grace indicated by a golden magical line led them to it. They were not sure why, but the trail of gold did lead them towards the young man with a legendary sword on his back.

The two exchange looks, unable to tell if either of them were friend or foe. The hooded young man just stared for now, but with his hand on the hilt of his sword should they appear to be adversarial.

The Tarnished, eyes glowing gold, after exchanging looks, looked down and contemplated. They likely didn't want to fight them, but the guidance of Grace had no reason to lie. They were in the way of their goals. Taking out their Lion Greatbow, they aimed a large arrow at the hooded young man and fired...

...Only for the young man to dodge smoothly by simply tilting his head to the other side. The arrow's impact landed on a tree and seemed to shake the forest a bit, but that didn't shake the young man at all as he took off his hood down, showing his eyes for the first time to the Tarnished, revealing it to be no one other than **Link**. He draws the Master Sword from his back, it glowing a bright color ready to take down this new foe.

The battle had begun.

♪ ([Messmer the Impaler - Elden Ring Shadow of the Erdtree](#))

The Tarnished, realizing a simple arrow shot wasn't hitting their opponent, quickly decides to use their more powerful skill, Radahn's Rain, as they fire a gravity arrow into the sky and several arrows proceed to rain. Link being put on the defensive quickly dashes and avoids being in the arrow's line of fire and tries to close the gap between them. While still avoiding the rain of arrows, Link raises his Master Sword and proceeds to fire three magical sword beams from it. The Tarnished is quick to adapt, raising their shield to block the hits, albeit stumbling a bit back from the force.

Getting closer to his opponent, Link notices a huge tree and slashes the bottom, causing it to fall and tumble towards the Tarnished. While admittedly a bit surprised they'd do this tactic, the Tarnished quickly swaps to their great axe, the Bonny Butchering Knife, and unleashes a powerful strike that splits the tree in two, avoiding any damage they might have suffered from it.

However, by the time the Tarnished realizes, Link was already out of sight from their original position. The two halves of the tree glow green and start to fuse back together, with the Tarnished in the middle, but the Tarnished manages to leap away before he could get caught. Link quickly rushes to the side of the armored warrior and attacks with a jumping slash. The Tarnished quickly pulls out the Sword of Night and Flame and blocks just in time. Not letting their offense up, Link quickly tries another horizontal slash followed up by another, but the Tarnished is able to parry those hits in time with their blade. Link immediately dashes to the Tarnished's blindspot on their other side and tries striking from there. They're barely able to block in time as their blade clashes with Link.

Never have they fought such an aggressive opponent before, not even Malenia was this fierce. As the Master Sword and Sword of Night and Flame lock blades, Link and the Tarnished stares look at each, neither refusing to give up so easily. Link is able to overpower them this time though, pushing the Tarnished back. Link chases the Tarnished down with several swings, but the latter manages to roll away...literally five times in a row, abusing their invincibility frames. After they make some space, the Tarnished immediately sets up a Night and Flame stance. They proceed to attack Link with a [huge flaming sword swing](#) from the magical blade that Link is only able to barely block in time, but because of how huge the fiery area of effect was, he couldn't block all of it and Link clenches his teeth from the pain of his burnt arm.

Not letting the fairy boy a chance to recover though, the Tarnished quickly brings out a glintstone staff and proceeds to fire several fast glintstone blasts at Link. Being on the defensive now, Link is able to avoid them in time and smartly uses the trees in the woods as extra cover as he proceeds to dodge even more of them while other blasts simply are blocked by the trees. The Tarnished however doesn't give up as they notice an opening that Link is about to jump to. They proceed to charge their Sword of Night and Flame again, only to this time [fire a huge kamehameha style beam from their sword.](#)

However, Link is ready. Knowing he can't dodge in time, Link readies his Hylian Shield and just like he did to too many guardian lasers before, uses a Shield Bash to reflect the magical beam right back at the Tarnished. The Tarnished is surprised as their own attack is coming at them, but quickly are able to roll away in time.

Not wanting to let their offense stop, they charge at Link, bringing out their Moonveil Katana this time and try to do a jumping strike on their opponent with its magical properties. However, Link carefully times his own dodge against the strike and time starts slowing down for everything except Link. Realizing this was his chance, he proceeds to land several strikes with his sword on the Tarnished, now vulnerable to his Flurry Rush. Link then proceeds to charge up one more strike and with a loud "HYAH!" does his iconic spin attack, the sword slightly extending to match Link's ferocity, sending the Tarnished flying. All these rapid and powerful strikes are too much for the Tarnished to handle and their body disappears slowly. Link returns the Master Sword to his back, thinking he's slain his opponent...

...or so he thinks as he notices a presence behind him. The Tarnished revived from a nearby site of grace, knowing this was gonna be one boss fight they're going to struggle with. Link is confused for a bit on how his opponent revived, quickly turns serious as he readies another weapon of his.

This was going to be harder than either of them thought.

♪ ([With Power Awakened - Age of Calamity](#))

Link pulled out his Thunderstorm Rod to match the Tarnished getting out their Golden Order Seal. The Tarnished fires off several magical lightning spears, but Link is able to clash back with his lightning blasts from his staff. The Tarnished realized they needed to do something bigger, so they charged and jumped at Link, summoning two huge lightning bolts in their hands to prepare their signature Fortissax's Lightning Spear spell. As his opponent approaches from above, Link charges his weapon and with the help of

his long lost friend, uses Urbosa's Fury to match the lightning clash. Both lightning attacks clash and crackle and set the whole forest on fire (though a small scene shows all the animals escaping safely, including the Korok!)

This forces Link back, who was able to block the explosion with his shield, but out of the smoke came six throwable pots. Link's eyes glimmered a bit and his first reaction to those pots like so many Links before them was understood: Destroy them. Link brings out a Tri-Lizal Boomerang, throwing it in such a way that five of the six are destroyed in one fell swoop. The one remaining, Link catches, raises it above his head, and throws it at his feet.

Unfortunately for Link, this was a trap, as oil bursts out from them, covering his body completely. The Tarnished, now donning the Fire Knight armor, from out of the smoke, charges at Link with their Greatsword of Radahn and swiftly does their Lightspeed Strike technique, slashing at Link. The latter is surprised by the sudden burst in speed, still managing to react and block with his shield in time, but stumbles back. The Tarnished right in front of Link couldn't let this opportunity go to waste, as they set up the spell, Burn O Flame! Giant fire pillars are summoned around them, creating a giant fire storm.

Link tries his best to avoid them, switching to his draconic Ember Set just in case, but one stray manages to hit him and with a small "tch!", the oil on him ignites and causes an explosion in front of him, forcing the Hylian to fly back. Not letting this deter him though, he quickly analyzes the situation and notices two things. One is that the fire storm the Tarnished made seems to have created an updraft of wind, and two is that the firestorm also knocked away his stew he made earlier and the potlid went flying up. Link sighs a bit knowing his food is wasted. Link swings his boomerang like a sword, the Ember Set causing flames to fly out in the hot temperature, and Tarnished deftly blocks. Link uses the time to quickly jump towards the updraft, lifting his paraglider to fly up!

The Tarnished is confused at first, but quickly summons their horse Torrent and gallops away, exiting the forest, knowing their opponent has the high ground now and wanting to escape the fire anyway. Link, on the other hand, quickly uses Autobuild from his arm to make a Fanplane to chase down the Tarnished from the air, switching to his Glide Armor as well. Link lands on it successfully and leaves the forest area as well.

Now in the open field, The Tarnished looks back at Link from their horse and, with a staff in their spare hand, fires huge magma blasts like Gelmir's Fury and Magma Shot at Link on his fanplane to shoot him down, though not all of them can get a clean hit on

him. Any of those that do Link is able to fire back after bringing his trusty Royal Guard's Bow with several different fire, electric and bomb arrows.

The Tarnished this time readies another powerful spell, this time called Meteorite of Astel. Portals open, and meteors rain down at their opponent. Fortunately for the Tarnished, several of them hit the fanplane, heavily damaging it. Link is ready though, and prepares the potlid from before. He fuses a bomb flower to it and after hopping off his fanplane, starts shieldsurfing in the air.

As the meteors fall, he targets one that's ahead of him with Recall, and as it is reversed through time, Link rides it upwards. The bomb explodes, taking the potlid with it, and it sends Link even further into the air, leaving him unharmed, but closer to his opponent.

With time slowed down as he focuses, Link prepares a bomb arrow, and fires at the horse's legs, forcing Torrent to disappear in pain as the Tarnished falls. The Tarnished quickly recovers and gets into a battle ready pose. Link's not done though as he fuses a Puffshroom to his arrow and aims it at the Tarnished's feet. This time, a giant smoke pops off, leaving the Tarnished unable to see their target and a bit confused.

Link whips out his Lightscale Trident, a spear from his dear friend Mipha, spinning it to show off for a second before dive bombing straight into the Tarnished at blistering speeds from the air. It looks like there's dozens of spear stabs penetrating the Tarnished just by Link holding out the weapon, he's swinging it so fast, and that's before Link delivers the coup de grace. Link successfully lands and impales the Tarnished, having them scream in pain for a bit.

Link knew he landed a fatal hit, hits even, with a determined look on his face, but as Link takes the trident out, the look falters as the Tarnished actually does something insane and pulls it even deeper inside them. Link, stuck and confused himself, tries to let go, but the Tarnished quickly grabs him by the neck, refusing to let him go and prepares one of their most powerful spells.

### ["Scarlet Aeonia"](#)

Suddenly, the Tarnished floats up a bit with Link, before diving them down as a huge flower blooms into a huge Scarlet Rot explosion. The Tarnished lets their body die from their injuries as the flower blooms, with their opponent still stuck there, respawning back near a site of grace nearby. They back away from the explosion after landing and watch the flower keep blooming.

As the Scarlet Rot keeps spreading, Link could feel himself wearing down from this substance. He can feel his power fading and his eyes feeling heavier. He struggled against this mysterious rot. He could feel it trying to rot him away, slowly doing damage to him. He could feel it try to drive him insane.

He sees a vision of Zelda, the princess he promised to protect. The vision quickly turns dark and gloomy as Link can hear her haunting words.

**Zelda(?):** *“Link...you failed me. You kept me waiting for so long. Centuries...millennia...all alone... You were supposed to protect me! I...I thought I could count on you...I thought you loved me...”*

This haunting thought tries to harm Link’s mind. As the imagery of Zelda kept getting more dark and sinister, like it was one of *his* phantoms, Link closes his eyes to shut it all out.

♪ ([6:30 of Colgera’s Theme - Tears of the Kingdom](#))

But he couldn’t die here. This wasn’t something he hasn’t dealt with before. Being mindful of his thoughts, calming himself down, with a renewed resolve opening his eyes, he grabs his Master Sword from his back and does one huge spin attack with a determined “HYAH!”. This quickly gets rid of the Scarlet Rot surrounding him, also dispelling the fake vision he had and as he finishes his attack, he quickly takes out some food--a Sunny Pizza--to quickly heal from his injuries and turns his gaze to his opponent.

♪ ([Rellana Twin Moon Knight - Elden Ring Shadow of the Erdtree](#))

The Tarnished is taken aback. Link was able to resist and dispel their attack like that? They realized they were going to need help as they prepared some Spirit Ashes for help. Firstly, they equip the Maliketh’s armor set to prepare for the next round, looking very intimidating. Next, with their bell, they summon five different Spirit Ashes.

The Black Knife Tiche, the hooded assassin of the Black Knives...

Stormhawk Deenh, the war hawk who used to service Stormveil...

The loathsome and wicked Dung Eater Puppet...

The deadly Bloodhound Knight Floh...

And finally, using the power of the Mimic Tear, a near perfect copy of the Tarnished themselves.

They all immediately charge at Link, attacking in any way they can. Link puts on his Dark Set, as the evening time allows him to move faster with it. They were all fierce warriors, forcing Link on the defensive. Link manages to stay busy and keep them all back from landing any serious damage, though Tiche and the Stormhawk gave him the most trouble with their sheer agility, forcing Link to backflip and dodge. Unfortunately for Link, this was all a distraction: The Tarnished pulls out Maliketh's Black Blade, charging and firing a sword blast of Destined Death at the Hylian.

Link, distracted, only barely manages to see the blast coming and it knocks the Master Sword out of his hand, sending it away where he can't immediately grab it. While avoiding any fatal injuries, Link could feel the black flames sting and deal some twisted damage to his hand. He attempts to retrieve the sword with Magnesis, but doesn't get a chance to breathe though as Tiche charges and attacks Link, with the warhawk swooping in, knocking Link off his feet.

Link is barely able to recover in time to his knees as all five summons charge at him. Outnumbered, Link tries to think of something, but for all his wit, the reincarnated hero can't think of a way out of this...

...Until suddenly, his Zonai arm starts glowing and effigies of the five sages arrive to save our hero!

Tulin the Rito blows the warhawk back with his gusty winds.

Sidon the Zora uses his spear to push the Dung Eater away.

Riju the Gerudo strikes lightning at the Bloodhound to force them to step back.

Yunobo the Goron blocks Tiche's advances and forces her to backflip away as well.

And Mineru the Zonai spirit piloting a powerful mech blocks the Mimic Tear and knocks them back.

**Mineru:** *"You know, Link, I told you before, but you are never alone. You should trust your friends some more."*

Seeing his allies surround him and staying by his side to fight his new opponent, Link smiles before turning his gaze at the Tarnished. Link punches the ground, creating a homing whirlwind through the ground. The Tarnished tries to move away, but he doesn't expect it to follow him, and the explosive geyser of the Earthwake catches them. And while distracted, Link pulls out a weapon he could always trust: The Fierce Deity Sword, the colossal blade that slew Majora, and dons the armor to match.

The Tarnished does not let Link's new allies distract them. They pulled an oldie but a goodie as well: The Dark Moon Greatsword. The Tarnished holds their guarding moonlight to their face, and like the FromSoft protags before them, it was at their side all along...switching to Rellana's armor, the Twin Moon Knight herself, they charge in, ready to give it their all.

♪ ([Molgera - Hyrule Warriors](#))

The Sages and Spirit Ashes clash and none of them let up. Tulin tries to chase down Deenh with his arrows and flight. Sidon carefully smartly uses his water barriers and attacks to keep the Dung Eater at bay. Riju and the Bloodhound attack at fast speeds, neither giving an opening almost like a dance of sorts. Tiche overwhelms Yunobo with her speed, but the latter tanks most of her hits and fires back...literally. The Mimic Tear, holding the Envoy's Long Horn fires powerful bubbles at Mineru and her mech, but she manages to answer back with the lasers attached to her hands.

Link and the main Tarnished fight each other with their big swords. Each impact of their swings clashing seems to shake the ground, but neither let up. Link tries to do a big giant spinning slash with a charged attack, but the Tarnished is quickly able to block in time. The Tarnished tries to retaliate with a jumping sword strike, this time with TWO hands, but Link manages to side step, briefly entering slowdown and strikes the Tarnished from the side. The Tarnished is barely able to react in time, blocking the swing, but sending them back.

Tarnished knew what they had to do as they charged up their Moonlight Sword for a power blast. Link responds by quickly switching to a Windcleaver, fusing a ruby to it so it'll imbue the sword with fire. At the same time, the two warriors fire a big blast from their swords and a giant explosion happens, both fighters being lost in the smoke.

We turn to the Tarnished's point of view as they quickly recover...until they notice a huge shadow looming over them. What they see when the smoke clears is a giant 10-story tall, dangerous (if a little silly looking) mech with multiple lasers and cannons aiming at them and who's at the top of it? None other than Link piloting it of course. The

mech--which the fairy boy named Jeremy--quickly fires at the Tarnished. The Tarnished tries to block it all with the Erdtree Greatshield, but tech isn't magic as the mech blasts through it and takes another of the Tarnished's lives.

They quickly respawn at another Site of Grace to the left of Link's mech, but they knew they weren't out of the woods yet. Link quickly tries and fires at the Tarnished with the cannons, but the Tarnished quickly swaps to their Black Knife armor set for extra maneuverability and is able to navigate and dodge them all, avoiding any serious damage. They quickly disappear with the Unseen Form spell they cast, making Link lose sight of them.

Link from on top of the tall mech quickly studies the situation, trying to find his foe. Link tries to dowse for them, but he can't pin the Tarnished down, and all he can get is an incessant beeping. We see Tulin manage to take the Warhawk, finally landing an arrow. Sidon stabs through the Dung Eater with his spear, and quickly gives one of his signature thumbs up and grin. Riju is knocked back from the Bloodhound, looking like she's gonna lose the fight and poor Yunobo simply couldn't keep up with Tiche's speed and power. Mineru still clashes with the Mimic Tear evenly.

As Link looks around, he notices a presence behind him on top of the mech. The Tarnished manage to climb up and meet Link here. They activate the Priestess Heart and transform into the Dragon Communion Priestess form, letting a roar before activating one of their most powerful Incantations: Ancient Dragon Lightning Strike. As they activate the spell, a cloud storm is summoned and rain starts falling down. Several big powerful lightning bolts strike down on the mech, the amount of them hitting the mech's big hurtbox does such severe damage to it, it causes it to explode quickly...causing both the transformed Tarnished and Link to start falling in the air.

The Tarnished wastes no time trying to finish Link off in the air with another lightning spear incantation. Link quickly reacts by bringing out the Daybreaker, and the lightning-attuned shield makes Shield Bashing the lightning back at the Tarnished even easier. The Tarnished can't dodge in time, so they take the hit and Link, not letting this opportunity go to waste, brings out his Falcon Bow and fires a bomb arrow at the Tarnished, forcing them to crash to the ground first, causing the Tarnished to detransform.

The Tarnished survives and Link comes crashing down towards them to the ground, Zora Sword fused with a Silver Bokoblin Horn, the rain only making the sword stronger, but the Tarnished is ready for him this time. The Tarnished takes out their Visage Shield, waits perfectly, and parries the downwards strike, throwing Link off balance. The

Tarnished takes advantage and kicks Link square in the chest, sending him back a few meters. Link rushes in, going for more strikes with his sword, but he can't seem to break through. To make matters worse, the Tarnished's shield spits flames at Link, drying off the Zora Sword and removing the wetness boost. Link manages to block with a Mighty Zonaite Shield, fusing a Flame Emitter to it to fight fire with fire, but he can't keep it up as the shield breaks, and Link grits as he takes a nasty burn.

The Champion of Hyrule decides that a sharp weapon won't breach this shield, and switches to the signature weapon of his late friend Daruk, the Boulder Breaker. He attaches a Black Hinox Horn and swings it with all his might, the Tarnished holding up the shield to block, but the buffed Boulder Breaker crumples it like paper. The Tarnished only barely lets go of the shield in time before the blow can connect through the protective metal. But the Tarnished notices how heavy that weapon is, and how they can exploit that. They put on the Okina Mask, use a Dragon Communion, and when Link swings again, they jump on the blade and put on the Red Bear Claws. Link brings the sword up to flip the Tarnished off, but the Tarnished backflips off of the sword, throwing Cuckoo Glintstones at the hero. Link uses the giant weapon to block the arcane bolts, but Tarnished counts on it, and rushes in while the Boulder Breaker blocks Link's view, swiping the Goron sword out of his hands. Link takes out the Shield of the Mind's Eye, determined not to lose sight of his foe again, but the Tarnished keeps swiping away with the claws, over and over. It's all Link could do to block, and the slashes were wearing down the shield, all-too quickly. But the slashes were predictable. Left hand, right hand, left hand, right hand. Just as the shield is about to break, Link readies a parry...

But it was a feint. Link wide open, Tarnished uses the Red Bear Hunt to create three powerful vacuum slashes, and Link pays for it with a nasty gash right on his chest. Undeterred, Link throws the shield like a frisbee, and the unexpected rebuttal catches the Tarnished off guard. The shield strikes them right in their face, and it shatters on contact, doing critical damage. Link follows up by taking his Korok Leaf, bringing it back, and swinging it as hard as he can, creating gale-force winds, blowing the Tarnished back.

The Tarnished readies another Incantation to try and fight back...but suddenly, they aren't able to move. Link actually activated Stasis in time and froze the Tarnished in time. The Tarnished's eyes shift a bit, noticing the Master Sword right next to them...as the sword was acting as a lightning rod because of the rainy storm this whole time. Link smirks, showing that this entire fight was meant to get the Tarnished right here. Stasis stops and a giant lightning bolt quickly crashes down on the Master Sword, striking the Tarnished too, sending them flying to the sky. Link activates Revali's Gale and soars

back up, and as he readies another arrow from the sky, his old reliable Ancient Arrow, he fires it at the Tarnished, vaporizing them, killing them once again.

Link, just before he hits the ground, quickly aims another Ancient Arrow, fusing Keese Eyes and shooting from a boosted Savage Lynel Bow, one Ancient Arrow splits into five homing ones, shooting down the Dung Eater, Tiche, and the Bloodhound, getting rid of them all, with the Sages giving a look of thanks back. Link safely lands with his paraglider, and chugs a Fairy Tonic, knowing full well this wasn't the end of the Tarnished.

The Tarnished respawns, reverting back to their Raging Wolf armor, but they can feel their grace fading, as they get on their knees. The glow in their eyes slowly going away and the Guidance of Grace losing its shine. The Tarnished turns his head up, noticing Link approaching them with another Ancient Arrow. Link has a serious look at his foe, giving a "I can do this all day" vibe from him as he lets loose another arrow, fusing a Gleek Wing so the arrow flies even truer. The Tarnished braces for impact...

...until their Mimic Tear purposely gets in the way, sacrificing their life so their master can go as they get deconstructed as well from the Ancient Arrow. The Tarnished is as surprised as they are saddened that they would do that for them, but they won't let their sacrifice be in vain. Their resolve strengthens as they vow to defeat this foe, by any means necessary.

Link and the other Five Sages surround the Tarnished, ready to continue this for as long as they need to. Link switches to a familiar armor, one reminiscent of the heroes before him, the Tunic of the Wild.

♪ ([Elden Ring Main Theme \(The Final Battle\)](#))

But it's not over yet. The Tarnished tries one more thing. Their head starts transforming slowly...into a giant fireball until their previous head is no longer recognizable. Link looks around and notices fire starts appearing everywhere and consuming the land around him. It gets really hot and only one sentence could be heard.

***"May Chaos Take The World."***

Suddenly, a giant heatwave expands from the Tarnished, firing high into the sky and covering the land around them. It starts lighting everything on fire, burning everything, including Link and his allies. His Sages start disappearing one by one, forced to retreat back to Link's arm. Even Link is struggling to take it, putting up Daruk's Protection as a

forcefield, but it's all for naught as the heatwave keeps getting worse and worse, consuming him, even vaporizing any fairies he has on him.

Link gets on his knees, before almost collapsing entirely. He knows he can't just die like this, but the Lord of the Frenzied Flame's power feels too much. He closes his eyes slowly, about to lose all his health. He couldn't handle all this as he passes out and finally dies to this chaotic flame.

This is the end of the Hero of The Wild...

Suddenly a voice could be heard in Link's head.

**Mipha:** *"Link, I promised you I'd protect you, so I will. Now's your chance!"*

♪ ([The Final Fall - Tears of the Kingdom](#))

Link is revived from Mipha's Grace, the coolness of her healing waters battling the heat of the flame, and he opens his eyes quickly with a renewed resolve. He quickly uses the Ultrahand to get his Master Sword back.

This time, he raises his sword into the air and it starts glowing, letting out that it's still alive and ready to save Link. Fi's sound is heard and it starts actually consuming the flame summoned and the Frenzied Flame itself, sealing it and its malicious properties into the blade. The flame still nearly consumes Link, but he won't give up. He lets out a determined shout as the Master Sword absorbs the Frenzied Flame entirely, sealing it once again for good.

The fire around the area subsides at last, Link letting up, still alive and ready to fight still. He notices the Tarnished still "alive", but this time they're on their knees still and head hung down. Link lifts the Master Sword, swinging down, ready to finish the Tarnished off once more...

*"Please stop. It's over."*

A woman's voice stops Link from hitting the Tarnished's neck as Melina appears from behind a tree.

**Melina:** *"They can no longer fight. They've...lost their reason to keep going."*

Link turns to the Tarnished and notices a couple things. Link considers striking, but the only thing to match the hero's courage is his compassion. He looks respectfully for a second, acknowledging his opponent gave him one hell of a fight, nods his head and sheaths his sword.

Link goes to offer his worthy opponent an elixir, but the glow in the Tarnished's eyes is completely gone. The guidance of Grace could no longer be seen. The Tarnished's body slowly starts fading away, realizing they've had enough. Link looks for a fairy, but the last attack destroyed them all. With a look of sadness and regret, Link watches as they pass away peacefully and the Tarnished's body fades away completely. Melina smiles and starts disappearing as well, recovering Torrent's ring the Tarnished left behind and leaves the battlefield.

**Melina:** *"Thank you, hero. You are very kind..."*

Link turns around and notices the most beautiful sunrise he's ever seen from the clifftop.

**Mineru and Melina acting as the Narrator at the same time:** *"The fallen leaves tell a story*

*Of how a Tarnished clashed with the Hero of the Wild.*

*In our home, across the fog, the Lands Between and Kingdom of Hyrule.*

*Our seed will look back upon us, and recall.*

*The clash of two heroes."*

Link sighs and lets out one final breath as he sticks the fallen Dark Moon Greatsword into the ground, one last bit of Grace for his fallen rival. Link turns back around as he keeps watching the beautiful sunrise. Little does Link know, the sword spouts a small spiral of gold, a Site of Grace for the next Tarnished to grace this world.

***KO!***