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Jpnt 179 Graphically Speaking: Japanese Manga and Its Buds
Lynne, Miyaki
Final Project

Bleach 'Live Action' Screenplay



This is a satirical screenplay of the manga series created by Tite Kubo.

Introduction:

There haven't been many American 'live action' movie adaptations of manga. There was a brief period, where movies *Speed Racer* (2008), *Astro Boy* (2009), and *Dragonball Evolution* (2009) debuted in theatres, but they would receive negative or mixed reception. To commemorate these movies, I have drafted an intentionally horrible screenplay for my imaginary movie, *Bleach: Soul Reaper*™. Unfortunately, I was not able to create that would actually span an entire movie. A myriad of difficulties and challenges embodies the difficulties that come with creating these adaptations in the first place. Firstly, I have had a lack of experience in screenplay writing. My second struggle came with adapting the much-loved *Bleach* and trying to corrupt it for the sake of satire. Maintaining a coherent storyline is difficult when you are also trying to tamper with existing plots and storylines. Adaptations will always contradict the source material, it is inevitable, but much effort goes in deciding what should and shouldn't be changed. Successfully fulfilling the notion of a "terrible adaptation" proves more challenging than initially expected. Thirdly, I didn't know how to keep the screenplay informative without inserting footnotes to provide context and justification. The purpose of this project is to reveal common mistakes and disastrous trends within American interpretations of Japanese source materials, so I created a portion of a live-action screenplay that embodies this. When you are moving from one form of presentation (manga) to the other (film), it is inevitable that the audience will be disappointed. This applies to anime as well, however turning a manga into an anime means adding some form of dimension to the story. It adds music, actors, effects, and aspects that would be considered complementary to the flow of a manga's pictures. When one tries to do a live action adaptation, there was generally an existent anime to begin with, and this is true with *Bleach*. There has yet to be a reasonably successful American adaptation of a Japanese comic, and this screenplay will prove why it is so.

SCENE 1:EXT. "HOLLOW WORLD" - NIGHT

View of an endless white desert, not of this dimension, a shadowy fog emerges from the background and spreads across the landscape. Queue a ghostly eruption of images portraying destruction, carnage, and bizarre/demonic creatures. The creatures shown are **Hollows**, the primary antagonists of earlier chapters of the *Bleach* manga.

Narrator (V.O.):

In a time before many could remember, this world faced its greatest challenge. The hollows came from their realm bringing darkness and chaos into the world, led by their evil commander known as Grand Fisher. They brought the human race within the brink of annihilation. Cities and countries crumbled beneath them, countless lives were lost, but finally a group of brave soul reapers, magical warriors sworn to drive away the supernatural threat, drove the hollows back and sealed them back within which they came...with his plans in disarray, Grand Fisher disappeared and balance was restored to the world.¹

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTER SPACE

We see a nice radiant shot of Earth centered over North America.

¹ While Grand Fisher is technically the "villain" who is responsible for the murder of Ichigo's mother, *Bleach* usually has a broad ensemble of antagonists, but adaptations generally pick a specific character label them as the villain. The other major change to the plot is that, unlike the manga, Hollows are not corrupted human souls. Hollows were once souls that had trouble "crossing over" into the afterlife and driven to madness (or devoured and corrupted by other hollows) as a result. In this case they are given a more blatantly evil role.

Narrator (Cont):

And so for a thousand years the hollows remained contained.
Until now...

ZOOM TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD (SAN FERNANDO VALLEY)

Shot of young woman with black eyes and straight black hair, a tad thin. She is wearing black kimono with white undergarment underneath. A katana is tied to her obi sash. She is the only character of Asian descent to be featured in this adaptation. She is standing on top of a telephone which overlooks a beautiful view of the moon.

RUKIA:

I sense a great disturbance in the spirits.

Rukia jumps straight into the moonlight.

-Reveal Title Card: BLEACH: SOUL REAPER-

DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE 2:

EXT: ALLEYWAY - DAY

Shot of a young seventeen year old boy with brown eyes and orange hair, a little muscular for a child his age; this is our "hero" Ichigo Kurosaki. Shots pan over to a knocked over bottle of wilted flowers and to the smirking faces three skateboarders who look like they are in their twenties.²

Ichigo:

Hey! Why do you think those flowers were there!

² *Speed Racer* stars Emile Hirsh who is an American actor. *Dragonball: Evolution* stars Justin Chatwin who is a Canadian actor. In both cases we have Caucasian protagonists, continuing a disconcerting trend in film makers "efforts" to reach an American audience with a "relatable" antagonist. Rukia's character is initially "foreign" to the protagonist; I thought it would retain Rukia's ethnicity while tampering with the ethnicities of existing characters, such as Ichigo, a divide of circumstances between the two characters. Also worthy of note is that I am intentionally keeping Ichigo's hair orange in order to "reach out" to existing readers of the manga.

The skateboarders snicker. They whisper amongst each other and eventually turn around to face Ichigo.

Skateboarder#1:
I don't see how that's my problem.

Skateboarder#3:
Walk away you orange haired punk!

Skateboarder#2 (laughing):
Looks like this kid is the one with the problem.

Ichigo picks up the bottle, examines the wilted flowers, and then glares at the skateboarders.

Ichigo:
Show some damn respect! Their for the girl that died here
recent-

Skateboarder#1:
I'll make you show respect!

Queue cheesy opening action sequence. Skateboarder throws the first punch. Slow motion sequences and cheesy lines like "I'll make you eat dirt!" and "I'll tear you apart!" help bring forth the drama.³

-END FIGHT SEQUENCE-

Ichigo dusts himself off, shuffles through his bag to make sure all of his belongings are intact. The skateboarders shuffle away in fear. A ghostly visage of a girl around 10 years old appears next to Ichigo and looks at him.

Ichigo:
I'll make sure to bring you some fresh flowers tomorrow

Ghost:
Thank you...

³ Idea is to portray Ichigo as a "heroic" character, rather than a variant of the "anti-hero". There is a similar sequence in the *opening* of Bleach, but Ichigo is more aggressive and is the one who initiates a fight. Often complex character cannot be sufficiently elaborated in the span of a movie. One of Ichigo's struggles in earlier portions of the manga is that he doesn't know whether or not he can promise to risk his life for strangers as a Soul Reaper.

Ichigo picks up the bottle and sets it down next the grave.

Ichigo:
It's about time that you passed over. Oh man. I'm going to be late for dinner!

Ichigo takes off running.

CUT TO:

SCENE 3:

INT: ICHIGO'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Ichigo dashes towards the entrance of the house and stops to catch his breath. He shuffles around for his keys, unlocks the door, and enters inside. Ichigo's father, Isshin Kurosaki, lies in wait trying to catch Ichigo off guard in order to unleash a surprise attack upon his son.⁴

Isshin:
YOU'RE LATE!

Ichigo's father delivers a swift jump kick to Ichigo's face.

Ichigo (Frustrated):
Is that the way you greet someone who just got into a fight to help a ghost pass over!?

Isshin:
You got in another fight? What did I tell you?

Ichigo:
Did you actually listen to what I just said?

Isshin:
Not everyone can see ghosts like you can.

Ichigo:
Shut up, I didn't ask to be born like this!

⁴ I decided to retain same character names of the manga to highlight a haphazard attempt to appeal to a "modern" American audience while attempting to 'appeal' to those who appreciate the same source material, same with Ichigo's orange hair.

At the dinner table in the center, we see Ichigo's sisters. Yuzu and Karin, both 13 years old.⁵

Yuzu:
Dad! Are you two fighting again?

Karin:
Dinner is getting cold!

Yuzu (narrowing her eyes):
Ichigo...is that a ghost next to you?

Sudden appearance. A Ghost of a middle aged office worker hovers around. Ichigo, his patience, starts swiping the spirit.

Ichigo:
Jeez, when did this ghost get here? Go away!

The ghost, feeling sad and dejected, hovers away.

Isshin:
You should be happy! We can sense their presence but we can barely see anything!

Ichigo:
I'm done with this...I am going to bed.

As Ichigo climbs up the stairs, Isshin looks at his two daughters. He sighs heavily.

Yuzu:
Ichigo seems to have been having a tough time lately.

Karin:
Now that you mention it, he said he's been seeing more of them than before.

Isshin:
I'll talk go to him.

⁵ In the manga, Karin is able to see ghosts, like her older brother, whereas Yuzu is only able to see faint outlines. For the purpose of identifying Ichigo as "alone and isolated" character, Karin's role will be intentionally downplayed. She will only be able to see faint outlines just like Yuzu. Female character development consistently suffers from American adaptation.

Isshin starts to climb up the stairs.

CUT TO:

SCENE 4

INT. ICHIGO'S ROOM - NIGHT

Ichigo is sitting at his desk doing homework. There's a knock on the door. ⁶

Ichigo:
Come in...

Isshin:
You have a moment to talk.

Ichigo:
Sure...

Isshin: I'm worried about; you shouldn't be getting into all of these fights

Ichigo:
It's not like I had a choice!

Ishinn:
There is always a choice!

Ichigo:
Then what should have I done?!

Isshin:
Ichigo, you are not like the other kids, you are powerful and stronger than most.

Ichigo (angst):
You mean I'm different.

Isshin:
Ichigo you rely too heavily on your external feelings. True power comes from the inside. Your spirit is your best defense and greatest weapon. You must learn to exercise restraint rather

⁶ Intent of the scene is to create a false story of Ichigo's "isolation" from the rest of society. Seems like Americans and "isolation" go hand in hand, but that's another topic entirely. I also intended to show a masculine consolation between father and son.

than inflicting hurt upon others, even if they may deserve it.
Talk to your friends. Don't just rely on your own fists.

Ichigo:
What friends?

Issshin:
You're special Ichigo; many people would love to know the person
inside.

Ichigo:
No I am different. Everyone in school treats me like I am
nothing. I am different, I know that and they know that to.
They push me so far that I just want to beat them up. I can't
even talk to girls without stumbling over everything I say. I
just want to be normal!⁷

Issshin:
You need to have faith in who you are. I have a little present
for you. Here is this badge, it's everything who you and who
your ancestors are.

Issshin gives Ichigo a badge with a skull on it. Ichigo isn't
quite sure what to make of it.⁸

Ichigo:
What is this?

Issshin:
I'll tell you tomorrow, right now get a good night's rest.

Ichigo:
Good night Dad.

Issshin:
Good night, Son.

Ichigo:
Hey Dad...

⁷ Ichigo has a few friends in the manga and only his family members know of his ability to see ghosts.

⁸ While this item is essential to the manga, it actually is not given to Ichigo until numerous chapters later, chapters which this adaptation will not cover.

Issshin:
Yes son?

Ichigo:
Thanks...

Issshin closes the door Ichigo pauses for moment, and then prepares to go to bed.

SCENE 5

EXT. HOLLOW WORLD

This scene is meant to provide the viewer a sense of impending fear and dread. Once again a view an endless desert of white sand is provided with a dark overcast. The main villain is introduced. Grand Fisher and his ensemble of ghoulish monstrosities begin their unholy march. Ghastly portals are opened and the Hollows start to enter through them. Grand Fisher is far more humanoid looking than his other comrades.

SMASH CUT:

EXT. RANDOM SURBANBAN TOWN - MOMENTS LATER

Sequence progresses with the Hollows entering the human realm and systematically wiping out suburban American neighborhoods. The rest of the world is completely clueless of this emergent threat. Grand Fisher emerges from a portal and revels within the destruction. Like a true villain...

CUT TO:

SCENE 6

EXT. SCHOOL ENTRANCE - MORNING

Ichigo dashes through the parking lot heading towards his school building. High school kids are flooding in with their groups of friends and Ichigo walking by himself.⁹

⁹Tatsuki, Keigo, and Mizuiro are friends of Ichigo. They are all omitted from the plot! One of the main problems with manga-movie adaptations is that actors are expensive. Contrary to anime, voice actors are cheaper, thus the budget permits it. A lack of time is also another obvious influence. Its one thing to disappoint your audience by not giving their favorite character enough screen time, but it's also something to omit them entirely.

As Ichigo is running into class, he turns around a pillar and bumps into (you guessed it!) a trio of local school bullies! Ichigo's school bag spills out and a calculator falls out.

Ichigo:
Sorry

The school bully grabs the calculator and throws it towards an empty space in the parking lot. It shatters into pieces. A crowd gathers around to view the spectacle.

Ichigo:
Hey what was that for?

Bully#2:
Did you just hear something?

Ichigo:
You better pay for that!

The two bullies turn around.

Bully #1: Make me! Come on you orange haired freak, right here, show me what you got! What are you going to do? Summon some ghosts to spook me?

The bullies laugh. Ichigo gradually loses patience.

Bully#1:
What are you gonna' do about it coward?

Girl (off at a distance):
Hey come on, we got to go class!

Bully#1:
Ah damn, my squeeze is waiting. See you later freak.

The bullies strut off and Ichigo is left standing alone. He is frustrated, embarrassed, but apparently not disgusted. His eye catches a captivating image of Orihime, a popular blonde hair girl who receives top marks and is popular amongst her fellow classmates

CUT TO:

SCENE 7

INT. CLASSROOM - MORNING

A teacher, balding man with glasses and a typical appearance, slowly lectures across from the table. The contents of the lecture relate to ghost and superstition for the sake of "subtle" plot relevance.

Ichigo isn't paying attention and staring Orihime from across the room.¹⁰

Teacher:

A ghost is the soul or spirit of a dead person or animal that can appear, in visible form or other manifestation, to the living. One example of ghosts is within the famous literary adaptations of Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*, in which Ebenezer Scroo---

Ichigo continues to stare at Orihime from across the classroom. (Queue cheesy music), looks at her for an uncomfortably long time. Orihime notices him and smiles back at Ichigo. Teacher takes notice of Ichigo being distracted.

Teacher:

Ichigo? Ichigo?

Ichigo is still not paying attention and the teacher smacks the table to get his attention.

Ichigo:

Yeah...what?

Teacher:

What are some examples of ghosts in literature that we have read for this class?

Ichigo:

Oh yeah...yes sir...well I know that these ghosts have a severed chain on their chest and that they continue reside in the world until they are able to pass on-

Teacher:

¹⁰ Romantic relationships in American adaptations often feel forced because they develop over a short period of time as opposed to a number of chapters. Unlike Japanese adaptations like *Death Note* (2006) or *20th Century Boys*, sometimes multiple movies are created and remain generally faithful to the manga's content. The sexism that protrudes from this screenplay is completely intentional, but a key issue in American film in general.

Ichigo...that is not relevant to anything we have read in class.

Ichigo:
Right...of course

Kids laugh at Ichigo knowing that he wasn't paying attention.
Teacher gives disapproving look.

CUT TO:

SCENE 8

INT. SCHOOL LOCKERS - AFTERNOON

Ichigo and Orihime are both conveniently late for their next class. Both acquire their school materials and start walking towards the same direction. A ghost suddenly appears in front of Orihime, and she drops her bags in initial shock. Ichigo witnesses this, runs to Orihime, and then tries to shoo the ghost away. As Ichigo helps Orihime pick up her stuff, awkward dialogue ensues.

Ichigo:
Are you ok? That...was surprising.

Orihime:
You saw another ghost right?

Ichigo:
Oh nothing! No of course not, I mean it's not like ghosts are the only thing I think about...

Orihime:
But you *did* see it.

Ichigo:
Yeah

Orihime:
I have gotten used to it; it just caught me by surprise, that's all.

Ichigo:
Wait you can see ghosts?!

Orihime:
Just because part of my name means 'princess' doesn't mean make me an idiot.

Ichigo:

Right. Because there are a lot of stupider names. I am not saying that Orihime is a stupid name; I'm just saying that it's not normal! But it's good to be different...I am not saying that you're stupid or different...I am going to stop now...

Ichigo walks away in embarrassment after helping Orihime collect her books and papers.

Orihime:

Hey, if you ever want something to talk to-

Ichigo

I would love to come over...

Orihime:

Sure... call me!

CUT TO:

SCENE 9

On his way back from school, Ichigo notices an accident that occurred close to where he lived. He is coming with new flowers to deliver to the spirit in the first scene. When he revisits the grave, he doesn't see the spirit of the young girl anywhere.

CUT TO:

SCENE 10

INT. ICHIGO'S BATHROOM - SATURDAY AFTERNOON

The viewer is subjugated to seeing Ichigo practicing bad pick up lines in front the mirror in preparation for his outing with Orihime. How they established any form of connection within a short period of time despite their shared affinity of seeing ghost's is beyond the viewer. Ichigo attempts to slick back his spiky hair with some hair gel, but it pops back up. He shrugs and puts on his nicest coat.

Isshin yells at down from below.

Isshin:
Ichigo! Don't forget to be back for dinner before 7:00!

Ichigo:
I know Dad! Jeez!

Ichigo puts on his nicest jacket, runs down the stairs, and exits outside.

CUT TO:

SCENE 11

EXT. URBAN CITY SQUARE - EVENING

Ichigo and Orihime are quintessentially walking together, and they eventually find themselves near a fountain. Ideal for cheesy romance. Ichigo is a tad nervous while Orihime confident in herself. They sit down on a bench overlooking the fountain. ¹¹

Orihime:
You have never done anything like this before huh?

Ichigo:
Um, I have...No I actually haven't...

Orihime:
Your different, I like different I know this may be hard to believe, we're a lot alike.

Ichigo:
I wish I could say the same for the rest of my family

Orihime:
Tell me about your family...

Ichigo:
Well, my Dad and sisters haven't been able to see ghosts; they can barely sense their presence...

Orihime:
And your mother?

Ichigo:
My mom...

¹¹ This hurts me

FADE TO:

EXT. SIDEWALK NEAR A RIVER - FLASHBACK SEQUENCE

The flashback is in black and white. Ichigo is walking with his mother, Masaki Kurosaki, amidst an ominous fog. Ichigo sees an odd visage of a humanoid creature and he runs towards the river bed.

Ichigo:
Huh what is that?

Masaki:
Ichigo come back!

Ichigo:
Don't worry mom I just want to check something out!

Masaki:
No! Come back!

Ichigo continues running. The viewer's perspective shifts to Masaki's as she sees a clear image of Grand Fisher. She sprints after her son...

FADE TO:

Ichigo wakes up from unconsciousness with his lifeless mother on top of him. There is a little bit of blood. It was clear that Ichigo's mother tried to save him from that horrible hollow. Grand Fisher is nowhere in sight, and Ichigo screams out for help.

FADE TO:

EXT. URBAN CITY SQUARE - CONTINUOUS

Orihime:
Ichigo? Are you okay?

Ichigo:
I'm sorry, it's just that...

Orihime:
It's okay...you don't have to tell me...

Ichigo:

It's just that I feel responsible...my mother died trying to protect me from...I don't know what it was, but I put my family through a lot of trouble and I don't understand why my Dad can look at me in the eyes and not hate me for it.

Orihime:

Your family loves you, you know that.

Orihime puts her hand on Ichigo's back, Ichigo and Orihime look like they are about to kiss despite having a depressing conversation just moments earlier. Ichigo's mind *suddenly* flashes to vision of his house being destroyed by a bizarre monstrosity. Ichigo looks at his watch and realizes that he was supposed to be home.

Ichigo:

I'm sorry I have to go! I'm sorry! I really am!

Orihime:

Ichi-Ichigo?

Ichigo runs out of earshot.¹²

CUT TO:

SCENE 12

EXT. ICHIGO'S HOUSE - LATE NIGHT

When Ichigo returns, he sees a gaping giant hole leading to his kitchen and the house windows are broken. In frenzy, Ichigo rushes through the house looking for his family.

Ichigo:

Yuzu! Karin! Dad! (Repeats)

¹² The entire scene was painful to write. Not only does it mistreat Orihime's character, but I also knowingly omitted her back story. Orihime and her brother, Sora, were raised by abusive parents. Three years after Orihime's birth, Sora ran away and raised Orihime by himself. Despite being free from her parents, Orihime was also bullied because (like Ichigo) in school. Three years before the start of *Bleach*, Sora died in a car accident leaving Orihime to live by herself. Essential story details like these...can be constantly tossed to the side, because in a certain respect this story empowers Orihime's character and makes her not the stereotypical damsel that was initially established. She has been through some terrible experiences.

Ichigo steps over fallen debris and enters the kitchen room. He hears a grunt and sees his father is lying down. He looks like he's dying but there is no blood. (going for the PG rating). Ichigo runs and kneels next to him.

Ichigo:

Dad hold on I am going to get help, just stay here!

Isshin: No. No. Find your sisters there is not much time left.

Ichigo:

I'm sorry, I'm so sorry I wasn't here. What happened?

Isshin (gasping):

Grand Fisher and his minions have returned! I told Yuzu and Karin to run, but I don't know how far they have gotten. Do you have that soul reaper badge that I gave you?

Ichigo shuffles his pockets and pulls out the badge. Tears start flowing down Ichigo's cheeks.

Ichigo:

Yeah.

Isshin: It has begun. Find Urahara; tell him that Grand Fisher has returned! To banish the hollows from this world, you must train and become a soul reaper.

Ichigo:

What?

Isshin:

Our family is special Ichigo, your mother was human and I was a Soul Reaper, a warrior chosen by the Gods to slay the demonic hollows. When you see one of those creatures, bring that badge towards your chest and you will transform into a warrior able to fight them.

Ichigo:

Stop talking Dad. You need to rest.

Ishinn:

Ichigo, remember to always believe in yourself

Isshin loses grip of Ichigo's hand and is finally laid to rest. Ichigo gets up, badge in hand.

Ichigo:
I'll find them and bring them back alive, I swear it. I'll make
you proud.

Ichigo runs off looking for his sisters and hears one of her
sisters screams in the distance.

CUT TO:

SCENE 13

EXT. ICHIGO'S BACKYARD

Temporarily shocked, Ichigo stands in shock as he watches his
sister, Karin, gripped by a horrendous creature unlike anything
he has seen before. Yuzu is lying on the ground. This hollow is
a humanoid creature approximately twenty feet in height, with a
skeletal fish-like mask and a dorsal fin on his back. His
shoulders and arms are plated with what appears to be a part of
his mask and his body is covered with dark gray stripes. The
hollow will be created with the magic of CG animation.

Ichigo regains his composure, grabs a chair, and dashes towards
the Hollow.

Ichigo:
Let go of my sister!

The hollow effortlessly pushes Ichigo away, breaking the chair
and sending Ichigo flying towards the wooden fence. The hollow
drops Karin and advances towards Ichigo.

Hollow:
At last, I finally found you.

The hollow moves his hand towards Ichigo's tiny body. Suddenly
his arm is sliced by Rukia, who makes a daring last minute
entrance. The hollow swiftly opens a portal and retreats back to
his realm.

Rukia:
Can you see me?

Ichigo ignores her and runs towards his sisters bodies

Ichigo:

Karin! Yuzu!

Ichigo turns towards Rukia

Ichigo:

What on earth is going on?! What happened to my sisters?!

Rukia:

Get a hold of yourself! The hollow has not devoured their souls yet.

Ichigo:

Are you sure? How do you know all of this?

Rukia:

I am a Soul Reaper, Grand Fisher has returned and we are spiritual beings sworn to drive them back. Hollows look to devour humans with high spirit energy deep within them.

Ichigo:

They're after me? Are you saying that my sisters were attacked because of me? Because of me, my father died? Because of me, my mother died. Right?

Rukia:

What are you talking about?

Ichigo:

It's my fault that everyone is getting hurt! Everything has gone wrong since I have been able to see these...things!

Rukia:

Stand back! The hollow will be returning soo-

Ichigo:

Watch out!

A nebulous portal reopens and the hollow appears. He chomps at Rukia before she is able to react in time. Critically wounded, Rukia stumbles away and Ichigo is the only one left standing. Ichigo pulls out the Soul Reaper badge his dad gave him.

Rukia (barely conscious):
You...where did you get that?

Ichigo:

I won't let anyone get hurt anymore!

Ichigo pushes the badge to his chest and has a ridiculous transformation sequence in which he turns into a Soul Reaper and gets a perfectly fitting black kimono. With giant sword in hand, Ichigo steadies himself and charges at the Hollow.

Ichigo: Let's finish this!

SLOW MOTION: Ichigo slicing the hollow effortlessly in half, green (PG Rated) guck oozes everywhere, the creature's body begins to corrode and erupt. What results is a spectacular explosion scales to those of Michael Bay films. Conveniently the neighbors don't get woken up. Rukia is shocked and surprised by the events that just transpired.

Ichigo:
Are you okay? Can you stand?

Rukia:
Just worry about your sisters.

Ichigo:
Right, I'll be right back, just hang tight.

Ichigo lifts his sisters bodies, puts them to bed, then returns to back to the backyard where Rukia is. To his surprise, Rukia is walking around.

Ichigo:
How did you heal so fast?

Rukia:
I can use an ancient spirit magic to heal the body, the ancient soul reapers of our time call it Kidō.

Ichigo:
Kidō?

Rukia:
Urahara is the leader of all soul reapers; he was the one who taught me.

Ichigo:
My Dad mentioned him, please take me to him!

Rukia:

No it's too dangerous, you are strong but you just recently became a soul reaper!

Ichigo:
If you take me there I will defeat Grand Fisher...that was one of his minions right?

Rukia:
Yes...Where did you hear that name?

Ichigo: My Dad warned me of the hollows. They are going to come after anyway and you might need my help. I'll defeat Grand Fisher and become stronger.

Rukia holds out her hand, Ichigo shakes it.

Rukia:
The name's Rukia.

Ichigo:
I'm Ichigo:

Rukia:
Come on, we got a world to save!¹³

-TO BE CONTINUED-

¹³ This plot has been rewritten in order to present Ichigo as a prophesized child of fate who is destined to claim his birthright and drive away the demonic hollows. The existing plot continues to get flipped on its head.

There are two things intentionally wrong with the final scene. Firstly, Rukia sacrifices herself shields Ichigo with her body in the fight with the hollow. Seeing that Ichigo is truly determined to protect his family, Rukia offers to transfer half of her power over to him (though he absorbs all of it instead). That is how Ichigo becomes a soul Reaper at first. Rukia made a sacrifice to help Ichigo protect his family, but her role is downplayed in this otherwise masculine tale of men doing heroics while the women are shoved to the sidelines. This leads to the second heresy, which Isshin never dies to Hollows and he never gives Ichigo a Soul Reaper badge. That is MANY chapters later, and Rukia has her own means of transforming Ichigo into a Soul Reaper.

