**[1] Afternoon, the Shop**

[A mother who ran a magical letter shop gave her daughter a magical letter before her passing.

In the bustling shop, a young girl is busy with something, while a customer is searching for their letter.]

(nagging from outside the screen, throughout the scene)

Villager: picking up letter, Mrs. Wald?

**Mrs. Wald:** " Yeah Mr. Wald's gone out to sea, won't be back for years!”

"Glad they make these letters, so I get to see him sometimes”

“Too bad it's a one-time thing”

*Poof!* Smoke drifts forward from the young girl.

She put a flower into a jar, creating a human-like figure, excited. But it soon collapses and varnish. The girl feels disappointed.

**Mother:** ”Struggling, Fina?” She ribs her daughter

**Fina:** "Mum~ How do you make the letter work?" she whines in frustration.

Her mother gestures toward other customers in the shop. When **Mrs. Wald**, opens her letter, and a vivid human figure appears. Fina is amazed by her mother's skill.

Her mother smiles gently, placing a hand over her heart.

**Match cut**: Dusk. Her mother lies on a sickbed.

She picks up a letter and hands it to Fina.

Fina reaches out, but the letter transforms into a red ribbon, pulling away. Suddenly, red smoke envelops her, and her world fades into darkness along with her mother.

**Fina (panicked):** "Wait! Stay with me!”

 Fina wakes with a start.

**[2] Daytime, the Shop**

[Fina avoids her emotions but can no longer craft vivid letters.]

Fina wakes up, shaken. In distress, she glances at her mother's letter and bursts into tears. She hides it in a desk drawer along with a photo of her and her mother, determined to shield herself from the painful memories.

Returning to her workbench, she repeatedly fails to craft letters, becoming increasingly frustrated and losing confidence.

At this moment, an old man arrives.

**[3] Afternoon, the Shop**

[An old man hopes to leave a letter for his granddaughter before he dies.]

**Old Man:** "Excuse me? I heard you make these, uh, magic letters"

“Could you make one for my granddaughter please?”

Fina hesitates, lacking confidence, but still accepts it through a nod

**Old Man:** "Wonderful! Can you please give it to her at ...... my funeral?" He hands her a photo album.

Fina, surprised, looks at the old man.

**Old Man:** "My time is up, I know. She said she’d visit me next month, but it seems like I won't make it."
**Old Man:** "But with your letter, she’ll still be able to see me."

The album cover shows the old man with a little girl in a tender moment. Fina looks at her failed letters and gathers her courage:

**Fina:** "She will see you again, I promise."

**[4]**
[While crafting the letter, Fina regains her confidence, but the old man dies on the final day.]

**Old Man:** “Then I’ll count on you!”

Fina pulls out the envelope and opens the photo album, using its contents to find the right spice. But as she nears completion, she struggles to find the spice for the last photo, leaving her at a loss.

*(Time-lapse hints show several days passing.)*

She waves goodbye to the old man, hopeful to finish the letter the next day. But instead of the old man, a person in mourning attire arrives the following day. The old man has passed away.

**[5] Afternoon, the Shop**.

Fina adds the final spice, but the letter still fails. Feeling crushed, she collapses. Accidentally, she knocks over a jar of pepper powder, which spills onto her.

*Coughing violently:*

**Fina:** "Ugh! Cough, cough!"

**Flashback:**

**Young Fina:** "Aaaaah! I hate the smell of pepper!"
**Mother:** "Haha, sorry! My little Fina, the smell of pepper always made you so angry"

**Back to reality:**

**Fina:** "Emotions... but how can I find out his longing?"

**Fina:** "Ah..." She remembers her mother's letter.

She opens the drawer hiding her mother’s letter and gazes at it tenderly. Taking it out, she glances at the old man's letter and the scarf on the desk. Her mother's photo rests behind her.

She decides to open her mother’s letter. Warm, golden smoke billows out, revealing memories of her mother’s companionship. Finally, the smoke forms into her mother’s figure. Her mother hands her a flower and embraces her.

*Fade to white.* The letter is complete.

**[6] Ending (adjust based on runtime)**

*Short version:* The granddaughter arrives at the shop to retrieve the letter, and Fina hands it to her.

*Extended version:* At the funeral, Fina gives the letter to the girl from the photo, now older and wearing formal attire.

**Girl:** “Thank you for making it, Fina”

“So I get a chance to see grandpa again”

The girl hesitates, unsure whether to open the letter. Fina nods with a reassuring smile.

The girl opens it, and smoke drifts skyward.