The Penitent

> *“Purity is not measured in mercy. It is measured in the number of corpses left behind.”*

The Penitent is a white-veiled religious executioner whose name has become associated with uncompromising judgment, suspected Blight, and the harsher edges of Lathanderite zealotry.

Little about his identity is publicly certain. What is consistent across surviving accounts is his appearance: a tall figure in plain armor, a white veil marked or surrounded by scripture, and a massive silver greatsword known as **Sun Sorrow**.



Overview

The Penitent is widely described as silent, controlled, and unnervingly still. Witnesses rarely describe rage, threats, or theatrical displays. Instead, accounts emphasize certainty. Once he has judged someone or something dangerous, there appears to be little room for argument, negotiation, or appeal.

That certainty is what makes stories about him travel farther than his actual movements. In communities already frightened by contamination and religious judgment, the idea of a veiled executioner who does not debate his verdict turns suspicion itself into a threat.

This has made him a symbol of religious severity to some and a figure of terror to others. Admirers describe resolve and purity of purpose. Critics describe a man whose faith has left no space for mercy or doubt.

Appearance

The Penitent is described as unusually tall and motionless when at rest. His armor is practical and relatively plain. Slips of scripture are pinned across his clothing and equipment, while a white veil or cowl conceals his entire face and hangs down across his upper body.

No reliable account establishes what lies beneath the veil. Stories that describe an empty hood, a missing face, or something no longer human are part of the mythology surrounding him rather than verified fact.

His principal weapon is **Sun Sorrow**, a massive silver greatsword. Witnesses have described him wielding the blade with remarkable ease.

The White Veil

The veil is responsible for many of the stranger stories surrounding the Penitent.

People attempting to watch him directly describe visual strain, rippling or doubled outlines, sudden errors in judging distance, and the unsettling impression that he has moved without crossing the space between. Others report hearing almost nothing as he approaches.

These effects have produced widespread rumors that the Penitent can vanish, teleport, or step outside ordinary sight. No reliable public explanation for the phenomenon exists.

Some survivors claim that reflections behave differently. A figure impossible to follow directly may appear more clearly in standing water, polished glass, mirrors, or other reflective surfaces. Whether this is a consistent limitation or merely another traveler's story remains uncertain.

Beliefs and Reputation

The Penitent is closely associated with religious purification, scripture, and severe interpretations of Lathanderite doctrine.

He is generally portrayed not as a killer seeking pleasure, but as a believer who considers violence morally necessary. This distinction does little to reassure those who fear him. The idea that he may act without anger, revenge, or personal gain has become one of the most disturbing parts of his reputation.

Stories told across Faulmoor attribute executions, purges, and the destruction of suspected contamination to him. The details vary sharply between tellings. Some accounts place him in the service of powerful patrons or religious authorities, while others insist he answers to no one.

Claims that he is a ghost, a Blightborn creature, a divine manifestation, or something without a human face are common but unproven.

Sun Sorrow

Sun Sorrow is the name consistently given to the Penitent's great silver sword.

Beyond its size, material, and association with him, little reliable information about the weapon is publicly available. It is widely rumored to be a **relic** and to have been given to the Penitent by House Wilthorne, a story that has strengthened suspicions that the house has supported or sponsored him at some point.

Neither the relic claim nor the alleged Wilthorne gift is publicly proven. Other stories credit Sun Sorrow with impossible sharpness and divine judgment, though such claims are difficult to separate from the fear surrounding its wielder.

See Also

- House Wilthorne
- Lathander
- Faulmoor

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