

Reflection Mulan

- MUSIC AND LYRICS: Stephen Schwartz
- TYPE: Film
- YEAR: 1994
- Character: Fa Mulan

Synopsis

Mulan is a young Chinese girl who is being prepared to become a wife and she goes to the village to meet the local matchmaker. She has a terrible time with the matchmaker and spills tea on her and is generally clumsy and it is a social disaster. Mulan doesn't feel she is somebody that can fulfil her family's needs of bringing honour and respect in the traditional way. At this point she sings **Reflection**.

At the same time China is under attack from the Huns. Every family needs to provide somebody that will go to war. They call up Fa Zhou (Mulan's dad) but he is injured. Mulan doesn't want him to go but he says he must as it is the honourable thing to do. So Mulan decides to dress up as a man and go and fight in his place. She calls herself Ping.

The Huns lead by Shan-Yu have started an attack on China and are ready to attack again. Li Shang is chosen by his military father to train up the new troops. The Huns are gaining ground in the battle and hugely outnumber the Chinese army. Mulan ends up saving the battle by using the last canon to bring down a huge mountain avalanche on the enemy troops who are advancing. She gets injured herself in the war and when she is being medically treated they find that she is a woman.

As impersonating a soldier is against the law, she is disgraced and sent home. On her way home, Mulan sees that some of the Huns have survived the avalanche. She tried to warn Li Shang and his men that some enemies survive and are advancing but they don't believe her. While the emperor is honouring the rest of the army at a huge outdoor event, the Huns suddenly attack again and take the Empress hostage. Due to Mulan's quick thinking she saves the day again and this time she is honoured by the Emperor and wins the love and respect of Li Shang.

Mulan goes home to her father to seek forgiveness and hopes that the honour bestowed on her by the Emperor will mean her father can honour her again. Her father says the greatest honour is having her as a daughter. Li Shang also comes to house and a romance starts between them.