

**People**  
(excerpt)  
Allyson Ricketts  
Junior Prose

I've seen many people.

I've seen young and old, sick and strong. I've seen people who weren't prepared and people who've accepted my approach for a period of time. I've walked through battle fields and stood side by side with doctors, been at every natural disaster and nearly every place on this Earth. People have cursed me and wished that I didn't exist – some days I wish that I didn't either. However, this is my job. Humans insist that death haunts them but I believe that humans are the ones who haunt me. I am Death; I see people, and people see me. Eventually I will see you too.