三浦建太郎
KENTARO MIURA
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...BECAME A GLORIOUS BATTLEFIELD ADJOINED BY DEATH AND BLOOD.

THE PALTRY DINING TABLE BY THE FIRE, WITH MY FAMILY AROUND...

FROM A LIFE I CONTINUALLY ENDURED...

EVERYTHING CHANGED THAT DAY.

...TO A LIFE OF FIGHTING TO SUCCEED.

HOW I THOUGHT, HOW I LIVED.

EVERYTHING...
SINCE THAT DAY......

THE DAY I MET GRIFFITH.

I...

EVEN NOW I FEEL IT'S BEEN ONE LONG DREAM.
...I idolized Griffith.

BACK THEN...

HE WAS LIKE...

...some prophet or saint.

...ever victorious on the battlefield, fighting like some miracle.

WE WERE A RAGTAG BAND OF COMMONERS WITH NO BACKING...

IN EFFECT THAT'S WHAT HE WAS TO US.

...when in reality, he wasn't a noble or knight even, but a commoner like the rest of us.

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, LEADING US WAS A YOUNG MAN WHO COULD STILL BE CALLED A BOY IN HIS INNOCENCE...
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT GRIFFITH WAS.

A MIRACLE......

YES... IN MY EYES,

AFTER A WHILE, I SOMEHOW CARVED OUT A LIFE AS A SOLDIER......

AT THAT TIME THE HAWKS BECAME INVOLVED IN A CERTAIN FEUDAL LORD'S DISPUTE.

A WEALTHY MAN INTIMATELY INVOLVED IN SOVEREIGN AFFAIRS.

HE WAS SAID TO BE A MAN OF FAME......

RATHER HIS SORDID TASTES.

BUT THE WORST RUMORS ABOUT HIM DIDN'T INVOLVE HIS ASSETS,
IN TRUTH, THEY WERE IMPRISONED WITHIN HIS CASTLE AS PLEASURE SLAVES.

AS ATTENDANTS HE WOULD EMPLOY CHILDREN FROM NEIGHBORING VILLAGES... NEARLY ALL BOYS, WHO MET HIS TASTES...

I HAD ALMOST BECOME LIKE THAT ONCE...

A HEART-RENDING SENSE OF FEAR AND DISGUST.

CHILDREN WITH EYES... VACANT OF ALL BUT FEAR.

THEY WOULD BE AT HIS SIDE...

BUT TO BE HONEST, IT SENT A CHILL DOWN MY SPINE.

I GUESS THESE DAYS THAT'S NOT SUCH A STRANGE SIGHT...
...by putting his hand on my shoulder... just from that, I mysteriously stopped trembling.

But just like that time...

Following several skirmishes...

Afterwards...

He was a boy who had joined the band of the Hawk half a year before then, to train to be a soldier.

He was about ten years old, and I don't know his name. He didn't really stand out enough to be noticed.

That is... no one but Griffith...

There was no one to recognize the remains of this nameless soldier-in-training among the countless fallen.
IT WAS
A TOY
KNIGHT...
SCUFFED,
DIRTY, AND
MISSING
A LEG...

GRIFFITH.

THIS
BOY'S
BELONG-
INGS.

WHAT'S
THAT?

GRIFFITH?

...ON
THE
BATTLE-
FIELD...

A
TOY...

HE
MUST
HAVE
GREATERLY
ADMIRE
KNIGHTS.
...THE HERO OF SOME STORY.
HE'D GAZE AT ME AS IF I WERE...
I REMEMBER HIM WELL.

OR WAS DEATH...

...THE END OF THE DREAM?

WAS IT DESPAIR...

...DREAMING...

DID HE DIE ENCHANTED BY HIS DREAM?

I WONDER...

...IF HE WAS HAPPY?
...WHAT KILLED THIS BOY.

MAYBE MY DREAM...

...THE WORDS TO SPEAK.

I COULDN'T FIND...

NEVER SO...

I'D NEVER SEEN GRIFFITH LIKE THAT BEFORE.

...NEVER SO SOMBER.
THEN, ONE EVENING UPON RETURNING TO THE CASTLE...

BUT... EVER SINCE THEN, I'VE STARTED VIEWING GRIFFITH DIFFERENTLY...

GRIFFI---

GRIFFITH ...

GRIFFITH
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?! YOU MEAN MISTER BALL OF PRIDE?!

COME DOWN THAT MORNING...

...I COULDN'T SLEEP AND WAS WANDERING ALONG THE RIVER NEAR THE CASTLE.
WHY NOT JOIN ME?

IT FEELS NICE.
YOU'RE NOT MISTAKEN.

YOU'RE RIGHT...

MY MISTAKE, HUH?

I...

THAT, LAST NIGHT...

A WAR COUNCIL OR SOMETHING...

SO...!!

WHY...?

...

WHY...

WHY WOULD YOU...

...WITH SOMEONE LIKE HIM...?!
AND THE BAND OF THE HAWK WILL GROW LARGER AND LARGER... IT HAS TO.

FOR THAT TOO WE NEED A VAST AMOUNT... WAR FUNDS.

AN ARMY CONSUMES SO MUCH MONEY JUST BEING.

MEN, HORSES, EQUIPMENT, PROVISIONS. NONE OF IT IS FREE.

A-AREN'T WE DOING WELL ENOUGH NOW? AT THIS RATE, IF WE CAN JUST KEEP WINNING...

WE'LL EVENTUALLY RAISE ENOUGH...

YEAH, BUT...

STILL...!!

AND I WAS INTERESTED IN HIS FORTUNE.

IN ANY CASE, I SEEMED TO APPEAL TO THAT OLD MAN....

OUR INTERESTS COINCIDED.

BESIDES...

IT WOULD TAKE TOO LONG.
...I lose more troops.

...with every battle fought...

Is this because of that boy?

Griffith...

To go to battle ten times and lose hundreds of soldiers or to seduce one old man... which is the lesser risk?

I thought about it logically.

No.

I don't feel at all responsible for my comrades who've lost their lives under my command...

Casca.

Listen.
THAT'S JUST THE WAY I AM.

IT'S BECAUSE THEY THEMSELVES CHOSE TO FIGHT.

GRiffith?

I GUESS...

GRiffith, blood...

...for the sake of the dead...

...if there's something I can do...

...for their sakes...

...is to win.

BUT IF...

THAT THING...

GRiffith, stop it...!!

...putting their lives on the line.

I'LL KEEP WINNING TO FULFILL MY DREAM TO WHICH THEY CLING...
MY DREAM CAN ONLY BE REALIZED BY BUILDING UPON THEIR CORPSES.

BUT... FOR HUNDREDS, THOUSANDS OF LIVES TO HANG IN THE BALANCE AND MYSELF ALONE NOT TO BE UNCLEAN...

BUT... FOR HUNDREDS, THOUSANDS OF LIVES TO HANG IN THE BALANCE AND MYSELF ALONE NOT TO BE UNCLEAN...

IT'S A BLOOD-SMEARED DREAM AFTER ALL.

STOP.

I HAVE NEITHER REGRET NOR REMORSE ABOUT THAT.

WHAT I WANT... WON'T ENTER MY GRASP SO EASILY AS THAT.
IT'S NOTHING.

JUST THEN, THAT FILLED ME WITH SADNESS...

I'M ALRIGHT...

THE GRIFFITH WHO TURNED AROUND TO PUT HIS HAND ON MY SHOULDER WAS THE SAME GRIFFITH AS EVER ONE MORE.
...that most people abandoned long ago as a childish yearning.

Griffith persists in trying to realize a kind of dream...

...the dream he's chasing is so genuine and extraordinary...

...that the burden must be immeasurable.

...something grand endures that much more than other people.

But...

I think that someone who wants to accomplish...

A strong person...it's simple just to sum it up with those words.

But...

It's not that he is strong...

Griffith...

...has to make himself strong.
IF HE'S GOING TO SACRIFICE EVERYTHING FOR HIS DREAM...

...IF HIS DREAM IS TO FIGHT AND CUT AWAY HIS OWN PATH...

I WANT...

...TO BE BY HIS SIDE.

...TO BE HIS SWORD.

...THEN I WANT...

CASCA (3): END
WE'VE LOST COUNTLESS COMRADES.

BATTLE.

BATTLE.

YET STILL MORE PEOPLE HAVE JOINED US.

FEW OLD FACES REMAIN...

HAVING GRIFFITH TRUST ME DEEPLY...

...MADE ME REALIZE MY OWN WORTH.

BEFORE I KNEW IT, I TOO WAS A VETERAN.

I BELIEVED THAT WISH WOULD COME TRUE...

I WAS ABLE TO BELIEVE...

I WANT TO BE SOMETHING HE CAN'T DO WITHOUT IN ACHIEVING HIS DREAM.

I WANT TO BE AT HIS SIDE...
...UNTIL THAT DAY.

THE DAY YOU SHOWED UP...

PREPARED FOR DEATH.
CHAPTER 1
DO YOU REMEMBER?

WHAT GRIFFITH SAID TO YOU ON TOP OF THAT HILL.

THAT DAY...

YEAH...

I WANT YOU...

...SAYS ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

HE NEVER...

THOSE WORDS...

NOR HAS HE...

...SINCE THEN.

...HAD NEVER SAID SUCH A THING TO ANYONE.
YOU GOT GRIFFITH TO SAY THAT TO YOU SO EASILY...

I ENVIED YOU.

IT'S AS IF...

BUT GRIFFITH, SO CALM AND COMPOSED...

ALWAYS GETS IMPULSIVE WHEN IT COMES TO YOU!!

JUST FOR YOUR STRENGTH

AS IF...

...I CLEARED MYSELF THAT GRIFFITH WANTED YOU...

...I COULDN'T STAND IT.

...?

...?
TH£ FACT THAT YOU'VE ALMOST GOTTEN GRIFFITH KILLED!!
BUT THE BAND OF THE HAWK...

I DON'T CARE IF YOU GET YOURSELF KILLED ON SOME BATTLEFIELD!!

I WON'T LET YOU TAKE GRIFFITH'S DREAM DOWN WITH YOU!!

AND I CAN'T FORGIVE YOU...

...WHO CHANGED GRIFFITH THAT WAY.

YOU'RE THE ONE...
WHY...

WHY...

WHY IS IT...

WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE YOU......
SIR ADON SPOKE HE'D PAY THE BOUNTY WHETHER THEY'RE DEAD OR ALIVE.

NO DOUBT, MAN. HEY, YOU SURE THIS IS IT?

AND HEY, AFTER ALL, THEY'RE THE BAND OF THE HAWK'S CAPTAIN AND WOMAN COMMANDER.

DOODLESN'T MATTER.

BUT C'MON, AIN'T THEY DEAD BY NOW? THEY FALL OFF THAT CLIFF.

THE BODIES COULD'VE WASHED AWAY IN THIS FAST CURRENT.

IF WE DON'T MOVE, SOME OTHERS'LL BEAT US TO IT.

LET'S LOOK A LITTLE MORE DOWNSTREAM.
HEH.

DRINK IT.
FOR THE FEVER.

NO REAL TIME TO WASTE.

WE LEAVE AS SOON AS THE SUN SETS.
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHAT THE HELL!!

WOMEN ARE SUCH ROYAL PAINS!

BATTLE, THAT IS.

I GUESS THEY JUST AIN'T CUT OUT FOR IT.

AND PERIODS TO TOP IT OFF. JUST LOOK AT YA.

.......

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?!

WHAT WOULD I KNOW? I'M A MAN.

NO PHYSICAL STRENGTH! THINGS GO TO THEIR HEADS SO DAMN FAST!
THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE GONNA SIT HERE LIKE THIS FOREVER BECAUSE OF YOUR WOMAN'S PROBLEM.

WHAT I DO KNOW IS THIS--

THEY MIGHT ACTUALLY LIKE IT, Y'KNOW?

IT DOESN'T MATTER TO THE ENEMY IF YOU'RE A WOMAN OR WHATEVER.

LET'S GO!

HNN...!!
SWARMS OF 'EM! WHERE'D THEY ALL COME FROM?
YOU MAKE ME HAPPY, BOY!!!

SO, YOU'RE ALIVE!! HAH HAHHH!

LOOKIN' LIVELY YOURSELF, PAL!

LUCK OR NOT, I'M THROUGH BEING GIVEN A HARD TIME BY A LOWLIFE LOUT LIKE YOU!!

IMPLICENCE!!

AS A PROUD KNIGHT OF CHILDER, IT ANNOYS ME TO NO END!!
...I'll personally administer the torture technique passed down through my Coblitz family for two hundred years! You'll get your fill of hell on earth with the "Hundred-Year Convulsive Death."

Well, same to ya.

You sure hold a grudge.

Just so long as you survive!!

...She'll be a toy for my men here.

As for the woman...

She's a nightmare.

Maybe you'd better rethink that one...
TAKE THEM!!!
YOU'VE DONE...

...ENOUGH FOR ME!

FAIR ENOUGH!

PREPARED FOR DEATH (D: END
ARGHHH!! DON'T FALTER!!
THERE'S TWO OF THEM!! MORE THAN TWO OF YOU ATTACK AT ONCE!!
WHOA!!
SHE GOT MY ARTERY!

...
THE THICKNESS OF SAMSON'S ARMOR IS THREE TIMES ORDINARY PLATE! EVEN IF HE WERE BURIED IN A ROCKSLIDE, IT WOULDN'T EVEN BE DENTED!

AND HIS IRON BALL CAN SMASH A WATER BUFFALO'S SKULL WITH ONE STRIKE! ALL THAT'D BE LEFT OF A HUMAN ARE CHUNKS OF FLESH!!
But I can't dodge that ball in my condition!! What now?!...
HE... HE HIT IT BACK?!

NW AH?!

...BAZDARRRD!

B...

URAH HH!

UHNNH!

...!!
HE’S STOPPING ALL OF SAMSON’S SKILLS, IT RIDICULOUS!!
WITH HIS SHOULD BE GUTS TO DODGE AND COUNTER- NO. THEY’RE SO FAST...
TAKING THIS HEAD ON.
HE HASN’T GOT TIME TO DODGE!!

...MY FAULT?
IS IT...

HE’S WOUNDED...?!
Huh...?

Looks like the arrow wound you got protecting the woman...

...hasn't quite healed yet has it?!

I'll buy you a chance.

Eyah?

Hey.

Hightail it through the forest.

But... B...

But then...

What are you doing?! He's wounded!! Go on and settle this!!
...RUN OFF ALONE!!

I CAN'T JUST...

RUN, FOOL!!

WHAT'RE YOU DOIN'?!?

N-NO...

I CAN'T DO THAT...

HANNN...

SHOOT THE WOMAN TO DEATH!!

F-FIRE!!
WHY...?

NOT ONCE, BUT TWICE, FOR JUST ONE WOMAN!!

DAHHH HA HA! YOU DOLT!! OH LAUGHABLE.

WHAT A SIMPELTON!!

THAT PROCK, BEN! LAUGHED AT BY HIM PISSES ME OFF.

... WHY?

... 

DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA.
BESIDES, I GOT A SCORE TO SETTLE WITH BRIGHT BOY!

IT AIN'T MY WAY TO RUN OFF!

SICK AS YOU ARE, YOU'RE JUST IN MY WAY, SO GET LOST.

IT'S LIKE YOU SAID BEFORE...

MAYBE... I'M SATISFIED JUST AS LONG AS I CAN SWING MY SWORD AROUND...

THIS WORTHLESS PLACE.
IS THIS WHERE IT ENDS FOR YOU?

HERE...

DYIN'...

...IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?

...THIS RIGHT BY YOU?
IS WHAT YOU WANT THAT CHEAP?

GO TO YOUR SWORD MASTER...

...A SWORD...

...RETURNS TO THE SHEATH, RIGHT?

SURROUND THEM!

DON'T BE ScARED!

...GO BACK.

GO TO GRIFFITH.

PREPARED FOR DEATH (2): END
NOW!!

GO!!!

DON'T JUST STAND THERE!!!
I SWEAR I'LL COME BACK WITH THE OTHERS!!

UNTIL THEN

DON'T DIE!!

KILL HER!!

DON'T LET HER ESCAPE!!

HANG ON!

YOU CAN CHASE GIRLS AFTER YOU'VE DONE YOUR JOB.

BUNCHA WAGE THIEVES.
THEY GO FLYING WITH EVERY STROKE!!
HE CUTS DOWN FULLY ARMORED MEN LIKE THEY WERE GROUND CHERRIES!
N-Nobody told me the enemy had someone like him!!
AIEEE!
WHAT IS THIS GUY?!
Although it's over three times thicker and heavier than a regular one... If one hit don't kill you, you'll wish it had.

Whoever takes his head...

You call yourselves proud knights of Chuder?!

We're just mercenaries, man!

Weren't anyone here get revenge for Samson?!

Should we? He's the one who went and got himself killed.
Maybe I oughta leave too.

F-five times, whadda ya think?

Heh, whadda you think I think...?

You go first. I bet he can't move too well with those wounds... if about five of us were to take him...

All of us at once.

All together now!

Shit!!

That's how mercenaries do things...

Right, right.

Done!
HN!

Pursuers!!

FOUR... NO, FIVE!
KIEEE!

ベルしわあああ！
30.

 Damn that bitch!!

 HEY!
HEH!

His left hand is totally messed up! Now he won't be able to swing that ridiculously big sword around so easily!

GOOD!

... ... ...

Now this's gotten interesting.
But you stick it to a bunch of our guys...

We'll put you outta your misery soon enough.

You've caused us a lotta trouble, girly.

So as thanks, we're gonna stick it to you before you go.

So much fun you'll thank us.

Don't look that way. We're gonna give you some fun before you go to the afterlife.
FRUSTRATED?

MY ARM.

I CAN'T EVEN SHOVE A CREEP LIKE HIM ASIDE.

AGAIN...

BUT YOU'RE PRETTY CUTE IN THIS POSITION.

MAYBE YOU DO COMMAND A THOUSAND MEN...

I FEEL SO POWERLESS...!!
THIS WORTHLESS PLACE.

HERE...

DON'T THINK ABOUT BITIN' YOUR TONGUE.

IT'D BE BORING IF YOU DIED NOW.

...GO BACK.

GO TO YOUR SWORD MASTER.
HEHE HEM...

AH WELL, SHE'S DESPERATE NOW. THIS WON'T BE AS EXCITIN' IF SHE DON'T STRUGGLE A BIT.

HOWEVER...

...I WON'T LET YOU HAVE YOUR WAY WITH ME EITHER!

I WON'T BITE MY TONGUE.

OH?!

WHAT?
YOU LITTLE...!!

GYAHHHH!!
THAT'S ABOUT FAR ENOUGH.

SO SHE WON'T COME CHEAP.

SHE'S THE ONLY WOMAN FOR US.

PREPARED FOR DEATH (3): END
THE SUN'S GONNA COME UP BEFORE I FINISH SPATIN' YOUR HEADS.
DON'T FALTER!!

HE CAN BARELY STAND NOW!! FALL UPON HIM ALL AT ONCE!!
...RISKING MY LIFE SO CHEAPLY.

In this dumb place...

 WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING...?

NO, PROBABLY NOT...

IS IT FOR HER?

...NO TIME TO THINK.

RIGHT NOW...

...IS HOW TO CUT...

ALL THERE IS NOW...

THAT'S ALL.

HOW TO KILL...
AND THEN

......

EVEN THESE
THOUGHTS
WILL SLIP
MY MIND
IN TIME.

...THE
BEAT OF
MY HEART
STILL
REMAINS.

.....

ONLY

......

EEEE
Hey.

H...

Eh?

Hurry...

Guts is...

Hurry!!

Heh, sorry about that.

It took awhile to convince the powers that be.
...he stayed behind with all the enemy...

so i could get away, he...

if we don't hurry...!!

hey...

this way, hurry...

what happened?

guts...

someone give her a hand!

forget about that!!

come on!

right!

please be in time...!!

be in time...
HERE!!
Oh, wow.

...!!

Y...you're kidding, right? There's almost a hundred corpses. He couldn't have all by himself...?
HEY!!

H-HEY, THIS LOOKS BAD.

DON'T SHAKE ME.

KEEP IT DOWN...

YOU'LL JUST MAKE THE WOUNDS WORSE...

GUTS!!

GUTS!!
MOVE, MOVE!!
CLEAR THE WAY!!

THAT BASTARD SURVIVED
AFTER ALL, TALK ABOUT
STUBBORN.

THEY'RE BACK!!

OPEN A PATH!!

EMERGENCY!!
LEMMIE OFF! I'LL WALK!

YOU'RE EXAGGER-ATIN'!

...

YOU'LL HURT YOURSELF!

THIS'S A DISGRACE!

DON'T MOVE!

LOOK, YOU! I AIN'T A RAGDOLL!

I SAID "OW!"

HOW 'BOUT BEIN' A LITTLE CAREFUL!

OW.

AGHHH, STOP THAT!

YOU'RE IN BAD ENOUGH SHAPE AS IT IS!
IN OTHER WORDS, HE'S THROUGH FOR THIS CAMPAIGN.

BUT HE MUST REST.

KEH!

WHHEW. WHAT A FRIGHTFUL MAN.

NORMALLY SOMEONE WITH THAT MANY WOUNDS SHOULD HAVE PASSED OUT LONG BEFORE NOW...

WELL, I DON'T SUPPOSE HIS LIFE IS IN DANGER... HMM... HE'S A TOUGH ONE.

SO, HOW IS HE?

I'M FIGHTIN' TILL THE END OF THIS CAMPAIGN EVEN IF I HAFTA CRAWL!

Screw you!

Y-you Dolt! If you follow through with that... I can't guarantee your survival!

Survival guarantee? What the hell's that got to do with war, anyway?

I won't be responsible for the outcome!

ARGHH, FINE THEN!

Do as you will!!
WELL IN ANY CASE, THANK GOODNESS YOU TWO WERE ABLE TO MAKE IT BACK SAFE AND SOUND.

SAFE AND SOUND HOW?

... A WAR COUNCIL AT HEADQUARTERS.

HE LEFT THIS MORNING.

OH HH... BY THE WAY, WHERE'S GRIFFITH?

HE WON'T BE BACK UNTIL TOMORROW.
I'm fine.

Mine's...

...not an injury.

Casca.

You don't need to be treated?

And just when these two came back. Bad timing.
Y'know though, it's pretty cold for even Boss Griffith to go to a war council right now!

I guess we've got Captain Guts to thank this time around.

Oh yeah, we really weren't sure what would happen for awhile there.

C-cut it out!

We must have really worried you all.

Oh man... we're so relieved, sis!

Go to Griffith...

...go back.

Go to your sword master...
"I will not lose them."

"Those two are vital to the band of the Hawk."

"The nobles around him strongly opposed his decision for various reasons."

"And plainly..."

"But Griffith said..."
Yeah.

That's a big deal, him saying all that.

Truthfully, I was a tad jealous...

Griffith said that?

Then there's this.

Medicine...?

...powder.

Put some on the hero of the hundred.
HE WAS GOOD FOLK, AND THAT'S WHAT HE GAVE ME WHEN I WAS BADLY INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT.

THERE WAS THIS ELF IN A TRAVELING ENTERTAINMENT TROUPE I USED TO WORK FOR YEARS AGO.

ELF DUST.

DON'T SWEAT IT. IT'S A GOOD DEAL IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, ONE BAG OF MEDICINE FOR A HUNDRED DEAD ENEMIES.

BUT SOMETHING SO VAILABLE...

BUT THEY REALLY EXIST.

WELL, IT'S GUESS TRUE. NOT TOO MANY PEOPLE BELIEVE IN THEM THESE DAYS...

ELF...? NO WAY...

I'VE ESCAPED DEATH EVEN ON THE BATTLEFIELD THANKS TO THAT STUFF. THAT'S THE LAST OF IT.

WHETHER YOU BELIEVE IN THEM OR NOT DOESN'T MATTER... JUST THAT THE POWDER IS CERTIFIED EFFECTIVE.

SHOWING A SOFT SIDE...

...HUH.

THANK YOU...

WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE HAPPENED?

JUDEAU.
I feel too hot to sleep. This was the coolest place.

You not resting...?

Is this okay?
THE PAIN'S FADING?

DON'T MOVE...

H-HEY.

WHAT'S THIS STUFF?

/MYSTICAL HEALING...

... MEDICINE HE SAID.

WHAT'S THIS STUFF?

JUDEAU GAVE IT TO ME.

IT'S NOT SOMETHIN' YOU SHOULD WORRY ABOUT.

TURN AROUND.

C'MON!
IT WASN'T REALLY FOR YOUR SAKE. FIGHTIN' IS MORE MY NATURE THANRUNNIN' AWAY.

THAT WAS SOMETHIN' I DID ON MY OWN.

JUST BECAUSE IT'S YOUR NATURE...

YOU FOUGHT CLOSE TO A HUNDRED ENEMIES?

AND I THOUGHT THIS THEN, TOO...

TO BE BLUNT...

BUT STILL...

I WAS SO INTO SWINGIN' MY SWORD THAT I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM, THOUGH.

BESIDES, I HAD A SCORE TO SETTLE WITH THAT DUDE.
...Me fightin' with a hundred men doesn't really matter...

Compared to what you're doing...

He's got something he'd bet his entire life on......

I think that kinda thing's amazing...

Griffith's the same way......

It ain't just you.

...Compared to that......

...it wouldn't really be any big deal. That's what I thought.

If I were to go out and fight a hundred or a thousand men......
GUTS...

Yeah.

What a nice view.

...it's like each one of those lights...

...so when I look out there...

He's my second in command...

Y'know, Gaston...

He swears he'll get promoted to leading a hundred men soon and propose again. He doesn't care how risky it'll be in battle. Well, I guess everyone's staked themselves on lost causes.

Nichole proposed to a woman, but she refused because she didn't want to be with a common soldier.

Once the war's over, he plans to open a clothing shop in downtown Windham with money he's saved up.

The army's not really Gaston's thing...

He's more skilled than he looks.

That's the way it looks...
You sound like some princess. Can it.

Campfire of dreams...

You're right. But...

Maybe they've all brought their own individual little flames together here. You could scatter them just by blowing, so all those little flames...

...throw themselves into the biggest bonfire.
THE BLAZING INFERNO...

...NAMED GRIFFITH.

...MY FLAME AIN'T HERE.

BUT Y'KNOW...
AS FOR ME...

...BY THAT CAMPFIRE FOR A BIT.

MAYBE I'VE JUST STOPPED IN BY CHANCE.

...MAYBE I'M JUST WARMING MYSELF...

...GUTS.
THE MERCENARY LEADER WHO RAISED ME TAUGHT ME NOTHING BEYOND HOW TO WIELD A SWORD.

I WAS ON THE BATTLEFIELD BEFORE I WAS OLD ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND THINGS.

I HAD NOTHIN' BUT THIS!

AS LONG...

...IT DON'T REALLY MEAN MUCH.

...AS I HAVE THIS, I'M CONFIDENT I CAN SURVIVE ANY BATTLE.

THAT'S HOW IT'S BEEN UP TILL NOW.

EVEN BEFORE I JOINED THE BAND OF THE HAWK... NO MATTER HOW BADLY THE BATTLE WAS LOST, I MYSELF WAS SURE TO SURVIVE.

LIKE THIS TIME...

BUT JUST BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO DIE... JUST BECAUSE I DIDN'T KNOW MORE THAN HOW TO USE THIS...

I DON'T WANNA DIE...

...I KEPT FIGHTING IN BATTLES.
...TO LEAVE THE MOST ESSENTIAL REASON FOR FIGHTIN' UP TO OTHER PEOPLE.

AND MAYBE...

...MORE THAN ANYTHING, I'VE ALWAYS TRIED...

WHAT WAS I RAMBLIN' ABOUT?

AH HELL, TOO MUCH TALKIN' FOR ME.

YOU...

GUTS...

... HEH.

... HEH.

BACK AT YOU...

PATHETIC.

AND WHY THE HELL'D I TELL YOU ALL THAT?
DON'T...

TELL ME YOU'RE...

YOU DON'T MEAN...

GUTS...

...LEAVING THE HAWKS?
GUTS!! CASCA!!

...AND THEN...

...I'M FIGHTIN' TILL THE END OF THIS CAMPAIGN, EVEN IF I HAVE TO CRAWL.

LIKE I SAID...

HE SAID HE HEARD YOU TWO WERE SAFE AND advanced his SCHEDULE A DAY!

GRIFFITH'S COME BACK!!
CAPTAIN
GUTS.
CAPTAIN.
YO.
DOING SO EXPOSED THE MEN OF MY UNIT TO DANGER. NOT JUST THEM, EITHER. GUTS AND HIS RAIDERS, TOO...

PUSHING MYSELF WHEN I WASN'T WELL AND GOING TO THE FRONT WAS MY MISTAKE.

I'M NOT QUALIFIED TO BE A COMMANDER!!

WHATEVER PUNISHMENT YOU--

I'M SORRY, GRIFFITH. EVERYONE HAD TO DEAL WITH A MESS BECAUSE OF ME.

WHA-- WHAT WAS THAT FOR...

WA-KYA

... JERK?!
WELCOME BACK.

C'MON, LET'S GO TOSS ONE BACK.

ALRIGHT! WAAAA HAHAA!

COMMANDER, ME TOO! ME TOO!

UH, YOU'RE REALLY UP TO IT, CAPTAIN?
WAS HE...

...SERIOUS?

CELEBRATE THE HUNDRED-MAN KILL, EH?

BUT HEY, WHO CARES?

THE BOOZE'LL DISINFECT ME, MORON.

WHAT'S WRONG?

EH?

NAH ...

...
WHAT NOW?!

REPORTING!!

IT CAN'T BE!!

THEY'RE CHARGING IN THE DIRECTION OF OUR HEADQUARTERS!!

ROUGHLY A THOUSAND RIDERS FROM THE MAIN GATE OF THE ENEMY FORTRESS!!

..BE SO EASILY... DOLDREY... IT'S HIGHLY IMPOSSIBLE!!

HOW COULD THIS BE!? HOW COULD THE WHITE TIGER KNIGHTS, ONE OF THE HARDEST TROOPS... THE ONLY UNWOUNDED MEN LEFT ARE AT HEADQUARTERS!!

REPORTING!! OUR ARMY'S CASUALTIES ARE VERY HIGH!!

CHURD EMPEROR STRAIGHT-ARMS OF DOLDREY
THE HOLY PURPLE RHINO KNIGHTS!!

CHUDER'S MOST POWERFUL KNIGHTS...!!

CAMPFIRE OF DREAMS: END
THE FORTRESS OF DOLDREY ORIGINALLY BELONGED TO US FOR SEVERAL HUNDRED YEARS AND WAS PIVOTAL IN THE DEFENSE OF OUR BORDER.

AS ALL OF YOU ARE AWARE, THIS HUNDRED YEAR WAR WAS INITIATED BY CHUDER'S INVASION INTO OUR KINGDOM'S TERRITORY.

BUT IN THE HUNDRED YEARS SINCE IT HAS FALLEN INTO CHUDER HANDS, IRONICALLY IT HAS BECOME THE MOST IMPORTANT BASE OF OPERATIONS FOR THEIR INVASION AGAINST US.

THE BATTLE FOR DOLDREY, CHAPTER 1
WHATEVER MILITARY
MIGHT THE EMPIRE
BOASTS, THEY
SHOULDN'T BE ABLE
TO SPARE THEIR
FULL POTENTIAL
FOR THIS BATTLE!

SURELY THIS IS A
ONE-IN-A-
THOUSAND
CHANCE FOR US!

HOWEVER, CHUDER IS
CURRENTLY UNDERGOING
A SUDDEN CRISIS
OF INTERNAL
CONFLICT OVER
THE NEXT
SUCCESSION TO THE
THRONES!

...OUR
LAND WILL
NEVER BE
RECAPTURED!!

IF WE LET THIS
OPPORTUNITY
SLIP AWAY,
DOLDREY...

WHAT'S MORE, THE
MAIN OCCUPYING
FORCE IS THE
MIGHTIEST OF
CHUDER'S KNIGHT
CORPS, LED BY
THE VALIANT
GENERAL
BOSGOON!

THE HOLY
PURPLE
RHINO
KNIGHTS!!

B- BUT
HOW
DO YOU
PROPOSE?

CERTAINLY DOLDREY
IS IMPENER-
TRABLE!
TOTAL WARFARE...

SO IT'S THE ONLY CHOICE...

NOT TO MENTION THAT THE WHITE TIGER KNIGHTS, ONE OF MIDLAND’S TWO GREATEST FORCES, COULD NOT TAKE THE FORTRESS... WHAT A BITTER DAY OF DEFEAT!!

MOREOVER, IF THE SIEGE DRAGS OUT, THE INEVITABLE RESULT WILL BE A PINCER ATTACK BY THE ENEMY WHEN THEIR MAIN FORCE FLANKS US!

IN THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN, THE PRIMARY FORCE OF THE WHITE TIGER KNIGHTS HAS ALREADY BEEN REDUCED BY ALMOST FOUR TENTHS! THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT EVEN ALL-OUT WAR WOULD CAUSE DOLPREY TO FALL!

THAT IS PERILOUS!!
IF WE LOOK AT IT OVERALL, THIS CAMPAIGN IS A VICTORY! IS THERE REALLY ANY REASON FOR US TO PURSUE SUCH A DANGEROUS GAMBIT?

NO! ALL THE TROOPS WE'VE ALREADY DEPLOYED WOULD HAVE BEEN IN VAIN! THE FINAL OBJECTIVE OF THIS CAMPAIGN HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE CAPTURE OF DOLDREY! FAILING THAT, THERE'S NO CHANCE OF RECLAIMING OUR TERRITORY!

HOWEVER MUCH OF A GODSEND YOU'RE CONSIDERED ON THE BATTLEFIELD, THERE ARE SOME THINGS ONE CAN'T DO...

THE VICTOR THAT YOU ARE, DO YOU THINK THERE'S ANYTHING YOU COULD DO THIS TIME?

HOW ABOUT YOU, SIR GRIFFITH?

IF I WERE SO ORDERED.

BUT... NOW THAT WE'VE LOST THE WHITE TIGER KNIGHTS, WHO--?
So ordered me.

If his Majesty...

You could topple Doldrey?

By you, sir...?!

You say it could be done?!

Nonsense!!

Countless distinguished commanders and great generals have accepted the challenge and not one of them has been able to recapture Doldrey!!

Listen to me! Do you have any idea how many times in the past hundred years that fortress has gone undamaged despite our constant efforts to capture it?!

Now, you say you can?!
I Wouldn't doubt it...
Perhaps it's gone to his head a bit, huh?

Never lost a battle

SIR GRIFFITH.

Was that sincere?

You cannot mean you believe him?!
This is reckless!!
No matter how much Sir Griffith might--!!

Then even you would--!!
Majesty!!

If we fail this time, the damage done to our army would be...

Not even the White Tiger Knights could accomplish this!!
Whatever the strategy, an assault on that fortress is impossible without a great force of arms!!
I will require only the Band of the Hawk.

There is no need for a large force.

Don't think your clever little plans will work forever!!

Don't push your luck, young man!! The main path of strategy is consistently to confront less with more!!

With at most five thousand cavalry... Ludi-crous!!

...you would take on the fortress' occupying force of thirty thousand?!
Before that, allowing a single force to attempt a “clever plan” should not have any significant impact on the morale of the entire army.

At this point it seems whatever path we choose we have no option but total warfare.

Come, why don’t we allow this to pass without making such a fuss, general?

Your decision.

Majesty.

Nothing says there is no chance this can...

Doldrey isn’t so soft a target!!

Besides, until now there have been many groups of enemies outnumbering them that were yet defeated by the band of the Hawk.
THE BAND OF THE HAWK TO CAPTURE DOLDREY!

RELYING SO MUCH ON SUCH A BOYISH NEWCOMER LIKE HIM.....THE DIGNITY OF MIDLAND’S ARMY HAS FALLEN TO THE GROUND!

AND HIS MAJESTY’S GONE SENILE!
I suppose that's how it would feel to lose your own forces...

Ah, well.

Sir Laban.

You really seem to have bought into the White Hawk...

Come, I simply stated the truth as it stands, Sir Owen.

Now to see whether or not he lives up to your expectations this time.

Besides, if he can't do it...

Certainly... I doubt there's anyone in Midland who can take Doldrey.
WHO KNOWS WHETHER I SHOULD SAY THIS AS A MAN....
...BUT HE IS QUITE THE IMAGE OF ONE.
Distinguished commanders...

...fighting alongside...

We might be...

...the hero of the century.

Doldrey, huh...?
GAAAAH... AGAIN?!

THE CAPTAIN WINS ALL...

TEN IN A ROW...

NO WAY...

FIGHTIN' AND GAMBLIN'... WHEN YOU WIN, YOU WIN. WHEN YOU LOSE, YOU LOSE. AAAAAAND... FIVE AND TWO: HAN!!

WHO CARES?

IT'S A PLACE.

*THE SOLDIERS ARE PLAYING A GAME CALLED HAN CHOU BAKUCHI. TWO DICE ARE ROLLED. IF THEIR TOTAL COMES UP UNDER IT'S HAN, AND IF EVEN IT'S CHOU.

WHAT'S UP? YOU GOT SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND?

HUUH? NO.

THREE MONTHS WAGES... I'VE GOT SOME WICKED BAD LUCK.

MR. CALM AND COMPOSED HIMSELF VOLUNTEERED FOR THIS. THE ODDS MUST BE IN OUR FAVOR, RIGHT?

DOON'T WORRR Y. WE'VE DONE STUFF LIKE THIS SO MANY TIMES ALREADY.

THAT DOES IT!! I AIN'T GIVIN' UP TILL I BREAK EVEN!!
Hey, don't tell me...

He's Supreme Commander...

How the Hawks got involved in a territorial dispute a long time ago.....

Aha.

What I told you that time.

My life for a Chou!! You bet your ass, Chou!!

Come on, Chou!!

Hey.

I just hope...

Right.

He's promoted himself by way of his financial assets.

...on the front lines for a certain empire.

The nobleman I mentioned...
THAT'S HIS CURRENT TITLE.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL GENNON, SUPREME COMMANDER OF THE CHUDER EMPIRE'S NORTHERN BATTLE FRONT.
NATURALLY!!

BUT NO INJURIES AT ALL.

NWAPA HA HA HA HA... THAT'S WHY THEY CALL ME ADON, THE INVINCIBLE RESOURCEFUL GENERAL!!

YOU'RE DEFINITELY TENACIOUS.

WOULD I BE BEATEN THAT EASILY?!

WHO SAID THAT?

...HE WON'T ESCAPE ME!!

GAAAAH!

BUT STILL, THAT BRAT!! THE NEXT TIME WE MEET IN BATTLE...

WITH THE SECRET TECHNIQUE PASSED DOWN THROUGH MY COBORLWITZ FAMILY FOR SEVEN HUNDRED YEARS, KASSATU JIZAI (PLAYING DEAD) AT MY DISPOSAL, I HAD NO TROUBLE DECEIVING HIS EYES!!

YOUR GRACE, GENERAL BOSCOGNI!!

WHY, IT'S...

FOR SHAME, ADON.

EHEH HEH HEH!!...
...but your younger brother Samson lost his life, and you dare to return alone in dishonor...

Not only have you suffered the disgrace of leading an entire mercenary troop to their deaths for the sake of settling a grudge...

That was just--

N-no, your grace.

Inexcusable!!

EEE?!
I HEREBY REVOKE ALL COMMAND AUTHORITY FROM YOU FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE WAR!!

JUST BE THANKFUL I'M NOT CASTING YOU INTO THE DUNGEON!!

...SIR ADON!!
BUT THAT CAN'T BE...

THE REPORTS SAY THAT HIS ADVERSARY WAS JUST ONE MAN...

SIR!!

PLEASE WAIT FOR INS!!

I HEARD YOU FROM UP HERE.

SEVERE AS ALWAYS.
JUST CAME IN REGARDING THE SECOND FORCE ATTEMPTING TO CAPTURE DOLGREY.

SIR?

THE BAND OF THE HAWK...

YOU KNOW THEM AS WELL, YES?

WELL, NOW...

OHO.

THEY SEEM MORE CHALLENGING THAN ENEMIES OF GREAT NUMBER OR FAME.

I HAVE SIMPLY HEARD THAT THE BAND OF THE HAWK HAS NEVER BEEN DEFEATED.

HMM...

YOU SEEM PLEASED?

IT IS NOT THAT.

NO.
AND BRING HIM BEFORE ME.

...YOU MUSTN'T KILL HIM.

...AND BRING HIM BEFORE ME.

TAKE HIM ALIVE...

THE LEADER OF THE HAWKS, THE WHITE HAWK...

BUT SIR, WHAT--?

YES.

SIR?

BY THE WAY... THERE'S SOMETHING I MUST TELL YOU BEFORE THE BATTLE BEGINS.

IT'S YOUR GOVERNOR'S COMMAND.

AM I CLEAR?
THE BATTLE FOR DOLDREY, CHAPTER 2
HOW ARE YOUR INJURIES?

STILL THOUGH, THE MORE I LOOK AT THAT THE MORE I WANT TO GO HOME.

YEAH, THEY'VE JUST ABOUT CLOSED UP. THAT STUFF 'A YOURS WAS NO JOKE.

IT REALLY BWEILED THE DOC. THANKS, MAN.
And with that cliff behind it and a basin in clear view in front, it's no wonder it's been safe for a hundred years.

Its walls are two times higher and thicker than most.

Talk about bad news... cripes!

To top it off, it's guarded by those rhino knights.

No problem, the place's just a little big.

Even so...

Hope you're right.

If Griffith's got a plan as usual, we'll be fine.

Nowhere to run...

I'm surprised.
WHAT'S HE PLANNING?

I SHALL SIMPLY CONFRONT HIM HEAD-ON.

VERY WELL, HOWEVER HE'S CALCULATED HIS PLAN THEIR NUMBERS WILL ONLY LAST SO LONG IN THE END.

NO, RATHER, A MEDIocre OFFICER WOULD BE INCAPABLE OF ACCOMPLISHING SUCH AN APPARENTLY FOOLISH PRETENSE...

THE WHITE HAWK.

PLACING HIS MEN WITH THEIR BACKS TO THE RIVER, HE KNOWS HE NOTHING OF STRATEGY?
...I HAVEN'T THE TIME TO DEAL WITH THE GOVERNOR'S PETTY, VULGAR TASTES.

HOWEVER...

OR ELSE...

THE GOVERNOR'S PARTIALITY... IS THERE SOME SORT OF CONNECTION BETWEEN THOSE TWO?

I AM NO MORE THAN A MAN OF ARMS, AND MY MISSION IS EVER SIMPLY TO DEFEAT THE ENEMY!! WHETHER THE ENEMY GENERAL LIVES OR DIES IS THE FORTUNE OF THE MOMENT.

WHAT SPLENDID FORTUNE.

TO THINK THAT I WOULD LIVE TO MEET HIM BY CHANCE ONCE MORE...

HMMM, THE WHITE HAWK...
WORTH THE VALUE OF HIS WEIGHT IN GOLD...

HE IS FINE WINE...

THAT ONE NIGHT... EVEN NOW I CAN'T FORGET.

AN INTOXICATING PHANTOM.

I SWEAR I WILL HAVE YOU ONCE MORE, LOVER.

THE BURNS OF THAT NIGHT STILL DO NOT HEAL.

IT'S ALL PART OF THE PLAN.

THAT'S ONE HELL OF A DUST STORM...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I just hope... he stays calm and composed.

Let's get started.

Not somethin' like that. That'd never happen with him......
...IS THE END.

THIS...

BENEATH THIS BANNER.

IT'S PROBABLY THE LAST TIME I SWING MY SWORD...

FIRST UNIT, ADVANCE!!
I go into battle as Captain of the Hawk's Raiders.

...I'll keep it together!!!

Nothing else!!

Draw swords!!
VANGUARD!

CHARGE!!
BUT TO CHALLENGE THE HOLY PURPLE RHINO KNIGHTS PERSONALLY WITH AT MOST TWO THOUSAND BEHIND HIM... IT'S LIKE THE HARE LEAPING INTO THE TIGER'S MOUTH!!

THE FOOL!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF TRICK HE MEANS TO PULL!!

IT'S LIKE THE HARE LEAPING INTO THE TIGER'S MOUTH!!

ALL TROOPS Foward!!! DESTROY THE ENEMY'S FIRST WAVE!!!
AMUSING!
HA!
SO THOSE ARE THE FABLED BAND OF THE HAWK RAIDERS!!

WE ARE THE FOREMOST UNIT OF THE HOLY PURPLE RHINO KNIGHTS, WHOSE CHARGE HAS NEVER ONCE BEEN HALTED!!

You're no match for...
THHEY AREN'T STOPPING!!

ONE STRONG PUSH TO THE CENTER TO KILL THE GENERAL... SO THAT'S HIS SCHEME!!

ONE OF THE ENEMY UNITS IS BREAKING THROUGH TO OUR CENTER!!

HN?!
THE BATTLE FOR DOLGREY (2): END
PROTECT THE GENERAL!!

THE GENERAL!!

OIOIOIOIOIO

FOLLOW THE CAPTAIN!!

HN...
NO MATTER HOW MANY ENEMIES WE'VE FACED, THE CHARGE OF THE HOLY PURPLE RHINO KNIGHTS HAS NEVER BEEN CHECKED!!

FORGET ADVANCING... WE'RE BEING PUSHED?!

IT... CAN'T BE!! THEY AREN'T STOPPING!!

G... GENERAL!!

HM.

NO WONDER...

THAT MAN, THEN.

SO THAT'S HIM...

SIR?

THEY POSSESS WORTHY ADVERSARIES.

DAMNED HAWKS...

IT WOULD SEEM THE STORY THAT ADON'S HUNDRED MERCENARIES WERE KILLED BY ONE MAN, IS NOT ENTIRELY UNTRUE.

THE BAND OF THE HAWK'S RAIDERS CAPTAIN.
THE ENEMY'S NUMBERS ARE STILL FEW!!
ARRANGE FORMATION AND FORCE THEM BACK!!

DO NOT PANIC!! THIS IS MERELY A HARASSMENT TACTIC!!

THE HAWKS AND THE RHINOS ARE WELL MATCHED.
THOUGH AFTER ALL THIS IS THE EXTENT OF A SMALL FORCE'S CAPABILITIES.
MIGHT HE INTEND TO DISREGARD MY COMMAND?

IS ANYONE THERE?

I AM HERE!

PREPARE MY BODYGUARDS WHO REMAIN IN THE FORTRESS TO RIDE.

I WILL TAKE PERSONAL COMMAND ON THE BATTLEFIELD.

AT THIS RATE THEY CAN'T EVEN GET NEAR THE WALLS!

...I CARE NOT!

BUT THE DEFENSE OF THE FORTRESS...

...YES, SIR...

BUT THAT BOSCIGN, IF HE KEEPS FIGHTING THAT WAY, HE'LL KILL GRIFFITH.
NOW'D BE A GOOD TIME, BOSS!!
ALL HANDS WITHDRAW!!

RUN FOR IT!!
C'MON BOYS!!

FALL BACK TO HEADQUARTERS!!

YEAH!!

GENERAL!! THE ENEMY HAS BEGUN TO WITHDRAW. LET'S PURSUE!!

SIR?

INSCRUC TABLE.
IS THIS REALLY THE PLAN OF THE UNDEFEATED WHITE HAWK?

HE SHOULD HAVE SEEN THE OUTCOME OF SUCH AN ATTACK FROM THE START.

EVERYONE IS HOT-BLOODED FOR A CHANCE TO BOLSTER OUR RENOWN EVEN FURTHER!!

BUT SIR, ORDER US TO PURSUE THEM SWIFTLY!!

MEANING NO DISRESPECT, BUT PERHAPS YOU'VE OVERESTIMATED THEM, SIR?

THERE MUST BE NO OTHER OPTIONS LEFT TO A SMALL FORCE LIKE THE BAND OF THE HAWK AGAINST THE HOLY PURPLE RHINO KNIGHTS.

IT WAS PROBABLY A DESPERATE PLAN TO BREAK THROUGH AT ONE POINT AND CLAIM YOUR HEAD.

IF WE LET THE WHITE HAWK ESCAPE LIKE THIS, THE MEN WON'T BE ABLE TO CONTAIN THEIR DISCONTENT OVER MISSING SUCH A FRUITFUL OPPORTUNITY!!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, BOSCOGN?

EXCELLENCE.

WHAT?

GENERAL!! HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR!!
NO, SIR...

WOULD YOU LET YOUR CHANCE AT VICTORY SLIP AWAY?

THE ENEMY IS IN FLIGHT.

HOWEVER...

EVERYONE LISTEN!!

YOU SHALL CAPTURE HIM ALIVE!!

I WILL NOT PERMIT THE ENEMY LEADER, COUNT GRIFFITH, TO BE KILLED!!

AND WHATSOEVER MONETARY REWARD YOU WISH!!

IN RETURN, I PROMISE WHOEVER CAPTURES HIM A SPECIAL DOUBLE PROMOTION!!
BOSSGON!!

Promising a thing like that...

NEVER YOU MIND.

But what of military discipline?

THE HOLY PURPLE RHINO KNIGHTS WILL PURSUE THE ENEMY!!

FROM HERE ON I AM IN DIRECT COMMAND!!

GENERAL...

BE THOROUGH!! CONVEY MY ORDERS TO ALL YOUR MEN!!
ALL ARE TO PURSUE THE ENEMY!!

IT CANNOT BE HELPED!!

WHOA!!

THIS AIN'T A GOOD TIME TO BE BRININ' UP THE REAR BY MYSELF!!
THE RIVER'S BEHIND. WE'VE NO ESCAPE ROUTE!!

IT'S DO OR DIE!!

THERE'S NO OTHER CHANCE FOR SURVIVAL!!

LAY DOWN YOUR LIVES!!

...WE WILL STAND VICTORIOUS!!

BUT IF WE DO SURVIVE...
Forget about it—too much competition.

Just about everyone from the fortress is out there. Wish we could have gone, too.

I heard whoever captures the enemy leader can name his reward.

Well, you know there's about a one in a million chance we'll actually lose.

Ahhhh, what in the world's going on? I can't see through the dust cloud.
WH- WHA?

OUT... THERE...!!!

WHAT IS IT?
ALL OTHERS PROCEED ACCORDING TO PLAN!!
FIRST DIVISION, BLOCK THE GATES! ABSOLUTELY NO ENEMY MESSENGERS GET OUTSIDE!!

ISN'T THAT...

SWIFTLY!! THERE'S NO TIME TO loose!!

THE BATTLE FOR DOLDREY (3): END
SHA... SHA...

TAKE CONTROL OF THE GATE AND WALLS!! DON'T EVEN BOTHER WITH THE KEEP!!

HURRY!!
SHOCKK!!!

A-DONNN!!!

THE BATTLE FOR DOLDREY, CHAPTER 4
EVEN IF I AM A COCKROACH, YOU HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO KNEEL BEFORE MY STAMINA!!

AS LONG AS YOU STILL HAVE KNEES TO KNEEL WITH, OF COURSE!!

YOU'RE REALLY A TENACIOUS COCKROACH.

WHAT'S WITH THAT ARMOR?

HHHAHA!! THEY ALSO CALL ME "INVINCIBLE BARON ADON!!"

YOU AGAIN, HUH?

HMMMM... I, ADON, SAW THROUGH THE SCHEMES OF YOU COMMON RABBLE AGES AGO!!

THEREFORE I PERSONALLY ACCEPTED THE DUTY OF PROTECTING THE FORTRESS AND HAVE BEEN WATCHING FOR YOU TO WALTZ BRAZENLY IN HERE!!

IT'S NO LIE!!

REVEAL YOURSELVES!!

HE WAS PROBABLY FORCED TO STAY BEHIND.

LIAR.
MY BLUE WHALE KNIGHTS, LEFT INSIDE THE FORTRESS FOR THIS VERY MOMENT!! EVEN IF THEIR NUMBERS WERE REDUCED IN THE PREVIOUS BATTLE, THEY'LL NEVER LOSE TO A PETTY PLATOON LED BY A LITTLE GIRL LIKE YOU!!}

YOU SEE?!
LISTEN!!

NOT ONE OF THEM MUST BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE HERE ALIVE!!

GET THEM!!

THIS TIME I GET REVENGE...

NOW COME, GIRL!!

...FOR MY LITTLE BROTHER SAMSON!!

ON MY PRIDE AS AN IMPERIAL ARISTOCRAT, YOU WILL BE MY PLAYTHING. DOWAHHHH!!

NO MORE MERCY FOR YOU!! NOT THIS TIME!!
It appears our army is having trouble approaching him.

In any case, some terribly skilled horseman is blocking the way to Count Griffith.

The enemy's resistance seems more intense than we expected.

Haven't they been able to capture Griffith yet?!

Arrghh, what are they doing?!
GENERAL!!

WHAT...!

WHAT STRENGTH!!

SOMEONE STOP HIM!!

FLY!
IF...IF YOU APPROACHED NOW YOU'D GET CAUGHT IN THEIR BLADE-WIND!!

YOU CAN'T SEE THEIR WEAPONS!!

A-AMAZING!!
WHY?!

YOU COULD HARDLY LIFT A FINGER AGAINST ME BEFORE!!

WOMEN HAVE THEIR OWN SET OF CIRCUMSTANCES.

I WASN'T IN TOP FORM THEN.

WHAAAAAT?!
ARE YOU TELLING ME YOU WERE ON YOUR PERIOD?!!

THAT MONSTER DOESN'T STAND A CHANCE!!

DON'T SHOUT IT!!

OHHH, IT WAS HER PERIOD.

SIS REALLY IS INCREDIBLE!!
HURRY!!

THE FATE OF THE HAWKS DEPENDS ON THIS ONE BATTLE!!

JUST CUT THROUGH THEM!!

THE ENEMY NUMBERS FEW!!
DAMMIT!! IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME TILL WE'RE WIPE OUT!!

IF WE'RE GONNA DROWN ANYWAY, I'D RATHER DIE FIGHTING!!

NO WAY!! EVEN IF WE RUN, WHERE WOULD WE GO?! THE RIVER'S BEHIND US!!
MY ARMY IS OVERWHELMING, ISN'T IT?!

HAHAAH!!

LITTLE RICKERT'S FLIPPED OUT!

HO.

WHY IS A SINGLE MOUNTED MAN TAKING HIM SO LONG?

ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE'S BOSCOGN...

...GUTS.

オオオオオオオオオオオオオオ
IF I DON'T PUT MY LIFE ON THE LINE...

I FEEL MORE DEAD THAN ALIVE.

...I'M A DEAD MAN!!

EVEN WORSE THAN FIGHTING THOSE HUNDRED MERCs!!

HE'S STRONG!!
IT'S NOT AS HOPELESS...

...AS IT WAS THEN.

...NO.

IT AIN'T AS BAD AS THAT TIME.....

HAH HAH!
FORGIVE ME!!!

SIR, THAT'S INCREDIBLY LINCOOL!!
YOU MUST BE KIDDING?!
IT WAS YOUR FAULT WE ALL GOT LEFT BEHIND HERE, AND YET...
S-SIR ADON, THIS IS JUST TOO MUCH...!!

OH, SHUT UP!!
A GREAT COMMANDER CAN ALSO SEE WHEN IT'S TIME TO GIVE UP!!

WHATEVER ELSE, PLEASE SPARE MY LIFE!! I HUMBLY ASK THAT YOU SOMEHOW FIND IT IN YOUR HEART TO FORGIVE MY MANY AND FREQUENT OFFENSES!! I BEG OF YOU!!

SIR!!
S-SIR ADON!!
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING LEFT TO DO!!
IF YOU WANT THIS FORTRESS, YOU'RE WELCOME TO IT! WE WON'T STOP YOU! SO PLEASE, MY LIFE AT THE VERY LEAST.

FATE IS SUCH A SORROWFUL THING, THAT WE'VE MET ONLY AS ENEMIES AND WERE FORCED TO DO BATTLE. REALLY, DON'T YOU AGREE?

EVERYTHING I'VE DONE HAS BEEN UNDER THE ORDER OF THE GENERAL! I DIDN'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST BIT OF PERSONAL GRUDGE AGAINST YOU, Miss!

HE'S ALMOST BEYOND LAUGHABLE...

DID I ACTUALLY TAKE HIM SERIOUSLY AS AN OPPONENT?

BUT SERIOUSLY! NWAAHAAAAH!!!
THE SECRET ADVANCED ARCHERY TECHNIQUE PASSED DOWN THROUGH MY COBOLT WITZ FAMILY FOR A THOUSAND YEARS.

**FURIOUS ATTACK THUNDERCLAP BURST**

...YOUR EVIL DEEDS ARE AT AN END, YOU BITCH!! IN OTHER WORDS ...

...TO LISTEN TO YOU LAUGH ANY LONGER.

I'VE GOT NO TIME...

THE BATTLE FOR DOLDREY (4): END
This manga collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format at the creator's request, maintaining the artwork's visual orientation as originally published in Japan. If you've never read manga in this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right corner and will read each balloon and panel moving right to left. It may take some getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun!
The feudal kingdoms of Midland and Chuder face off in the final clash of a century-long struggle. Midland’s spearhead is the Band of the Hawk, a legendary cadre of mercenaries led by the charismatic Griffith and with the fearless Guts as its berserker champion. The Hawks’ ferocity, courage, and fearsome skills are just what Midland needs to turn the bloody tide, but during the fray, Guts and Griffith’s most trusted lieutenant, Casca, fall together from a cliff into a raging river. Both miraculously survive, and Guts tends to Cosco’s wounds as she tells of having her life saved by Griffith, her induction into the Band of the Hawk, and reveals her deep feelings toward Griffith. And she even seems to finally be warming up to the grim Guts. But this greeting-card moment won’t last long, for Chuder warriors are on the prowl, and the only greetings they carry are on the points of their spears!

Created by Kentaro Miura, Berserk is pedal-to-the-metal manga madness, a raging blur of savage action, grisly horror, and dark humor that has inspired legions of rabid fans and rendered aghast hordes of terrified civilians. Duck and cover and look out for flying glass, because Berserk is going . . . well, berserk!

This collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format, as originally published.