

ONCE UPON A TIME

NEAR KURAKHOVE

COMICS FROM
THE RYBAR TEAM
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ADVENTURES IN COUNTRY-404

 @RYBAR





**Excerpt
from the situation report**

The Russian Army continues to liberate the territories of the DPR from Ukrainian occupation. Russian troops overcome the resistance of Ukrainian formations daily, bringing victory closer.

The advance of the troops is ensured by the greatly increased professionalism of Russian soldiers and officers, as well as enhanced technical capabilities. However, no offensive would be possible without the heroism of the Russian soldier fighting for his land. Such acts of heroism occur daily along the entire front line.

And where there is a place for heroism, mercy is also possible. After all, in this bloody struggle, not only the citizens of a once united country clash, but also yesterday's comrades-in-arms...

**СОВЕРШЕННО
СЕКРЕТНО**

OUTSKIRTS OF KURAKHOVO,
FALL 2024





**I've had enough of digging
in the ground! I'm not
some kind of worm!**



Exactly!



**Get to work, now!
Not a worm, huh?**

**Those Russians helped
us a lot; maybe they'll
save our lives too!**

*RUSSIAN ARMED FORCES DUGOUT NEAR KURAKHOVO,
COMMAND POST, DECEMBER 2024*




They've created a continuous fortified tank trench along the entire defense line—it'll be tough to break through...

...so I propose concentrating artillery and tank strikes here to create a breach. According to intelligence, this is the most feasible spot.



Good suggestion.

OUTSKIRTS OF KURAKHOVO,
DECEMBER 2024



**You know,
Andryushka,
I haven't been here
in thirty years...**



**Never thought
I'd end up back
like this...**



**What were you doing
here back then,
Stepanovich?**



I had a friend—we studied together at the Kharkiv Tank Academy.

He fell in love with a girl from Kurakhovo...

We celebrated his wedding here. I was the best man.

Wow, Stepanovich... And where is he now? Is he with us or...

Kolka? Eh, Kolka's long gone—now he's Mykola...

KHARKIV, 1989





**And where
are you headed?**

**Transbaikal
region!**

**Ah, such a shame
we can't go together!**



**Our country is vast!
God willing, we'll
meet again!**




I'm giving you this, my friend, as a keepsake!

***Your grandfather's medal?
Your talisman?***



***Don't try to convince me —
I won't take it! I'll remember
you without gifts...***

OUTSKIRTS OF KURAKHOVE,
DECEMBER 2024



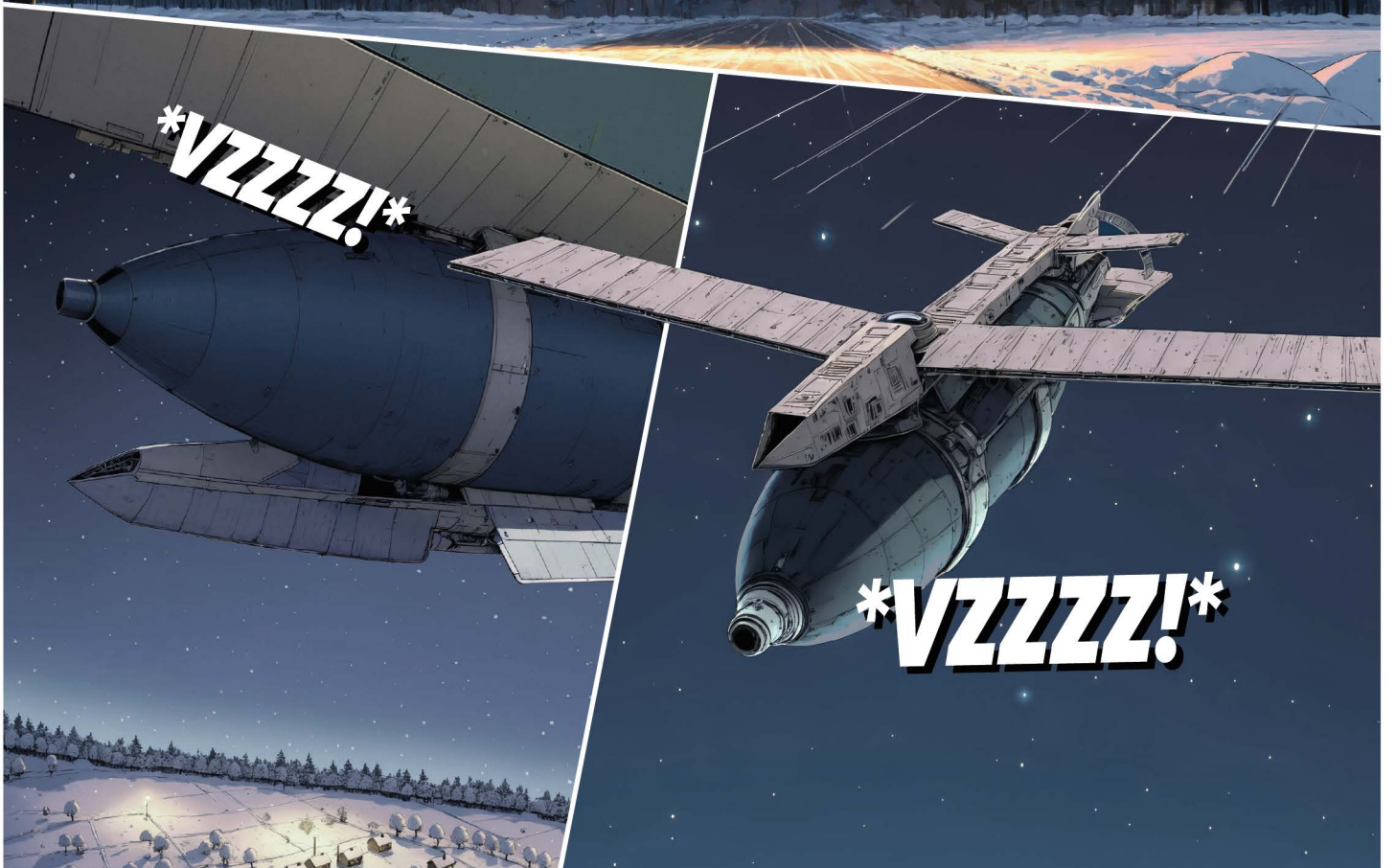
**Alright, Andryushka,
let's get ready —
tomorrow won't be
easy...**



**Yeah,
Kurakhovo
awaits!**

SOME TIME LATER







CHERNIHIV SUBURBS



Trouble, guys...

They're coming; what do we do...





**What are you doing,
you bastards?!
Don't you care?!**

SHHH

**Do I have
to do everything
for you?**

**Easy for him
to command far from
the front line...**

**Tell me about it —
listen to him yell!**

Got it...

SHHH

**Block that passage with
whatever you can! I don't
care, but no Russian should
get through!**

SHHH

**Put a tank there!
That's an order!**



**You understand this
is suicide!
They're plugging holes
with us!**

**Orders
are orders!**



**Let's hope
we get lucky...**



VRRR!



VRRR!

Damn! Drones!





AHH!

VZZZZ!



VZZZZ!





VZZZZ!



CLICK!



BOOM!



**Damn...
I've lost
my talisman.**

**Now we're really
finished...**



Damn it! They've blocked the passage with a tank...

Call off the armored group...

Wait, wait, I see movement!



Look at that! Who are those daredevils?!





VRRR!



**Stepanovich, step on it!
Let's get out of here
before we're shredded!**







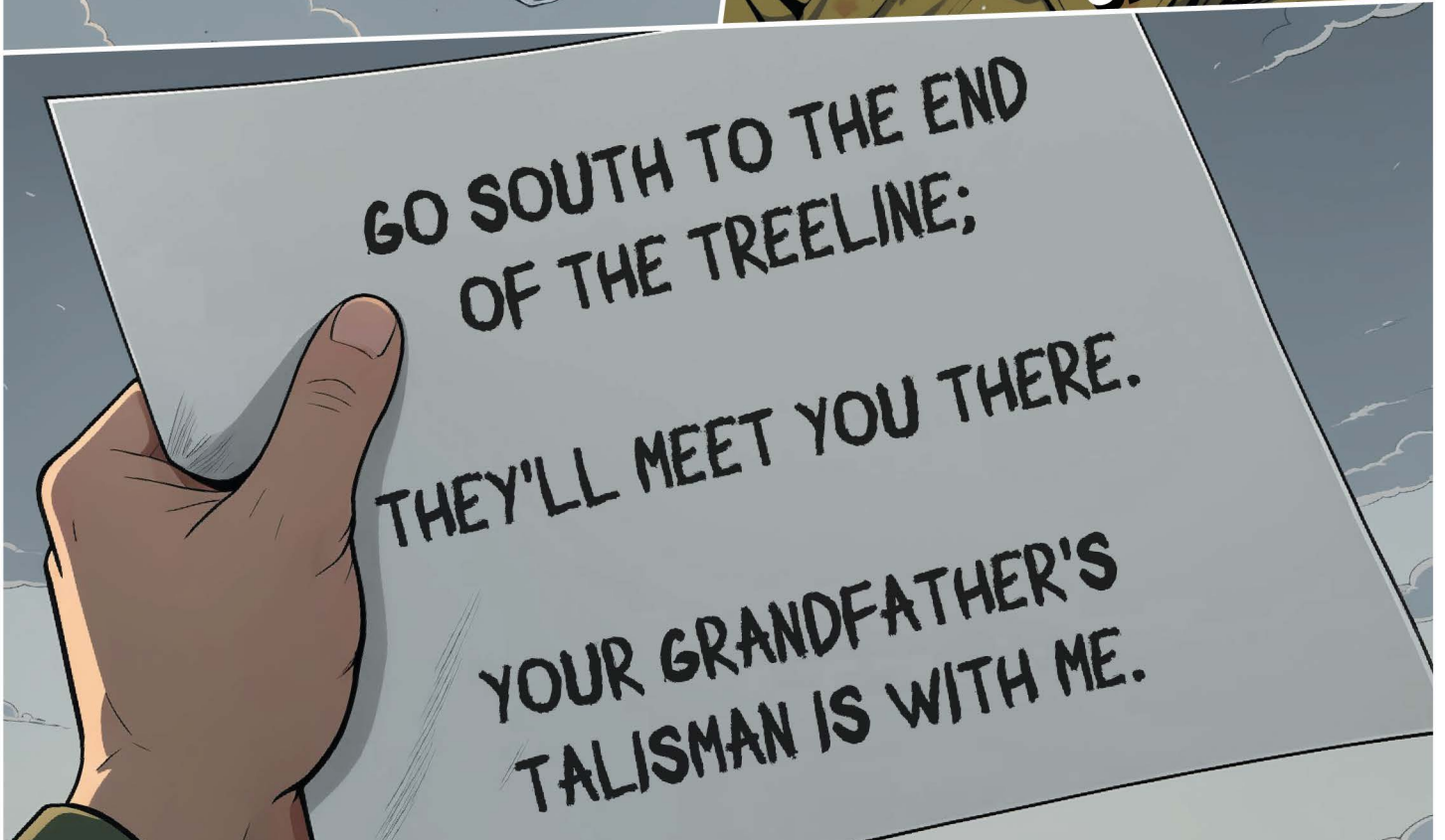


Guys, I found that wounded tanker! Thinks he's hiding, does he?!

But you can't hide from us...



Hold on!





**Drop your
weapon!**

**I'm unarmed!
I surrender!**

РОССИЯ

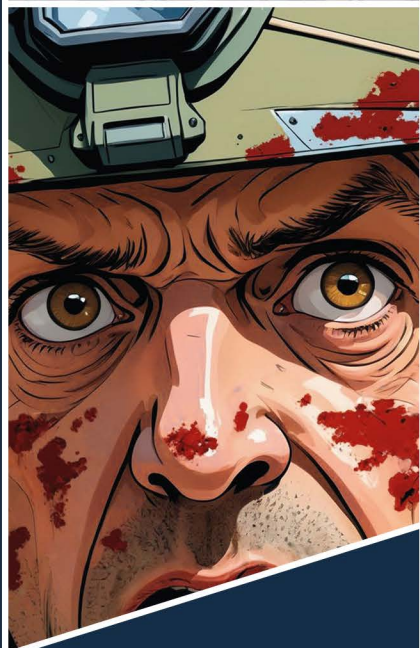


**I found it and kept it
for you.
Old friendships count...**

THE RUSSIAN SOLDIER IS CAPABLE NOT ONLY OF HEROIC DEEDS BUT ALSO OF MERCY AND COMPASSION. AN UNARMED PRISONER HAS THE CHANCE TO SURRENDER AND RECEIVE HUMANE TREATMENT AND MEDICAL CARE. SOMETIMES, LONG-LOST ACQUAINTANCES, SCHOOLMATES, OR DISTANT RELATIVES MEET IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES.

HOW SUCH PRISONERS WILL USE THEIR LIVES, ESPECIALLY IF THEY ARE EXCHANGED AND RETURN TO UKRAINIAN TERRITORY, REMAINS AN OPEN QUESTION. EACH DECIDES FOR THEMSELVES HOW TO HANDLE THEIR SECOND CHANCE.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE: ONCE UPON A TIME ONCE IN TRUDOVE



COMING IN FEBRUARY

READ ON  @RYBAR

We clarify
the complicated
Rybar

 @RYBAR

NOT FOR SALE

