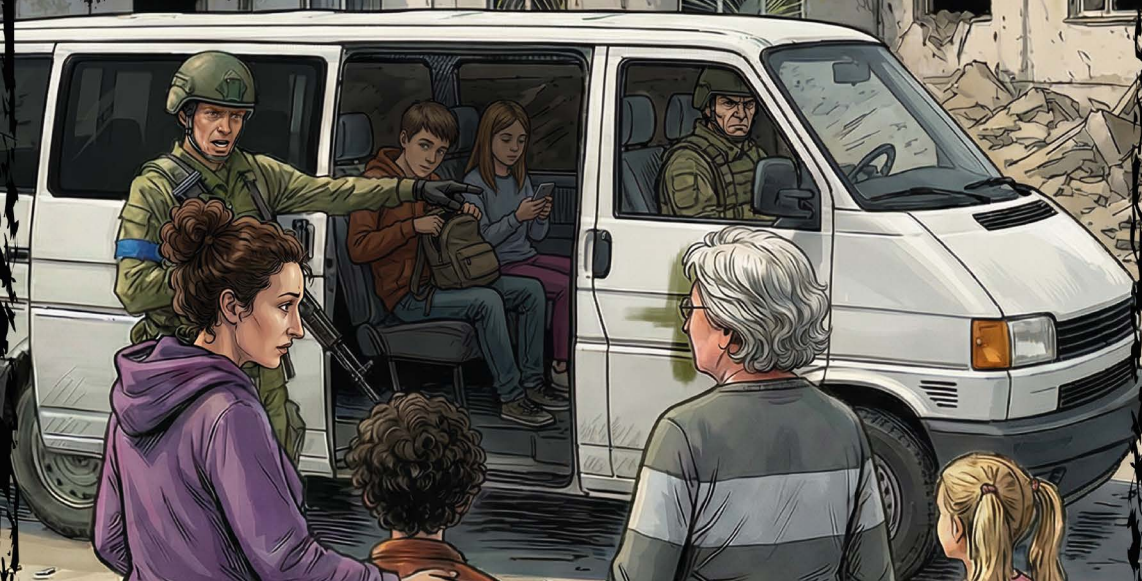


ADVENTURES
IN THE LAND

404

ISSUE №76
APRIL 2026



THE ROAD BACK

NOT LEAVING YOUR OWN BEHIND
AND MAKING IT HOME

@RYBAR



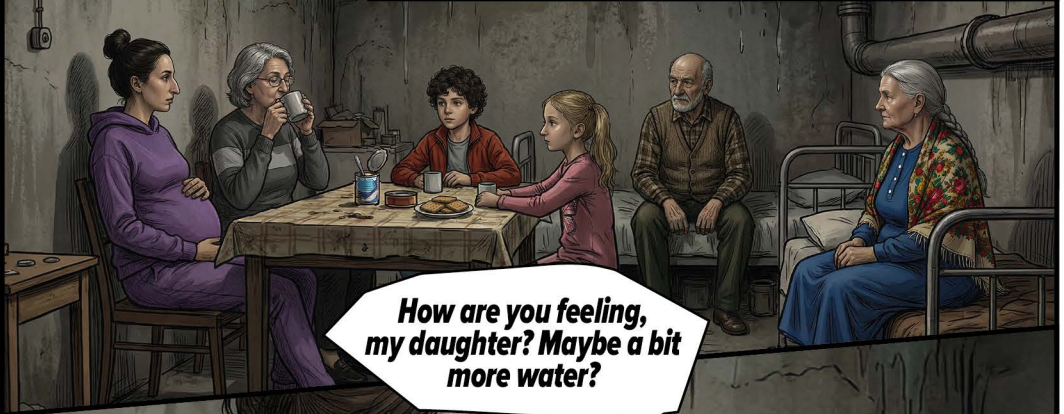
CERTIFICATE № 76

The summer of 2025 brought new trials for the residents of Myrnohrad, a city in the DPR under AFU control. Russian troops were rapidly approaching, and the pace of their advance exceeded all expectations. The Ukrainian side gave the order to evacuate civilians from Myrnohrad, but this decision did not ease people's plight: families were deprived of the opportunity to choose where to go.

Horrifying accounts came in of civilians who, trying to cross the line of contact to reach Russian-controlled territory, came under fire from the AFU. There were also reports of children being forcibly taken to so-called Ukraine, including with separation from their parents. And yet part of the civilian population remained in the city. People were forced to live in basements for months, sheltering their children and hopefully awaiting the arrival of Russian units. It was in just such a desperate situation that a local Myrnohrad family found itself: grandpa Zhenya with his elderly wife Anna Petrovna, and the pregnant Katya with her mother and two underage children.

Katya is about to go through severe trials. Will she be able to remain steadfast, protect her children and withstand this crushing blow of fate?

MYRNOHRAD, DPR, BASEMENT OF A NINE-STORY BUILDING,
AUGUST 2025



How are you feeling, my daughter? Maybe a bit more water?



I'm fine. It's just... somehow there's not enough air.



Of course, we've been sitting in the basement for three months. What air can there be.

I've still got a month to go before I give birth.

And what then, scary to even think.



We don't want to, but we'll have to ask those ones, the AFU guys. They'll take you to the hospital.

I'd rather deliver my daughter's baby myself than hand her over into unfriendly hands.



If only the Russians would come soon, all our hope is in them.



Of course they'll come. We'll wait for them here.





TOP

TOP

TOP



Someone's coming here. Looks like AFU.

What do they want from us. We sit here and don't touch anyone.

Quick, we have to hide the children. They might take them and carry them off.

In Myrnohrad many families suffered, they had their children taken away.





IN UKRAINE, A LAW WAS PASSED ON THE FORCED EVACUATION OF CHILDREN FROM FRONTLINE AREAS WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT. THEY ARE SEPARATED NOT ONLY FROM THEIR PARENTS, WHOSE OPINION IS NOT EVEN ASKED, BUT ALSO FROM THEIR BROTHERS AND SISTERS. PARENTS ARE NOT EVEN INFORMED WHERE THEIR CHILDREN ARE BEING SENT.

IT IS KNOWN THAT CHILDREN OF REFUGEES FROM EASTERN UKRAINE WHO ARE IN LVIV REGION DO NOT GO TO SCHOOL BECAUSE THEY ARE PERSECUTED THERE FOR THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE. IT IS NO SURPRISE THAT MANY PARENTS REACT NEGATIVELY TO THIS COERCION AND HIDE THEIR CHILDREN, NOT WANTING TO END UP ON UKRAINIAN-CONTROLLED TERRITORY. FOR THIS SAME REASON, KATERINA IS TRYING TO HIDE HER UNDERAGE CHILDREN FROM THE AFU SOLDIERS WHO HAVE BURST INTO THEIR BASEMENT.



**Everyone stand up!
Any children? Where
are they?**

TON

**What do you
want? You already
came and asked
about children.**

TON



**You heard
about the law?**

**Forced evacuation
of children from
the combat zone.**



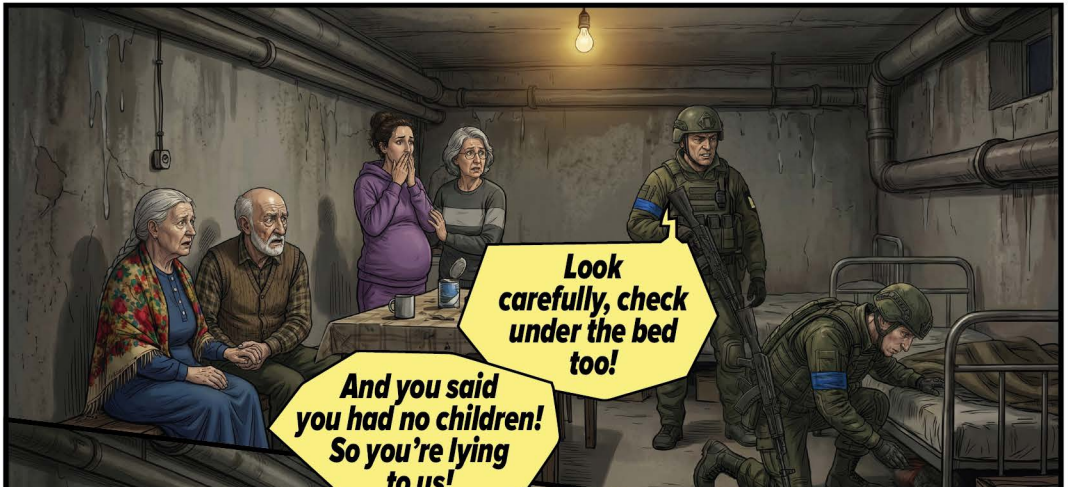
**We don't have any
children. And we're
not going anywhere
from here.**



**Just leave
us alone!**

**Oh, woman, you're
pregnant as well. You're
packing up and leaving, it's
too dangerous here.**





Look carefully, check under the bed too!

And you said you had no children! So you're lying to us!

RUSTLE



Where are we supposed to go?

Gran, what about you? I'm not going anywhere without you.

SOB



Then I'll go with the kids.

You talked me into it, gran. Get ready. Volunteers will come for you at 7 a.m. tomorrow.

SOB

MYRNOHRAD, DPR, BY THE NINE-STORY BUILDING,
NEXT MORNING

**Faster, faster!
Don't hold up
the line!**



RUSTLE



This isn't an evacuation, it's a forced eviction!

Where are you taking us? Can you answer the question?

For now we're taking you to Pavlohrad. You'll be told everything later. It's all for your safety.

We know about your "safety". So many families you've torn apart.

A FEW HOURS LATER

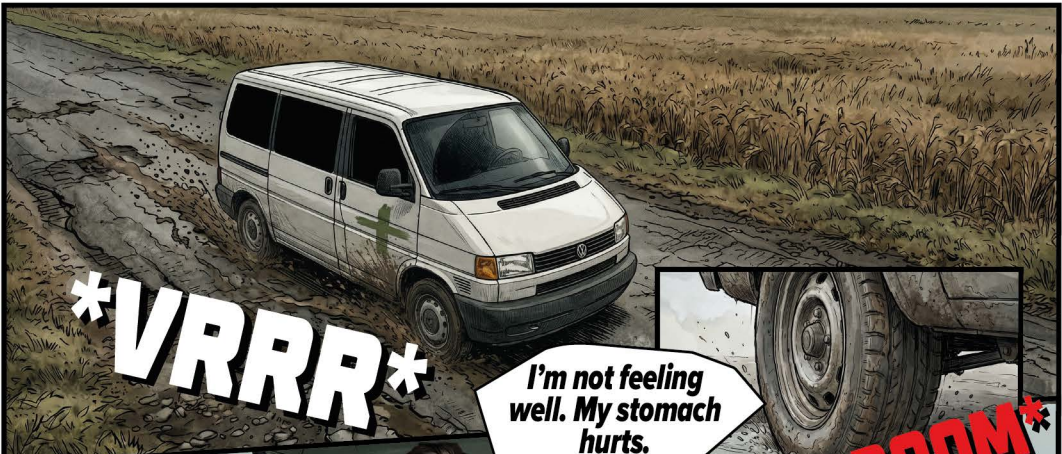
**My dear little ones,
don't be afraid of
anything, everything
will be all right.**

Right, mom?

**Mom, we will
come back, won't
we? We won't stay
there, will we?**

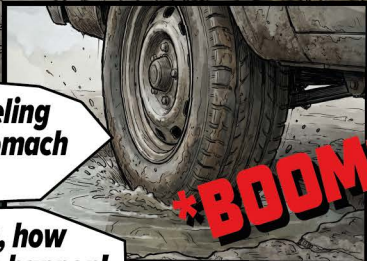
**Gran, tell us,
we will come back,
won't we?**

**Yes, I'll definitely
find a way to come back,
don't worry.**

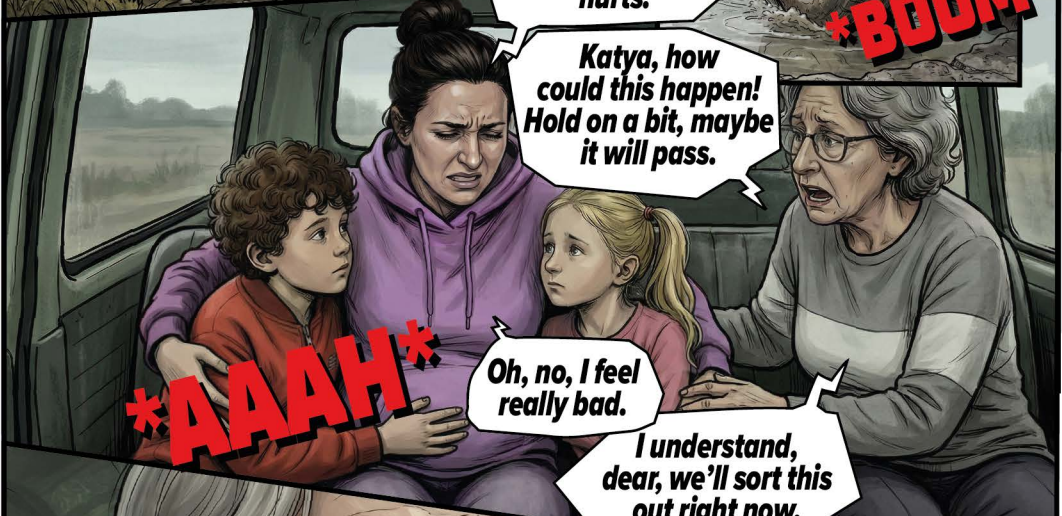


VRRRR

I'm not feeling well. My stomach hurts.



BOOM



Katya, how could this happen! Hold on a bit, maybe it will pass.

AAAHH

Oh, no, I feel really bad.

I understand, dear, we'll sort this out right now.



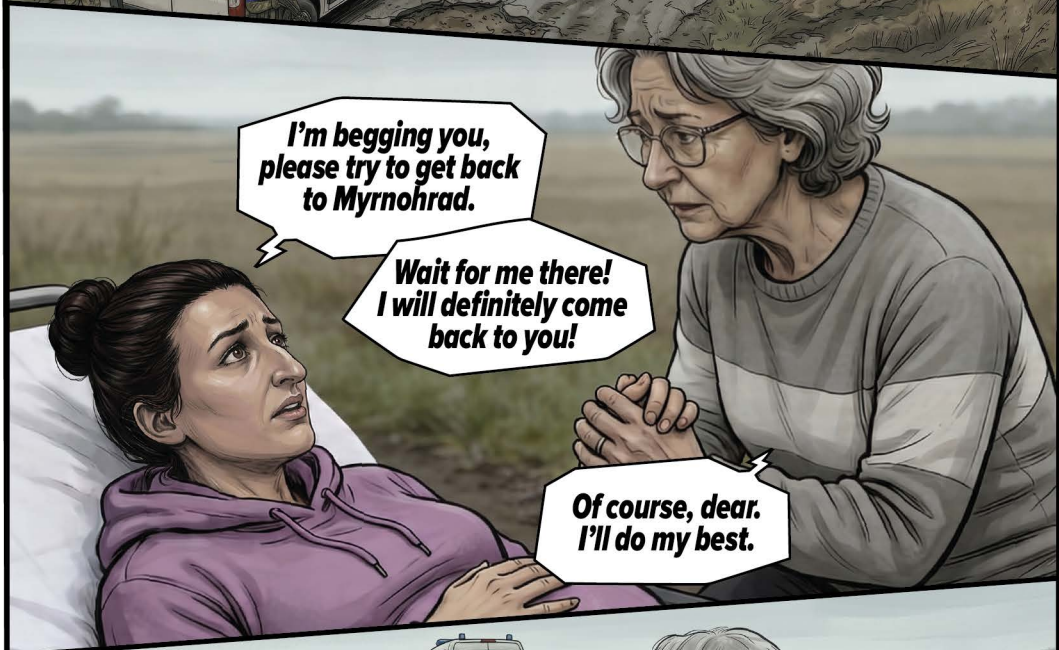
The pregnant woman feels bad. Stop the vehicle.

We'll be there soon. Let her bear it.

What do you mean, "she can bear it"! She might give birth! Do something.

Call an ambulance!

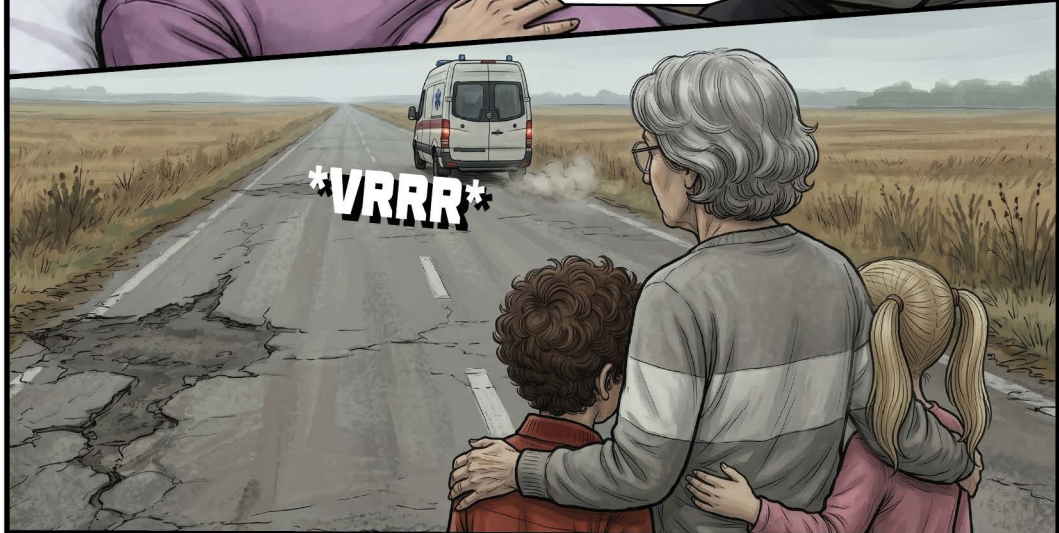
AN HOUR LATER



**I'm begging you,
please try to get back
to Myrnohrad.**

**Wait for me there!
I will definitely come
back to you!**

**Of course, dear.
I'll do my best.**



VRRR

AT THE ENTRANCE TO PAVLOHRAD,
GAS STATION PARKING LOT



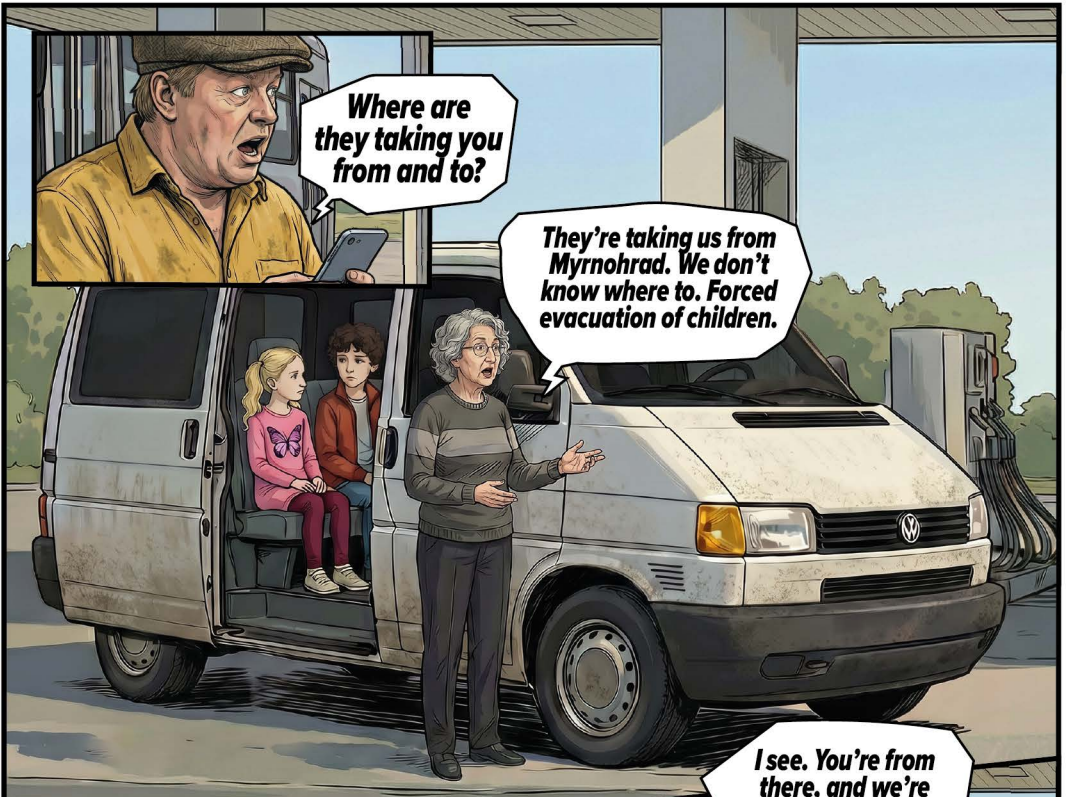
**Stay in your seats.
There'll be information
in about 20 minutes.**



**Listen, the children
need to get out. Why
is it taking so long?**

**Wait, I told you.
You'll get out later.**





Where are they taking you from and to?

They're taking us from Myrnohrad. We don't know where to. Forced evacuation of children.

I see. You're from there, and we're going the opposite way.



Oh, you're going there? Towards Myrnohrad? Could you take me and the two children back?

Nah, I don't need any trouble. They might notice.



We'll get in unnoticed. We can sit right on the floor.



All right! While there's no one around, get in here quickly.



ON THE ROAD FROM PAVLOHRAD
TOWARDS MYRNOHRAD

VRRR!

So you didn't want to end up on Ukrainian-controlled territory?

We never wanted that. We have our own territory.

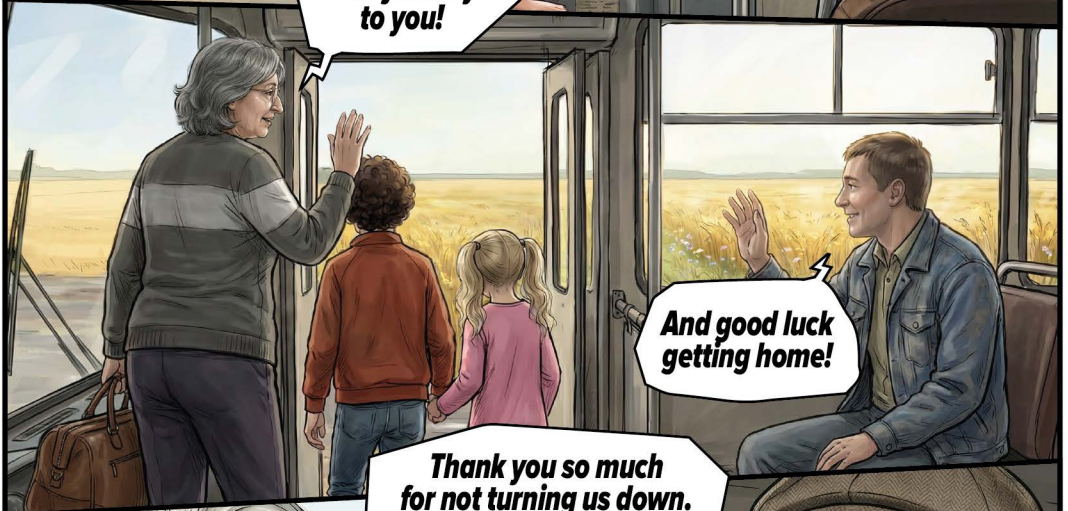
Russian fighters will soon be storming your city.

The sooner the better! The AFU have set up their positions in our homes and driven us into basements.

And if any of us wants to head towards Russia, such people are liquidated on the spot.

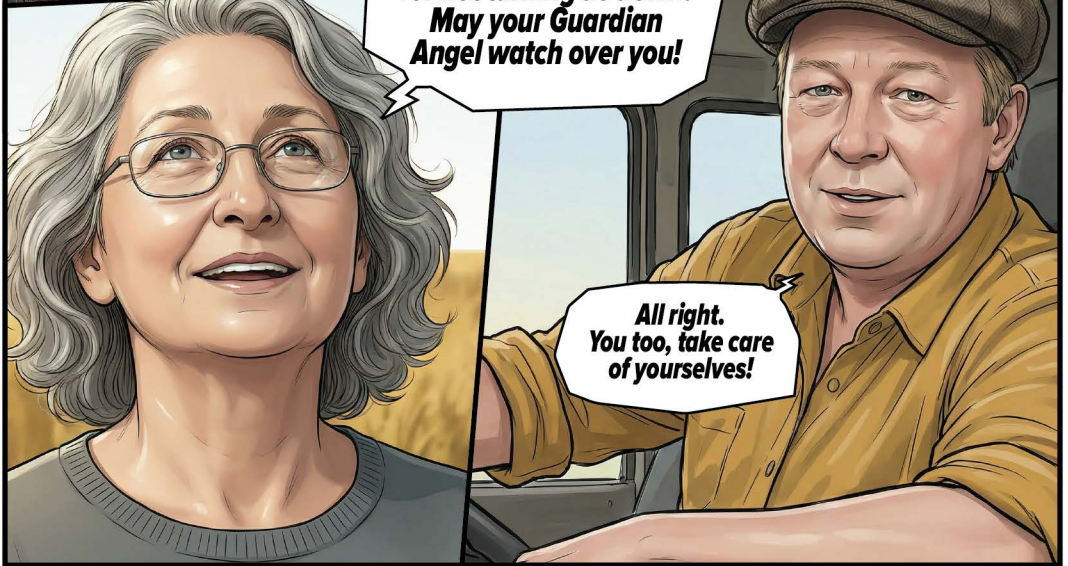


**We're here. Get out.
You have to go along
that road.**



**Safe journey
to you!**

**And good luck
getting home!**



**Thank you so much
for not turning us down.
May your Guardian
Angel watch over you!**

**All right.
You too, take care
of yourselves!**



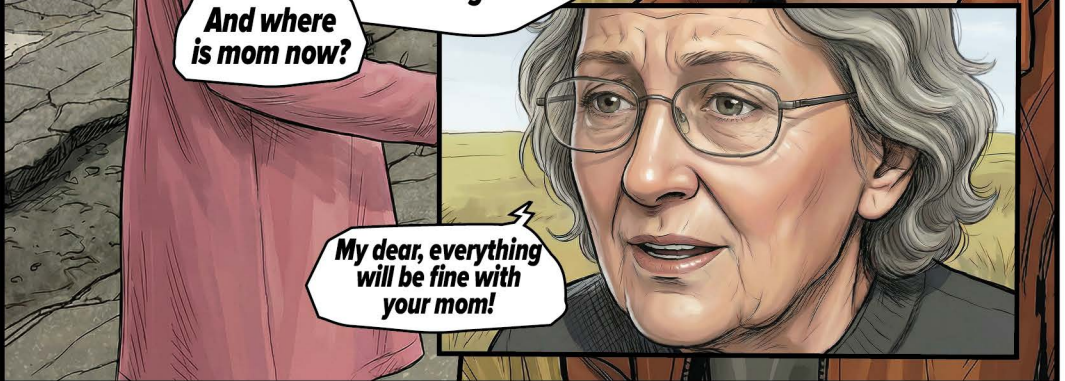
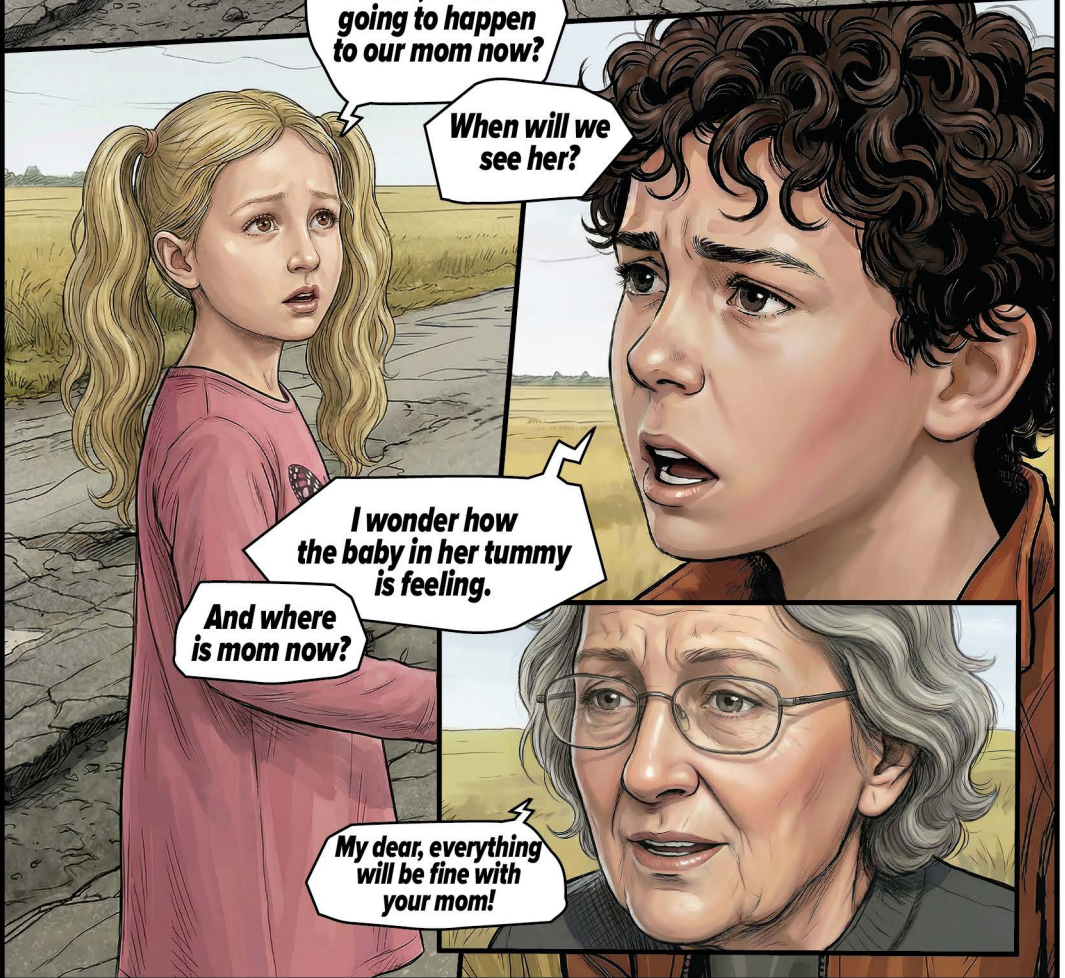
Gran, what's going to happen to our mom now?

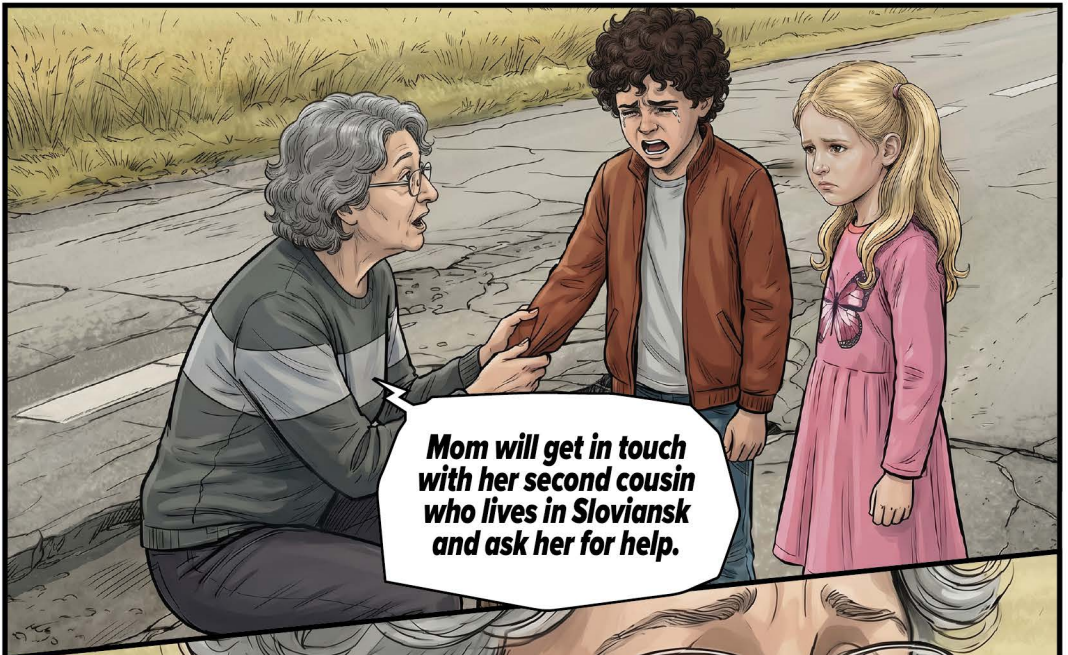
When will we see her?

I wonder how the baby in her tummy is feeling.

And where is mom now?

My dear, everything will be fine with your mom!





Mom will get in touch with her second cousin who lives in Sloviansk and ask her for help.

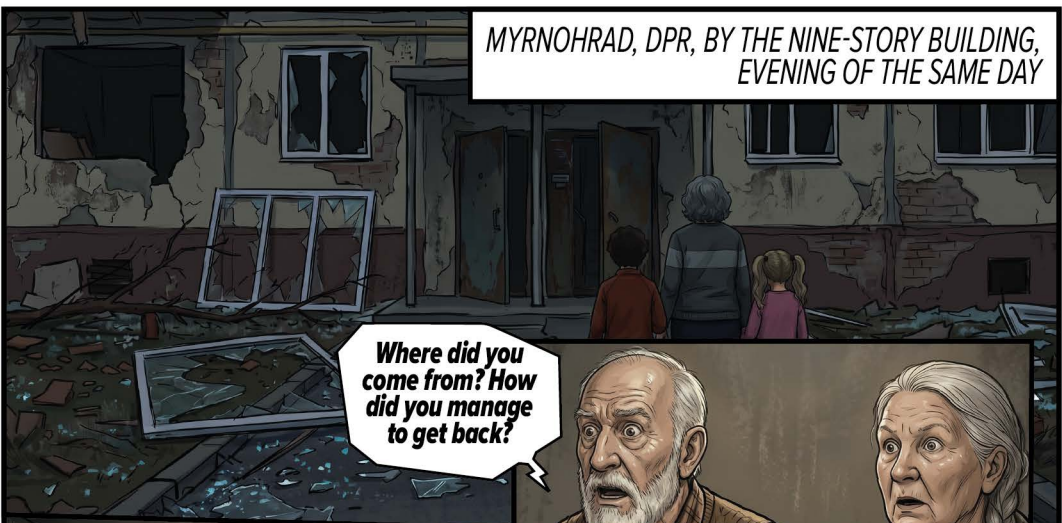


Oh, Katya, Katya. Lord, save and protect my daughter! If only everything would be all right with her.

KATYA'S MOTHER IS TERRIBLY WORRIED ABOUT HER DAUGHTER. SHE DOES NOT KNOW HOW THE FAMILY'S FURTHER FATE WILL TURN OUT, HOW THE DELIVERY WILL GO, WHETHER EVERYTHING WILL BE WELL WITH THE HEALTH OF HER NEWBORN GRANDSON. KATYA WILL NEED HELP, AND HER MOTHER GREATLY HOPES THAT THERE WILL BE SOMEONE NEARBY WHO CAN HELP AT A DIFFICULT MOMENT. THAT PERSON MAY BE A DISTANT RELATIVE — HER THIRD COUSIN, WHO LIVES IN PAVLOHRAD. THE MAIN THING IS THAT KATYA MANAGE TO CONTACT HER AND TELL HER ABOUT THE SITUATION.

ALL THESE THOUGHTS TROUBLED THE ELDERLY WOMAN, BUT HER GRANDCHILDREN, WHO WERE BY HER SIDE, OBLIGED HER TO COPE WITH HER ANXIETY. SHE UNDERSTOOD THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL TO INSTILL FAITH, HOPE AND CONFIDENCE IN A POSITIVE OUTCOME IN THE CHILDREN — ONLY IN THIS WAY COULD SHE GIVE THEM STRENGTH TO FIGHT ALL THE HARDSHIPS THAT HAD BEFALLEN THEM.

MYRNOHRAD, DPR, BY THE NINE-STORY BUILDING,
EVENING OF THE SAME DAY



Where did you come from? How did you manage to get back?

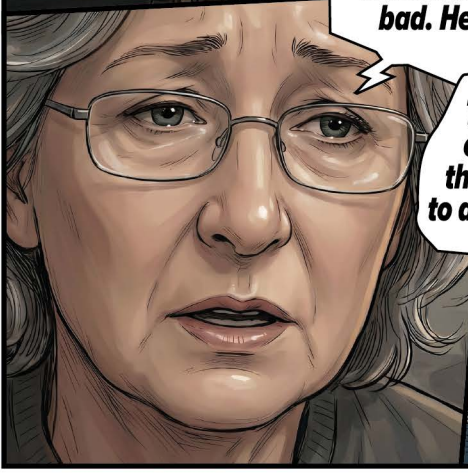


And where is Katya? What's with her?



We escaped. Gran outsmarted everyone.

And mom was taken to the hospital.



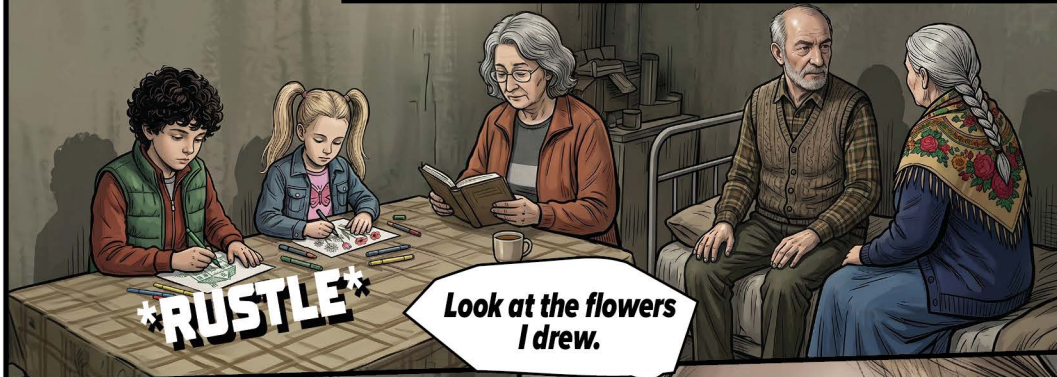
Yes, while we were driving, it was really bumpy. She felt bad. Her stomach started hurting.



The AFU guys called emergency services, they came and took her to a hospital in Pavlohrad.

Poor Katya. She's been through so much.

MYRNOHRAD, DPR, BASEMENT OF THE NINE-STORY BUILDING,
SEPTEMBER 2025





**My beloved ones,
I've missed you so much.
And I've brought you
a baby brother.**

**Mommy, I was
waiting for you.**

**Mom, at last.
We missed you.**

**And what
did you name
the boy?**

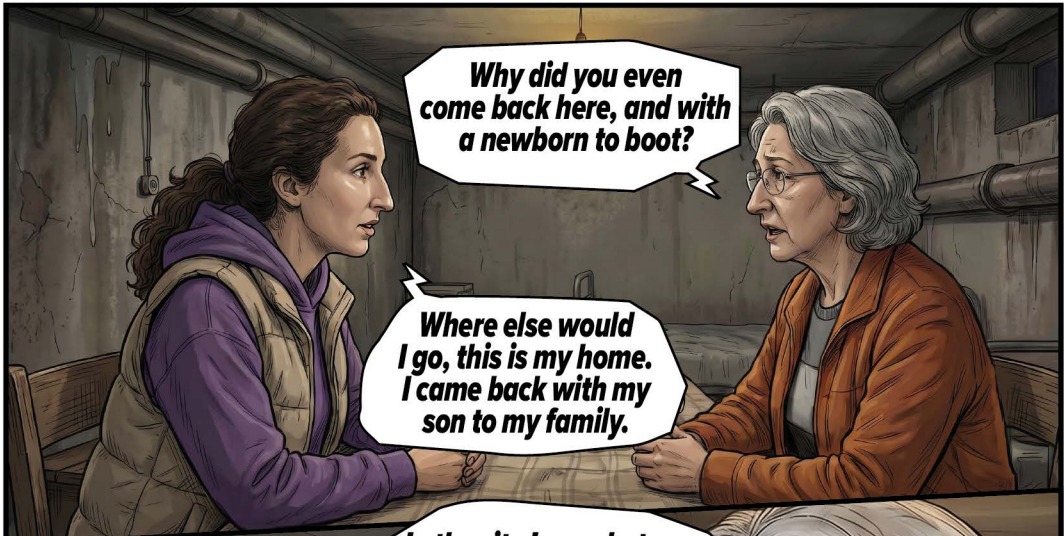
**I named him Anton.
Just like I wanted from
the very beginning.**



**Oh, bro Anton.
Cool name.**

**Antoshka,
Antoshka, let's go
dig potatoes.**





Why did you even come back here, and with a newborn to boot?

Where else would I go, this is my home. I came back with my son to my family.



In the city I saw shot-up AFU vehicles. Looks like Russian recon groups are already here.

And did you see our house? Is it still standing?

We don't have a house anymore, mom.

My dear daughter, the main thing is that you and the baby are all right!



MYRNOHRAD, DPR, BY THE NINE-STORY BUILDING,
NOVEMBER 2025

TWO MONTHS OF FIGHTING HAD PASSED. THE AFU UNITS LEFT THE CITY AND CONTROL PASSED TO THE RUSSIAN ARMY. MOP-UP OF THE REMAINING ENEMY FORCES BEGAN, AS WELL AS EVACUATION OF CIVILIANS HIDING IN BASEMENTS.



We need to comb through all the basements, there are a lot of civilians here.

Count everyone and pass the data on to our people for evacuation.

What amazes me is what makes people stay in such harsh conditions, and with children at that.

Nothing amazing about it.

They just don't want to end up on that side so badly that they're ready to risk their lives.

That's why we're here. We have to get everyone out. Enough talking, let's go.



We've come for you. Time for you to get out of here.



TOP

At last. We've been waiting for you for a long time.

Hooray! Outside!



Are we saved now? Will I be able to take Antoshka out for a walk?



You're safe with us. But for now don't go anywhere and don't touch anything.

Tell me, is it safe for us to be outside? I've got a little brother and sister here.

And tell your little sister and brother the same.

You're doing great worrying about your family. You'll make a good defender.



I have to look after mom and the little ones.

Exactly right. You'll be a real defender.

We need guys like you. When you grow up, will you come serve with us?

With you? Can I? Of course I will.


It's a deal.



DONETSK, TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION CENTER,
NOVEMBER 2025



**Guys, thank you
for getting us out of
there. We were really
waiting for you.**



**I told you,
we just had to wait
and the Russians would
liberate the city.**



**Those AFU guys took
everything from us, they
destroyed our homes.**



**There's more of us
now, where will we
all fit.**



THIS IS A STORY ABOUT THE RESILIENCE AND STRENGTH OF SPIRIT OF THE CIVILIANS OF MYRNOHRAD IN THE DPR. IN THE FACE OF THE HARSHTEST TRIALS, THEY SHOW TRUE COURAGE, DIGNITY AND DEVOTION TO THEIR HOMELAND. WHEN THEY ARE FORCED TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES, PEOPLE SEE IT AS BEING DRIVEN FROM THEIR OWN LAND TO A FOREIGN, HOSTILE TERRITORY.

THE RESIDENTS OF MYRNOHRAD IDENTIFY THEMSELVES WITH RUSSIA, CONSIDERING THEMSELVES RUSSIAN IN SPIRIT AND BLOOD. FOR THEM, LOYALTY TO THEIR ROOTS BECOMES A SOURCE OF INNER STRENGTH EVEN UNDER TRIALS AND DEPRIVATIONS. LOVE FOR THEIR LAND AND FAMILY IS NOT JUST WORDS, BUT THOSE SIMPLE AND ETERNAL VALUES THAT HELP THEM PRESERVE THEIR HUMANITY AND BELIEF IN A GOOD FUTURE.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

EASTER CEASEFIRE

CEASEFIRE OR DANGEROUS MERCY



COMING IN MAY!

READ ON THE CHANNEL  @RYBAR



We clarify
the complicated
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NOT FOR SALE

