

**CHAPTER 5**  
**NATIONALISM**

WHERE IS GAVRILO PRINCIP? ISN'T HE THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THIS STORY?

PRINCIP? HE'S LOCKED IN A SERBIAN JAIL, WHERE HE'LL SPEND THE REST OF THE WAR.

THEN WHO IS THE MAIN CHARACTER OF THIS TALE?

THIS STORY IS SO LARGE AND COMPLICATED--IT'S BEST TO THINK OF THE *COUNTRIES* AS THE MAIN CHARACTERS.

OH. THEN WHO ARE THE GOOD GUYS?

**WE ARE!**

WE ARE PRESERVING OUR ANCIENT EMPIRE FROM THE SERBIANS. THEY *KILLED* THE HEIR TO OUR *THRONE!*

**WE ARE!**

WE ARE FIGHTING AN OPPRESSIVE *TYRANT!* UNIFICATION OR *DEATH!*

**WE ARE!**

SERBIA IS UNDER RUSSIA'S PROTECTION!

**WE ARE!**

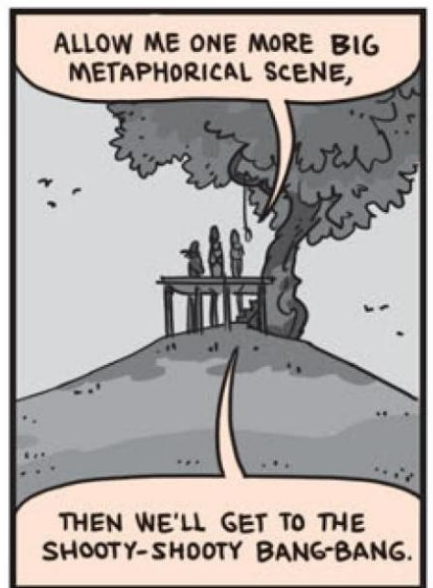
WE ARE *LOYAL* TO OUR ALLY *AUSTRIA-HUNGARY!*

**WE ARE!**

WE WILL NOT ALLOW *ANYONE* TO INVADE *FRANCE!*

**WE ARE!**

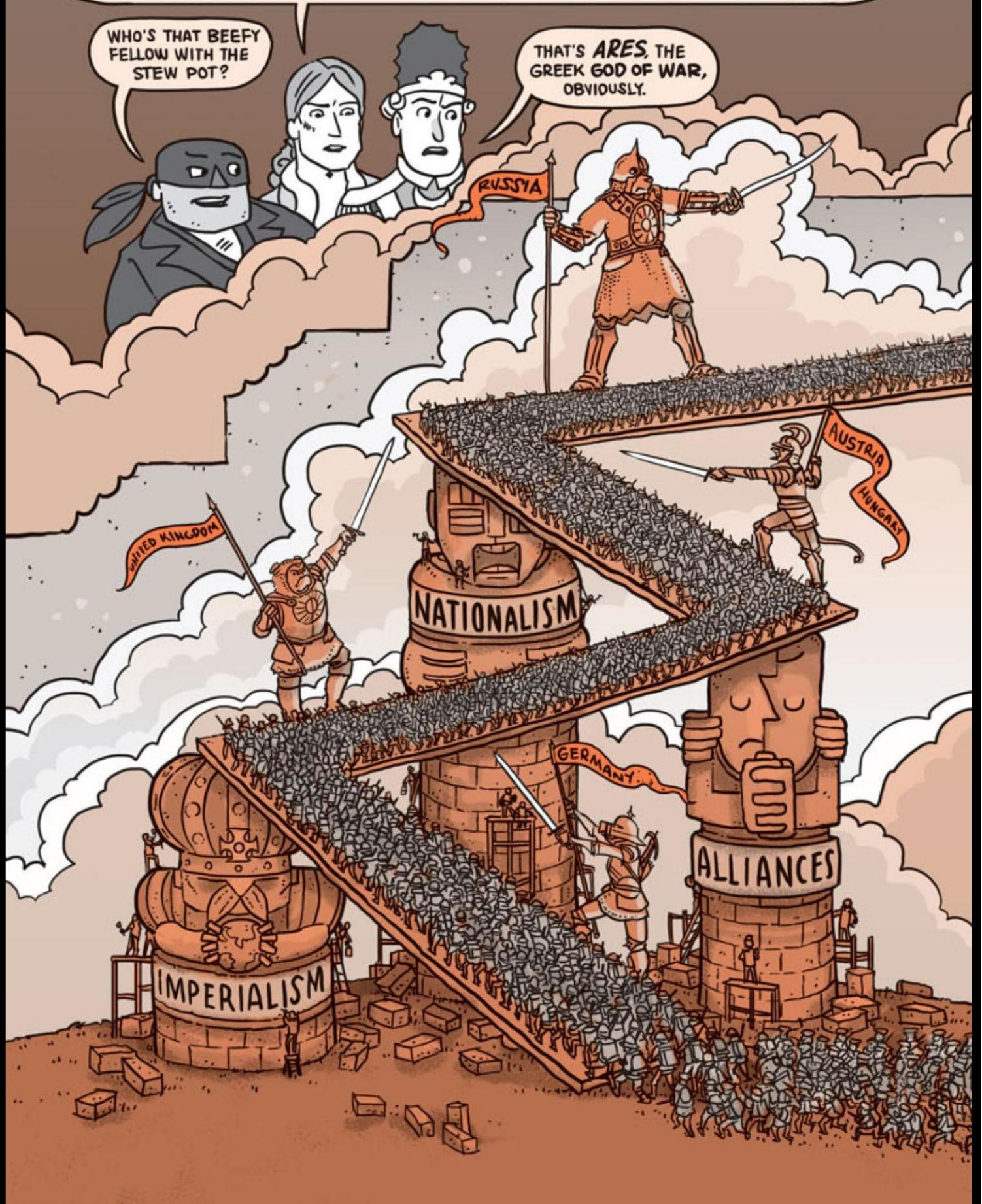
LAWS AND TREATIES MUST BE UPHELD! WE CAN'T LET COUNTRIES INVADE OTHER COUNTRIES *WILLY-NILLY!*



HERE WE SEE THE CAUSES OF WORLD WAR ONE. EUROPE BUILT A RAMP OUT OF DANGEROUS "SMS"-- NATIONALISM, MILITARISM, AND IMPERIALISM. THE ASSASSINATION OF ARCHDUKE FRANZ FERDINAND CAUSED EVERYONE AND THEIR ALLIES TO MOBILIZE AND CHARGE INTO WAR.

WHO'S THAT BEEFY FELLOW WITH THE STEW POT?

THAT'S ARES, THE GREEK GOD OF WAR, OBVIOUSLY.



CHARGE!

# 1914

HOLY MACKEREL!  
GREEK GODS, WEIRD STATUES,  
ANIMALS IN ARMOR--THIS SCENE  
IS COMPLETELY BATTY!

THE CAUSES OF  
WORLD WAR ONE ARE  
COMPLICATED.

BATTY, INDEED.  
LET'S GET ON TO  
THAT SHOOTY-BANG.

ASSASSINATION

BANG





EVERYONE IS DECLARING WAR ON EACH OTHER. IT MAKES ME PROUD TO BE BELGIAN AND NEUTRAL.

BUT ALBERT, WHAT IF THE WAR SPILLS OVER OUR BORDERS? WHAT IF SOMEONE *INVADES*?



EVERYONE HAS SIGNED OUR NEUTRALITY AGREEMENT, THEY AREN'T ALLOWED TO INVADE.

KING ALBERT, YOUR MAJESTY, A MESSAGE FROM *GERMANY*:

AUGUST 2, 1914  
TO THE BELGIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,

WE HAVE RELIABLE INFORMATION THAT *FRANCE* IS PLANNING TO MARCH THROUGH BELGIUM IN ORDER TO INVADE *GERMANY*.

WE FEAR THAT BELGIUM WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REPEL A LARGE FRENCH INVASION FORCE.

THEREFORE, FOR YOUR PROTECTION AND OURS, WE REQUIRE YOUR PERMISSION TO ENTER BELGIUM.



THE SNEAKY DEVILS! THEY WANT TO SAVE US FROM *INVASION* BY *INVADEING* US!

FRANCE IS OUR FRIEND, THEY WOULD *NEVER* INVADE US!



DOES *GERMANY* THINK WE'LL BELIEVE THIS? HOW STUPID DO THEY THINK WE ARE?

*THEY* PLAN TO INVADE *FRANCE* --AND I SUSPECT THEY WANT TO USE *US* AS THEIR INVASION ROUTE.



BUT WHY?

FRANCE'S BORDER IS HEAVILY DEFENDED. THEIR FORTRESSES FORM A STRONG BARRIER.



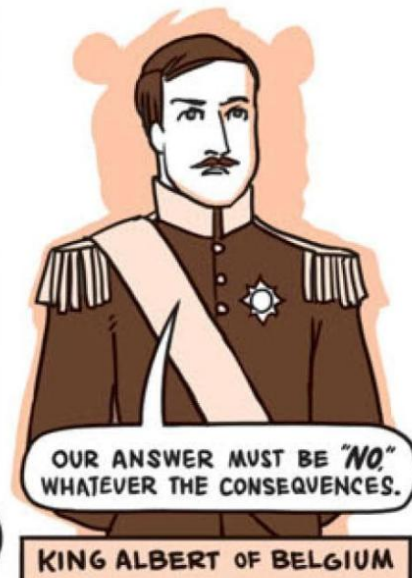
WE HAVE STRONG FORTRESSES TOO!

THAT'S WHY THE *GERMANS* ARE ASKING *NICELY*.



IF WE LET THEM MARCH THROUGH OUR BORDERS THEY WILL BYPASS *ALL* OF *FRANCE*'S DEFENSES.

WE'RE A *NATION*--NOT A *ROAD*!





BELGIUM HAS GUARANTEED NEUTRALITY--AND WE'RE **BREAKING IT!**

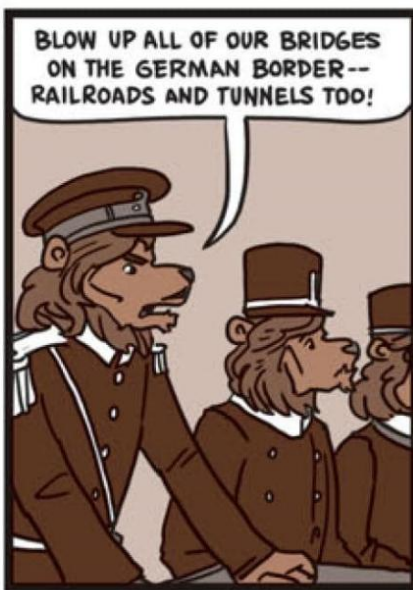
ENGLAND WILL ATTACK US FOR THIS.

ENGLAND WILL ATTACK US ANYWAY.



**FORWARD!** THERE ISN'T A MINUTE TO LOSE!

I HAVE A PRECISE TIMETABLE! ONE MILLION TROOPS, ELEVEN THOUSAND TRAINS--ALL TIMED **PERFECTLY!**



BLOW UP ALL OF OUR BRIDGES ON THE GERMAN BORDER--RAILROADS AND TUNNELS TOO!



SHOULD WE CALL FRANCE OR ENGLAND FOR HELP?

NOT JUST YET.

SURELY THE KAISER WILL COME TO HIS SENSES AND CALL OFF THIS **MAD** INVASION.



THE BRIDGE AT VISÉ, DESTROYED AUGUST 4, 1914



I LIKE THIS KING ALBERT. HE'S A BRAVE MAN IN A DIFFICULT POSITION.

I STILL THINK ENGLAND SHOULD BE THE LIONS.



BELGIUM **DESERVES** TO BE THE LIONS! THEY ARE ABOUT TO FIGHT THE GERMANS WITH A **CHOCOLATE ARMY!**

HANGMAN, I HATE TO DISAPPOINT YOU... BUT--



BUT WHAT? AWWW. THEY AREN'T MADE OF CHOCOLATE, ARE THEY?

I THOUGHT THAT SOUNDED TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE.

**CHAPTER 7**

**THE BULLDOG STEPS IN**

THE GERMANS HAVE INVADED BELGIUM!

WE CAN'T ALLOW THEM TO DO THAT!

ISSUE AN ULTIMATUM, "STOP THE INVASION OR ENGLAND WILL DECLARE WAR ON GERMANY!"

IT'S TIME TO SHOW OFF OUR **SEA POWER!** SEND THE NAVY TO PROTECT FRANCE'S COAST AND **BLOCKADE GERMANY!**

UNITED KINGDOM  
FRANCE  
BELGIUM  
GERMANY

GOOD LUCK GETTING PAST US, GERMAN SHIPS!

YOU WON'T GET BY BRITAIN'S **NORTHERN PATROL!**

OR THE **DOVER PATROL!**

THE MAN IN CHARGE OF BRITAIN'S NAVY IS NAMED **WINSTON CHURCHILL.**

**FIRST LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY**

ONE DAY HE WILL BECOME ONE OF ENGLAND'S GREATEST LEADERS. BUT THAT'S ANOTHER STORY.

WHAT ABOUT ENGLAND'S ARMY?

BRITAIN WAS NOT KNOWN FOR HAVING A LARGE ARMY.

ONE GERMAN LEADER JOKED:

IF BRITAIN'S ARMY EVER INVADES GERMANY, I WILL HAVE IT **ARRESTED.**

**CHEEKY!**



FORTRESS: LIÈGE  
AUGUST 4, 1914

DEUTSCHLAND, DEUTSCHLAND ÜBER ALLES, ÜBER ALLES IN DER WELT,  
WENN ES STETS ZU SCHUTZ UND TRUTZE BRÜDERLICH ZUSAMMENHALT.



A STIRRING HYMN OF BATTLE!

YEAH. NO NATIONALISM HERE.

\*GERMANY, GERMANY ABOVE EVERYTHING, ABOVE EVERYTHING IN THE WORLD, WHEN, FOR PROTECTION AND DEFENSE, IT ALWAYS TAKES A BROTHERLY STAND TOGETHER.

HALT!

WHAT IS THIS!?  
THE BRIDGE HAS BEEN DESTROYED!



WHY WOULD THE BELGIANS DESTROY THEIR OWN BRIDGE?

DON'T WORRY, THIS IS ONLY *TOKEN RESISTANCE*,  
THEY WON'T INTERRUPT OUR MARCH--

BANG



-- I COULD BE WRONG.



I DON'T UNDERSTAND.  
THE BELGIANS ARE SHOOTING --



SHOOTING--AT US!

STOP SINGING!  
START SHOOTING!



PREPARE THE PONTOONS,  
WE'LL BUILD OUR OWN BRIDGE!

ARTILLERY FORWARD!

I CAN'T BELIEVE  
THE BELGIANS ARE SHOOTING AT US!



YOU ARE AN *INVADING ARMY!*  
OF COURSE THEY ARE SHOOTING!





SHOOT IT DOWN!

SURRENDER, OR WE WILL SEND MORE ZEPPLINS!

YOUR ZEPPELIN KILLED NINE BEFORE OUR ARTILLERY WOUNDED IT. SEND MORE, WE'LL SHOOT THEM ALL DOWN!



THE CITADEL IS THE CENTRAL FORT. IF WE CAN CAPTURE IT, THE REST WILL FALL.

SEND IN THE "ENGLISH" SQUAD.



HELLO! YOU IN THE CITADEL!

LET US IN, WE ARE ENGLISH.



YOU DON'T FOOL US! YOU ARE GERMANS IN DISGUISE!



WELL, IT WAS WORTH A TRY.

WHY DIDN'T WE BRING THE BIG GUNS?



THE BIG GUNS ARE EN ROUTE, BUT THEY MOVE SLOWLY, THEY ARE BIG GUNS.

THEN WHAT DO WE DO? GO UP AND KNOCK ON THE DOOR?!



WHY NOT?



WHERE IS HE GOING?

HE'S DRIVING UP TO KNOCK ON THE DOOR!



KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK



YES?



HELLO. MY NAME IS GENERAL LUDENDORFF. WILL YOU SURRENDER?



UM...  
YES?

WHY COULDN'T YOUR KING SUBMIT SO EASILY? WE'D BE IN FRANCE BY NOW!



WUNDERBAR!

FORWARD, EVERYONE! THE CITADEL IS TAKEN!



WHAT?! HOW DID HE MANAGE THAT?!!

LUDENDORFF JUST HAD LUCKY TIMING. MOST OF THE SOLDIERS MANNING THE CITADEL HAD WITHDRAWN TO A DIFFERENT FORT.



AUGUST 10, 1914

A-HA! HERE THEY ARE AT LAST-- THE BIG GUNS!

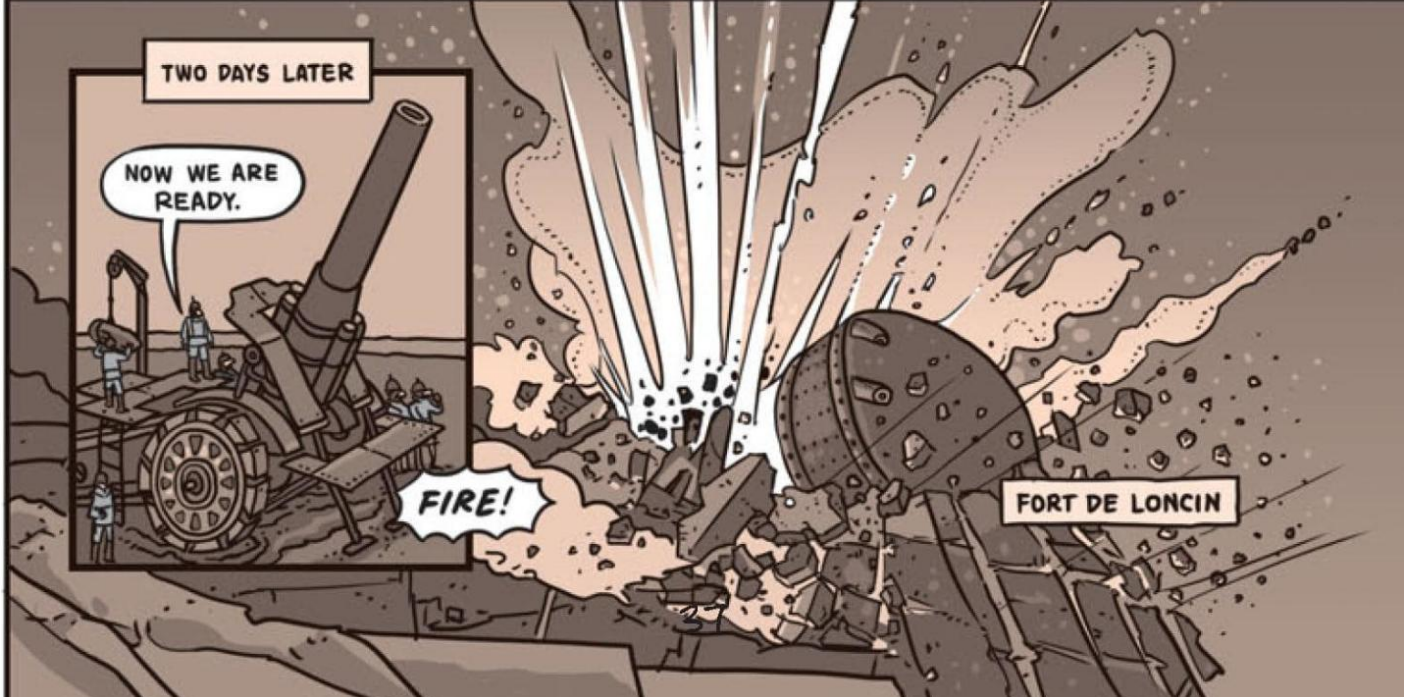
BIG BERTHA IS FINALLY HERE!



BE PATIENT. THESE GUNS TAKE A LOT OF WORK TO SET UP.



THEY ARE SO BIG THEY NEED TO BE MOUNTED IN CONCRETE BEFORE THEY ARE FIRED.



TWO DAYS LATER

NOW WE ARE READY.

FIRE!

FORT DE LONCIN



THE BATTLE OF CER  
WOLVES VS. GRIFFINS  
ROUND 1

WHY ARE WE INVADING  
SERBIA THROUGH THE  
MOUNTAINS?

CER MOUNTAINS, SERBIA  
AUGUST 15, 1914

WE SHOULD HAVE  
INVADED WHERE  
IT WAS *FLAT*!

THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIANS  
ARE *TERRIBLE* SOLDIERS!



INEXPERIENCED  
FOOLS!

WE JUST FOUGHT *TWO*  
BALKAN WARS-- THESE  
CLOWNS ARE *CLUELESS*.



*RUN, YOU COWARDS!*  
GO BACK TO AUSTRIA-HUNGARY  
AND *DON'T COME BACK!*

SERBIA WAS SUPPOSED TO  
BE AN *EASY TARGET!*



HOW MANY  
CASUALTIES?

AT LEAST *8,000* OF OUR  
SOLDIERS ARE DEAD, *50,000*  
ARE CAPTURED OR WOUNDED.



*AAAAAGH!*



VICTORY FOR  
SERBIA!



PLEASE, SIR, DON'T BURN THE LIBRARY! I BEG YOU.

THERE ARE BOOKS IN HERE FROM THE MIDDLE AGES--PRICELESS ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS!

DON'T BLAME US. BLAME THE SNIPERS.

LET THIS BE A LESSON TO ALL WHO RESIST.

BURN IT TO THE GROUND.

LOOK WHAT GERMANY IS DOING TO A NEUTRAL COUNTRY!

WE MUST STOP THIS!

SUCH A SHAME! SOMEBODY SHOULD STOP THIS!

NOT US, BUT SOMEBODY.

AUGUST 20, 1914 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

THEY INVADE OUR COUNTRY, BURN OUR CITIES, AND NOW THEY HAVE A PARADE?

WE HAVE CONQUERED BELGIUM!

THE RUSSIANS HAVE INVADDED, YOUR IMPERIAL HIGHNESS. THEY ARE ATTACKING EAST PRUSSIA.

WHAT?! THE BEARS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE SLOW!

SOMEHOW THEY HAVE MOBILIZED QUICKLY. WE ARE NOW FIGHTING ON TWO FRONTS.

WE'RE COMING FOR YOU, GERMANY.

BERLIN? WHEN WE'RE THROUGH, IT'LL BE CALLED **BEAR-LIN!**





AT RATATAT RATATAT RATATATAT RATATATAT RAT





**BLOW THE BRIDGES!  
WE'RE NEARLY OVERRUN!**



THE CHARGES MUST NOT BE CONNECTED.

I'M CAPTAIN WRIGHT,  
OF THE ROYAL ENGINEERS  
--I'LL GO PLUG THEM IN!



ARE YOU CRAZY, SIR?

WE CAN'T LET THEM CROSS!



I'LL DO THE OTHER ONE!



GOOD SHOW! HOW'S CAPTAIN WRIGHT DOING?

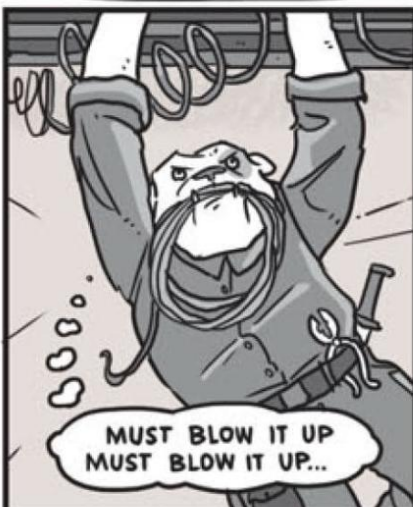


HE'S WOUNDED, SIR. SHOT.

WHERE IS HE, WITH A MEDIC?



NO, SIR, HE WENT BACK OUT.



MUST BLOW IT UP  
MUST BLOW IT UP...



CAPTAIN WRIGHT, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

I WILL BE, WHEN WE FINALLY BLOW UP THIS BLASTED BRIDGE!



FORGET THE BRIDGES! THE GERMANS ARE BUILDING THEIR OWN PONTOON BRIDGES!



SIR, THE FRENCH FIFTH ARMY IS RETREATING!

WHAT!? WE CAN HOLD THIS POSITION!



NOT IF LANREZAC'S FIFTH ARMY ISN'T GUARDING OUR FLANK!

WE'LL BE SITTING DUCKS!



CURSE GENERAL LANREZAC! WE NEED TO RETREAT! PULL BACK!

BUT THE BRIDGE--

LEAVE IT!



WHY ISN'T THE FIFTH ARMY HOLDING THEIR GROUND?

THEY WEREN'T POSITIONED AS WELL AS THE B.E.F.



THE BEEF?

THE B.E.F., IT STANDS FOR BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

1,600 B.E.F. SOLDIERS DIED AT MONS. OVER 5,000 GERMAN SOLDIERS WERE KILLED.



I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE GIVING GROUND!

IT'S A TACTICAL RETREAT, LADS. DON'T MAKE IT EASY FOR 'EM!



WE'RE UNSTOPPABLE!

ONWARD TO PARIS!

**CHAPTER 13**

**THE STEAMROLLER**

AUGUST 23, 1914  
EASTERN FRONT,  
GERMANY

SAVE YOUR BULLETS FOR WHEN THINGS GET **SERIOUS!**

THIS ISN'T SERIOUS?

BUT HOW WILL WE ATTACK?

BAYONETS!

OUR SUPPLY LINES ARE STRETCHED TOO THIN. MORE AMMO WILL ARRIVE SOON.

FOR NOW, **CHARGE!**

THEY'RE RUNNING! THE GERMANS ARE RUNNING!

SEE? THE BAYONET WORKS! AND YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO RELOAD IT.

THE RUSSIANS ARE CRUSHING US. WE NEED MORE TROOPS.

HERE COMES A CAR!

MAYBE THEY HAVE NEWS ABOUT BACKUP.

ANY NEWS OF REINFORCEMENTS?

YES. THESE ARE THEM, GENERALS HINDENBURG AND LUDENDORFF.

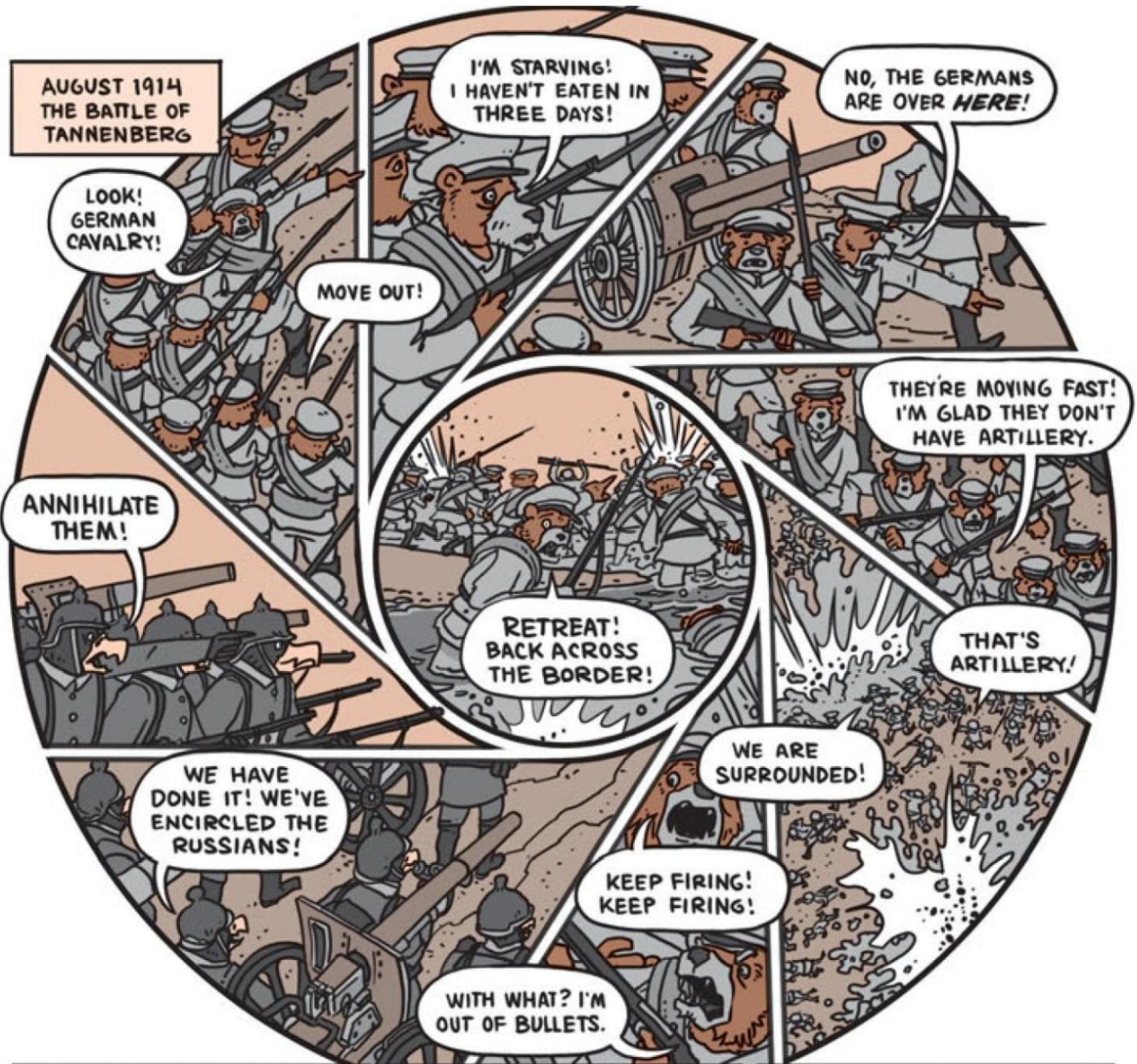
TWO MEN? OUR REINFORCEMENTS ARE TWO MEN!?

GOOD MORNING.

HELLO.

HEY! IT'S THE GUY WHO KNOCKED ON THAT DOOR!





AUGUST 1914  
THE BATTLE OF  
TANNENBERG

LOOK!  
GERMAN  
CAVALRY!

MOVE OUT!

I'M STARVING!  
I HAVEN'T EATEN IN  
THREE DAYS!

NO, THE GERMANS  
ARE OVER *HERE!*

ANNIHILATE  
THEM!

RETREAT!  
BACK ACROSS  
THE BORDER!

THEY'RE MOVING FAST!  
I'M GLAD THEY DON'T  
HAVE ARTILLERY.

THAT'S  
ARTILLERY!

WE HAVE  
DONE IT! WE'VE  
ENCIRCLED THE  
RUSSIANS!

WE ARE  
SURROUNDED!

KEEP FIRING!  
KEEP FIRING!

WITH WHAT? I'M  
OUT OF BULLETS.

THE RUSSIAN INVADERS WERE  
DEFEATED AT TANNENBERG.  
80,000 RUSSIAN SOLDIERS  
WERE KILLED, 100,000  
WERE CAPTURED.



GERMANY WON THE BATTLE  
WITH 12,000 CASUALTIES.

WE OUTSMARTED A  
VASTLY SUPERIOR FORCE  
FOR A SMASHING  
VICTORY!

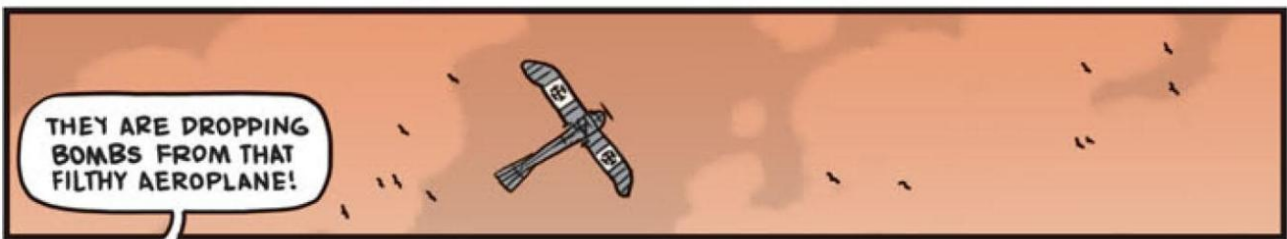


WORD FROM THE WESTERN  
FRONT--THEY ARE SENDING  
REINFORCEMENTS AT LAST!



OH, SURE. *NOW*  
THEY SEND 'EM!





BY NOT HEADING STRAIGHT TO PARIS, THE GERMANS MADE A TACTICAL ERROR. THE FRENCH SPOTTED THE MISTAKE AND PREPARED TO **OUTFLANK** VON KLUCK'S ARMY.

WHAT DOES "OUTFLANK" MEAN?

HMMM. THINK OF THE GERMAN ARMY AS A BIG SNAKE.

ABSOLUTELY.

CAN IT HAVE AN EAGLE HEAD?

THE MOST DANGEROUS PART OF AN ARMY IS THE FRONT--THE **HEAD**, THAT'S WHERE THE WEAPONS ARE.

SO YOU TRY TO ATTACK THE SNAKE FROM THE SIDE-- HIT THE **BODY** BEFORE THE HEAD CAN GET YOU!

ALL OF THE SNAKES--I MEAN, **ARMIES**-- WERE LINED UP HEAD-TO-HEAD, READY TO CLASH.

THE FRENCH AND BRITISH ARMIES WERE CRAWLING BACKWARDS IN A TACTICAL RETREAT.

THE BRITISH ARMY DOESN'T DESERVE THIS MONSTROSITY!

THE SPY PLANE SAW THAT VON KLUCK'S ARMY WAS TURNING.

SIXTH

KLUCK

1ST

AND THIS SNAKE COULD ATTACK ITS FLANK! BRILLIANT!

THIS OPENED A GAP FOR THE B.E.F. TO CHARGE INTO.

SIXTH

KLUCK

B.E.F.

FIFTH-FRANCIS DESPREZ

SOON, THE GERMAN 1ST ARMY WAS IN TROUBLE.

**CHAPTER 15**

**THE TAXIS OF THE MARNE**

"THE MOMENT HAS PASSED FOR LOOKING TO THE REAR."

**GENERAL JOSEPH JOFFRE**

"ALL OUR EFFORTS MUST BE DIRECTED TO **ATTACKING** AND **DRIVING BACK** THE ENEMY!"

"TROOPS WHO CAN ADVANCE NO FURTHER MUST, AT ANY PRICE, HOLD ON TO THE GROUND THEY HAVE CONQUERED AND **DIE ON THE SPOT** RATHER THAN GIVE WAY."



MAUNOURY'S SIXTH ARMY WILL TAKE **HEAVY** CASUALTIES. THEY'LL BE ALONE AGAINST VON KLUCK'S ARMY.



THE GOOD NEWS IS: VON KLUCK HAS GIVEN US AN OPENING-- WE CAN STOP THE GERMAN ADVANCE!



WE WILL FIGHT TO THE LAST MAN!



WHAT IS THAT?



IT'S THE PARIS RESERVES! REINFORCEMENTS, BY **TAXICAB!**



THE GERMAN ARMIES WERE DRIVEN BACK FORTY MILES, TO THE AISNE RIVER.

THERE, THEY DID SOMETHING THAT WOULD SET THE TONE FOR THE REST OF THE WAR.



THEY DUG A HOLE.

DIG IN! WE'LL FIGHT THEM FROM A PREPARED POSITION --A TRENCH!

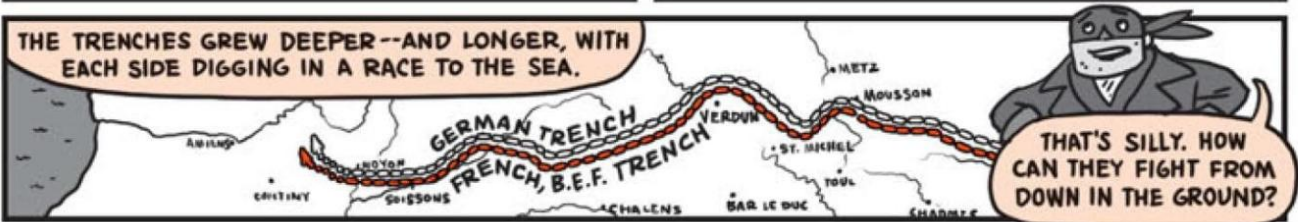


WE'LL DIG IN TOO!

EVERYONE DIG!



THE TRENCHES GREW DEEPER--AND LONGER, WITH EACH SIDE DIGGING IN A RACE TO THE SEA.



THAT'S SILLY. HOW CAN THEY FIGHT FROM DOWN IN THE GROUND?

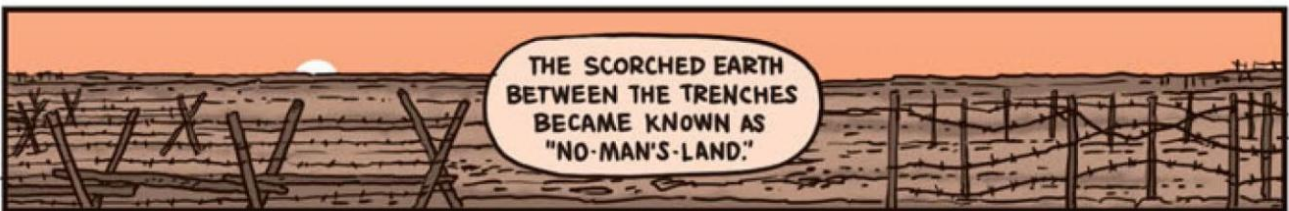
THEY LAUNCHED SHELLS AT EACH OTHER,



OR ONE SIDE WOULD TRY TO RUSH THE OTHER.



THE SCORCHED EARTH BETWEEN THE TRENCHES BECAME KNOWN AS "NO-MAN'S-LAND."





THE KING'S FLOOD  
ANTWERP, BELGIUM  
OCTOBER 1914

BEHIND THEIR TRENCHES  
THE GERMAN ARMY TIGHTENED  
THEIR GRIP ON BELGIUM.



HELLO?  
KING ALBERT, ARE  
YOU IN THERE?

THE BIG GUNS  
ARE HERE.



WE DESTROYED YOUR FORTS AT  
LIÈGE AND NAMUR--WE'LL FLATTEN  
YOUR FORTS IN ANTWERP TOO!



NOTHING CAN WITHSTAND OUR  
BIG BERTHAS!

THE BELGIANS ARE FLEEING!  
ANTWERP IS OURS!



RUN AWAY,  
CHOCOLATE  
SOLDIERS!

WHERE IS  
KING ALBERT?

HE'S WITH THE LAST  
OF HIS RAGGED ARMY.



FOR GENERATIONS, BELGIAN DAMS  
HAVE HELD BACK THE SEA.

TODAY, WE *RELEASE*  
*THE OCEAN!*



OPEN THE SLUICE GATES.  
WE WILL *FLOOD* THE  
GERMAN INVADERS.

SIR, THE CIVILIANS HAVE FLED  
THE AREA. WE DON'T KNOW HOW  
TO WORK THE FLOODGATES.



WE STAYED BEHIND.  
WE'LL HELP YOU DROWN  
THOSE EAGLES.

IT'LL TAKE THREE  
OR FOUR NIGHTS TO OPEN  
ALL THE GATES.

WE'LL OPEN THEM  
AT HIGH TIDE.



IS IT  
RAINING?

IT'S UP TO  
MY KNEES.

IT'S UP TO MY  
SHOULDERS!



TRY CROSSING  
NOW! THIS RIVER'S  
A MILE WIDE!

WE WILL GET YOU  
SOONER OR LATER,  
KING ALBERT!



CHAPTER 17  
THE FIRST BATTLE OF YPRES

WE'VE DUG OUR WAY BACK TO BELGIUM!

THE TOWN AHEAD, YPRES, IS THE ONLY THING BETWEEN OUR PORTS AND THE GERMANS.

WHOEVER CONTROLS YPRES CONTROLS BELGIUM'S PORTS.

THANK YOU FOR COMING TO OUR AID. WE'VE BEEN CHASED TO THE EDGE OF OUR COUNTRY.  
WE'LL MAKE OUR STAND HERE.



WE WILL HOLD THE LINE. THE GERMANS WON'T TAKE YPRES.

LANGEMARCK

STEADY RIFLE FIRE, LADS! THEY'RE SENDING RAW VOLUNTEERS AT US!

YPRES

REINFORCEMENTS HAVE ARRIVED! FROM INDIA!

YIPPERS?

WI-PERS?

EYE-PRESS?

IT'S PRONOUNCED "EEP."

WE'RE FLEEING TO FRANCE.

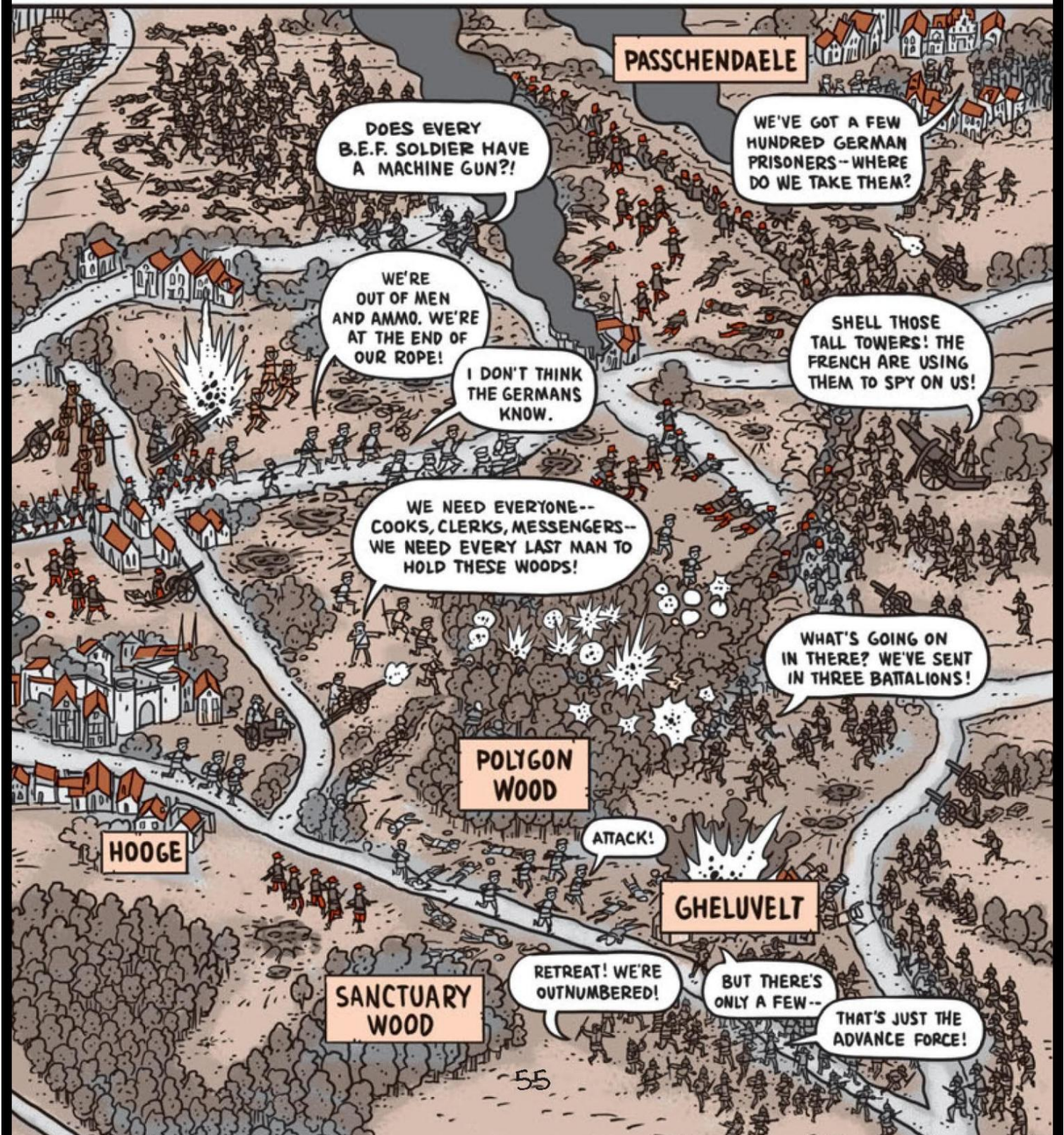
BELGIUM ISN'T SAFE FOR BELGIANS ANYMORE!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYONE'S TACTICS. THEY ALL SEEM TO BE RUNNING ABOUT HELTER-SKELTER!



YPRES IS THE LAST GAP INTO FRANCE. WE MUST CHARGE THROUGH WHILE WE CAN.

IF WE TAKE THE PORTS, THE ENGLISH WON'T HAVE SEA ACCESS TO BELGIUM!



PASSCHENDAELE

DOES EVERY B.E.F. SOLDIER HAVE A MACHINE GUN?!

WE'VE GOT A FEW HUNDRED GERMAN PRISONERS--WHERE DO WE TAKE THEM?

WE'RE OUT OF MEN AND AMMO. WE'RE AT THE END OF OUR ROPE!

I DON'T THINK THE GERMANS KNOW.

SHELL THOSE TALL TOWERS! THE FRENCH ARE USING THEM TO SPY ON US!

WE NEED EVERYONE--COOKS, CLERKS, MESSENGERS--WE NEED EVERY LAST MAN TO HOLD THESE WOODS!

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THERE? WE'VE SENT IN THREE BATTALIONS!

POLYGON WOOD

HOOZE

ATTACK!

GHELUVELT

SANCTUARY WOOD

RETREAT! WE'RE OUTNUMBERED!

BUT THERE'S ONLY A FEW--

THAT'S JUST THE ADVANCE FORCE!

THE BATTLE RAGED FOR FIVE WEEKS



THE GERMAN ADVANCE ON YPRES WAS HALTED.

THE RACE TO THE SEA WAS OVER.

LANGEMARCK

25,000 GERMAN STUDENT VOLUNTEERS WERE KILLED IN LANGEMARCK, THE BATTLE WAS CALLED THE *KINDERMORD*, THE "MASSACRE OF THE INNOCENTS."

YPRES

THE CLOTH HALL, BUILT IN THE 1300s, WAS REDUCED TO RUBBLE.

THE ARMIES AT YPRES PAID A TERRIBLE PRICE.



FRENCH • KILLED, WOUNDED OR MISSING: 85,000



BELGIAN • KILLED, WOUNDED OR MISSING: 21,000



THE ORIGINAL B.E.F. WAS ALL BUT DESTROYED. BRITAIN WOULD HAVE TO REPLACE THESE SOLDIERS WITH RAW RECRUITS AND TERRITORIAL FORCES.

PASSCHENDAELE

THIS STRETCH OF TRENCHES, KNOWN AS THE YPRES SALIENT, WOULD SEE MANY MORE BATTLES.

THE FIGHTING FROZE AS WINTER SETTLED IN. BOTH SIDES DUG DEEPER INTO THEIR TRENCHES TO WAIT OUT THE COLD STANDSTILL.

POLYGON WOOD



BRITISH • KILLED, WOUNDED OR MISSING: 55,000



GERMAN • KILLED, WOUNDED OR MISSING: 134,000

SO THAT'S IT, THE WAR IS OVER?

NOT A BIT! THEY'VE JUST STOPPED FOR WINTER.

PHEW. I NEED A BREAK TO CATCH UP.

THIS IS ALL TOO MUCH FOR ME.

SO MUCH DEATH AND DESTRUCTION.

SO MUCH RUNNING FROM PLACE TO PLACE. ATTACK, RETREAT, ADVANCE!

I WASN'T CONFUSED, I ENJOY THE DASHING ABOUT!

I AM SORRY TO SAY, MOST OF THE "DASHING ABOUT" ENDS HERE.

THIS IS NOW THE WAR OF THE TRENCHES.

I HAVEN'T SEEN ANY WOLVES OR GRIFFINS FOR A WHILE--WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?

YES, WHAT'S GOING ON IN SERBIA?

THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN ARMY DECIDED NOT TO STOP FOR THE WINTER.

WE WERE TOO HASTY LAST TIME.

NOW WE ARE PREPARED TO INVADE SERBIA.

BELGRADE, SERBIA  
DECEMBER 2, 1914

BELGRADE HAS FALLEN! SERBIA IS OURS!

NO, IT ISN'T.

SERBIA WAS READY FOR THE ATTACK. AND ON THEIR HOME GROUND, THEY FOUGHT BACK WITH *FURY*.

THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN ARMY SUFFERED OVER 200,000 CASUALTIES-- HALF OF THEIR INVASION FORCE.

IT WAS A CATASTROPHIC DEFEAT.

THE SERBIAN ARMY WON THE BATTLE. BUT WITH 170,000 CASUALTIES, THEIR ARMY WAS IN FRAGMENTS.

HOLY MOLEY. I THOUGHT WE WERE TAKING A BREAK.





GERMAN U-BOATS ROAMED THE DEEP. THE BRITISH NAVY PATROLLED THE WAVES. ARMIES OF MILLIONS FROZE IN THEIR TRENCHES.

THE YEAR ENDED, BUT THE WAR DID NOT.

WHO'S WINNING?

# 1915

NO ONE BUT THE GOD OF WAR.

ENJOYING THIS, ARES?

HE'S GOTTEN UGLIER SINCE WE LAST SAW HIM.

