

Direction Martha was swept by river

Western Army

Front line where Martha was fighting

Retreating Ostanian army

I DOGGEDLY PLODGED EAST, MY ANXIETY RISING AS EACH STEP BROUGHT ME CLOSER TO THE FRONT LINE.

East-West Border

GUN SMOKE, IRON, LEATHER, OIL, DUST, AND FIELD KITCHEN SOUPS...

THE STENCH OF THE ARMY GREW THICKER IN EACH TOWN I PASSED THROUGH.



A store, a store...

I NEED TO TRY TO BUY SOMETHING WITH THE MONEY ANABEL GAVE ME!

I'M ALL OUT OF BREAD. I CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS.



OH... ERR, AH...

DO YOU HAVE YOUR RATION CARD?

FOOD? MOST OF OUR STOCK HAS BEEN REQUISITIONED BY THE ARMY.



UM...RIGHT, I LEFT MY RATION CARD AT HOME! I'LL RUN BACK AND GET IT!

YOUNG LADY, HAVE YOU BEEN LEFT ALL ALONE AT A TIME LIKE THIS? ARE YOU LOCAL?

W H O O S H



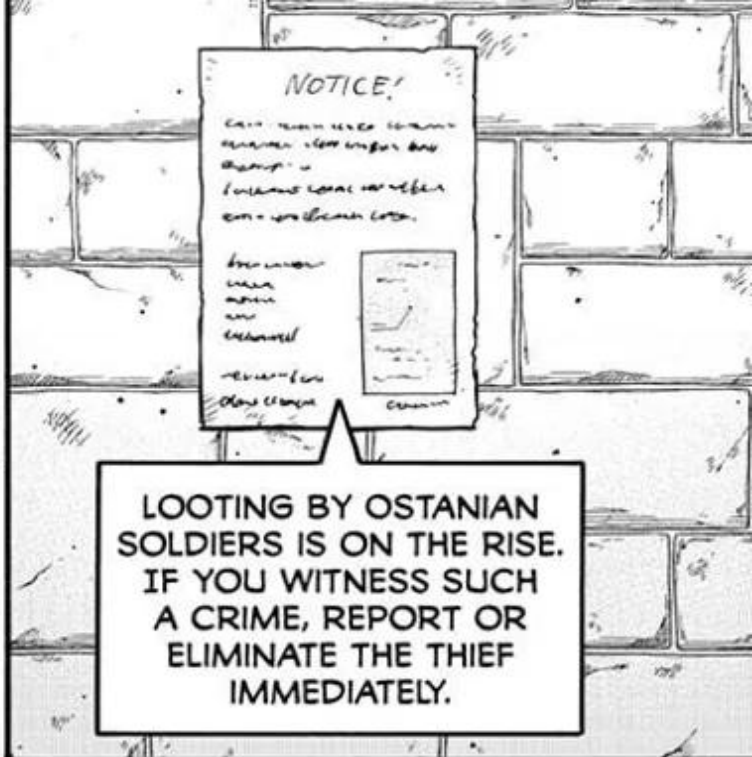
きゅるるる

I'M SO HUNGRY.

SOUP ...

SO HUNGRY I COULD DIE.

BY TATSUYA ENDO



TRANSLATION: CASEY LOE

LETTERING: RINA MAPA





...AND SOME
INFORMATION.

I'm sorry,
Anabel, for
leaving your
daughter's
clothes here...

I NEED TO
FIND SOME
MEN'S
CLOTHES...

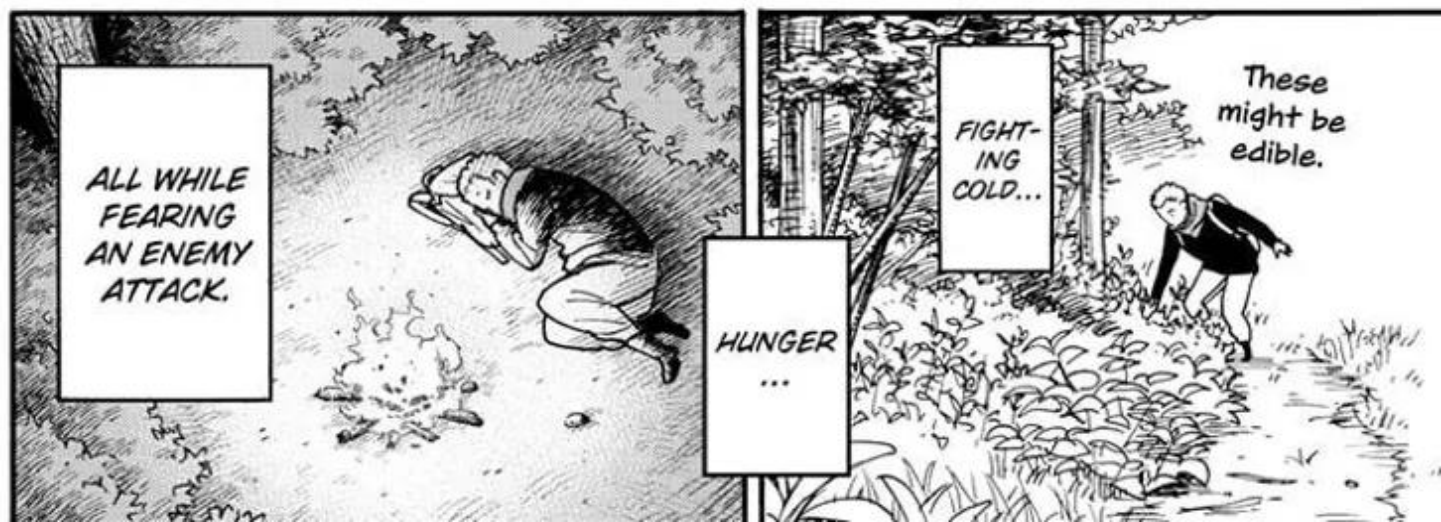
IF I CAN'T
GET BACK TO
THEM SOON,
I'LL BE LEFT
BEHIND. BUT
THERE COULD
BE LAND
MINES, SO
I'LL NEED TO
CHOOSE MY
ROUTE WITH
CARE.


AS USEFUL AS THIS
MAP IS, IT OBVIOUSLY
DOESN'T HAVE MILITARY
POSITIONS. I'LL NEED
TO FIGURE THAT OUT
MYSELF.

BUT FROM
WHAT I'VE
OVER-
HEARD
FROM THE
TOWNS-
FOLK, THE
OSTANIAN
ARMY IS
IN THE
MIDST OF
A MAJOR
RETREAT.

IF SCATTERED
OSTANIAN
SOLDIERS ARE
SHOWING UP IN
THESE TOWNS,
THEN THE
FRONT LINE
CAN'T BE FAR
FROM HERE.
OR SO I'D
LIKE TO
BELIEVE...

HOW CAN
I SLIP
PAST THE
WESTALIS
ARMY TO
RETURN TO
THE EAST?





THAT
DETERMI-
NATION
WOULD BE
ENOUGH
TO KEEP
MY FEET
MOVING.

"I HAVE
TO GET
BACK
TO THE
PEOPLE
I LOVE."



IT HAD
BEEN A
FOOL'S
ERRAND
ALL
ALONG.

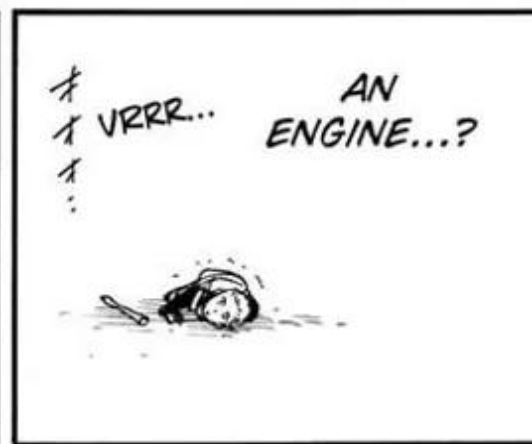
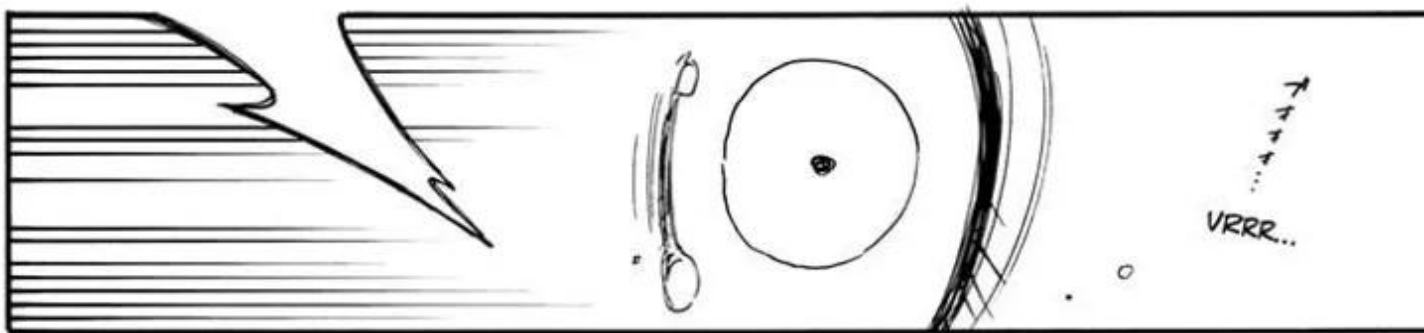
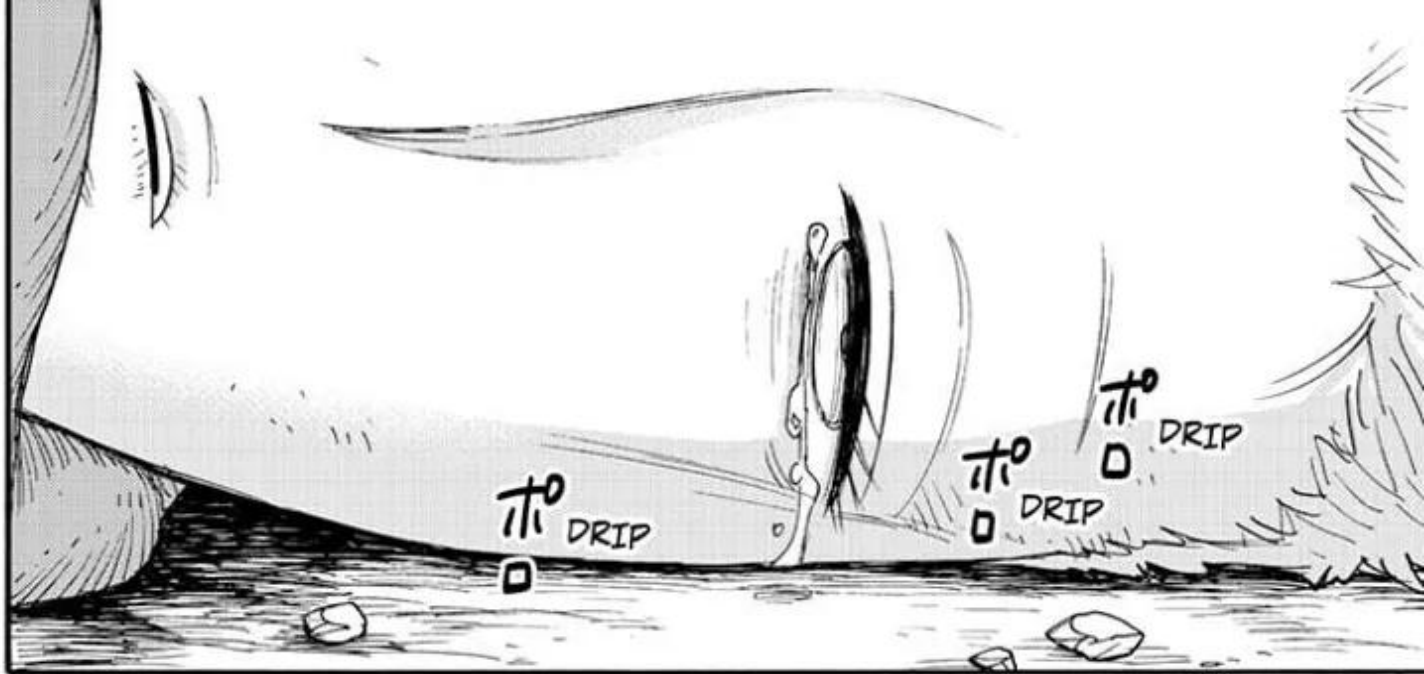
OR SO I
THOUGHT.
BUT I WAS
WRONG.

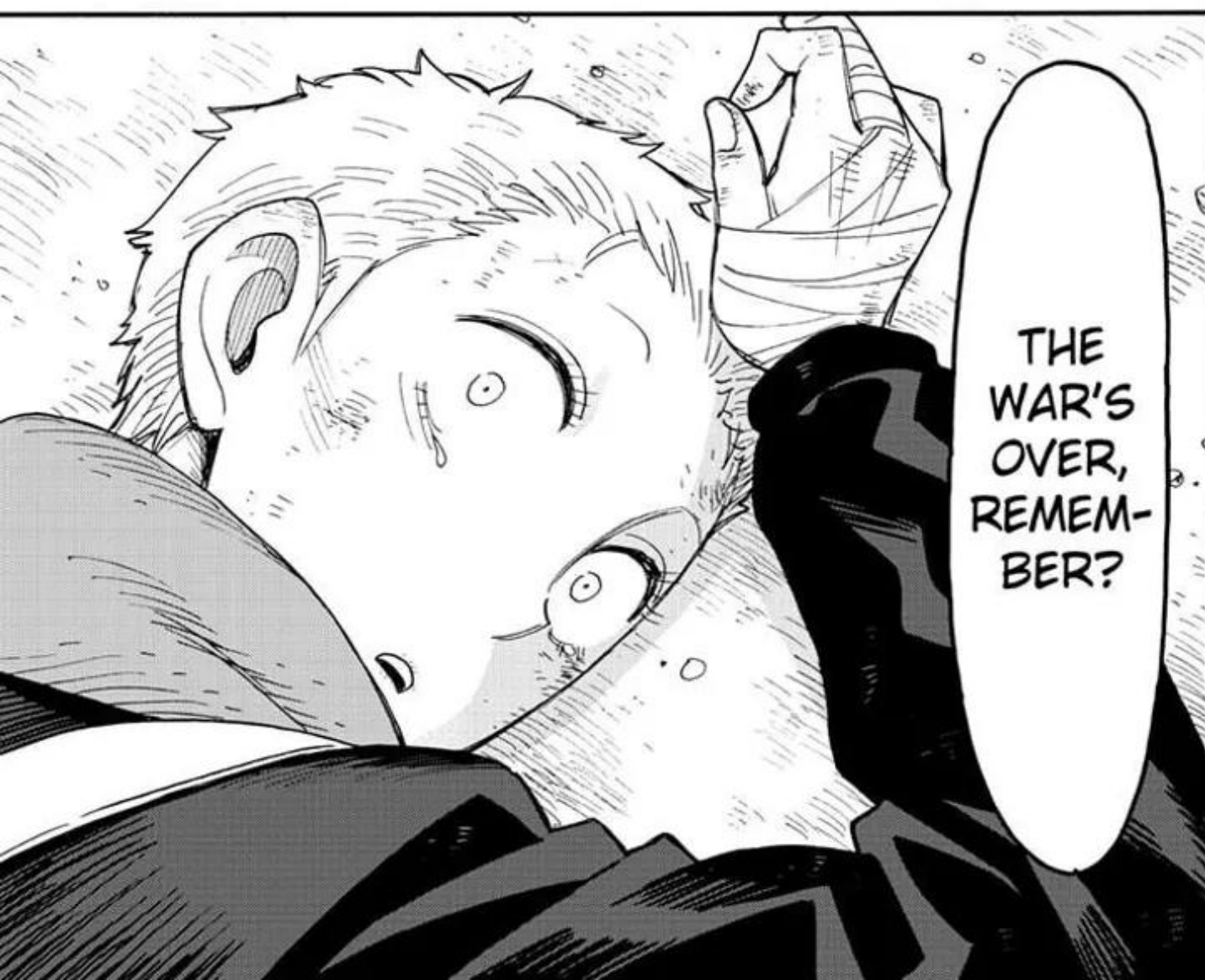


IT
HARDLY
MATTERS
NOW. I
CAN'T WALK
ANOTHER
STEP.

WHERE
IS THE
EASTERN
ARMY?

I SHOULD
AT LEAST BE
NEAR THE
FRONT BY
NOW, BUT I
CAN'T HEAR
ANYTHING
AT ALL.







THE
WAR...

...IS
OVER?

WAIT
...

VRRRM

AND LIKE
SOME BUG,
I WAS
BEING
DRAWN IN
BY ITS
LIGHT.

JUST
THAT THE
EASTERN
SKY WAS
SHINING
MUCH MORE
BRIGHTLY.

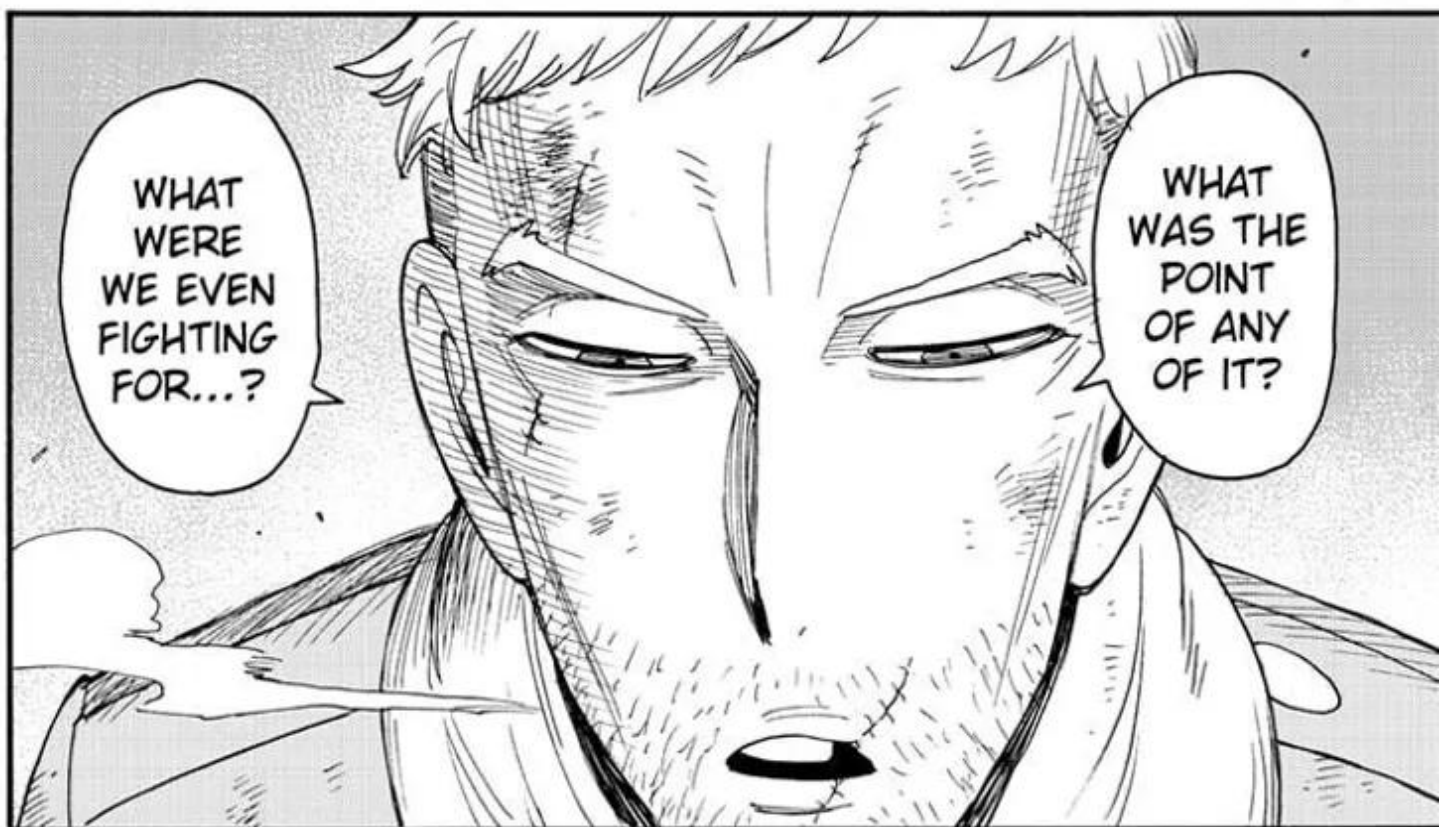
I DON'T
REMEMBER
TOO MUCH
ABOUT
WHAT
HAPPENED
NEXT.

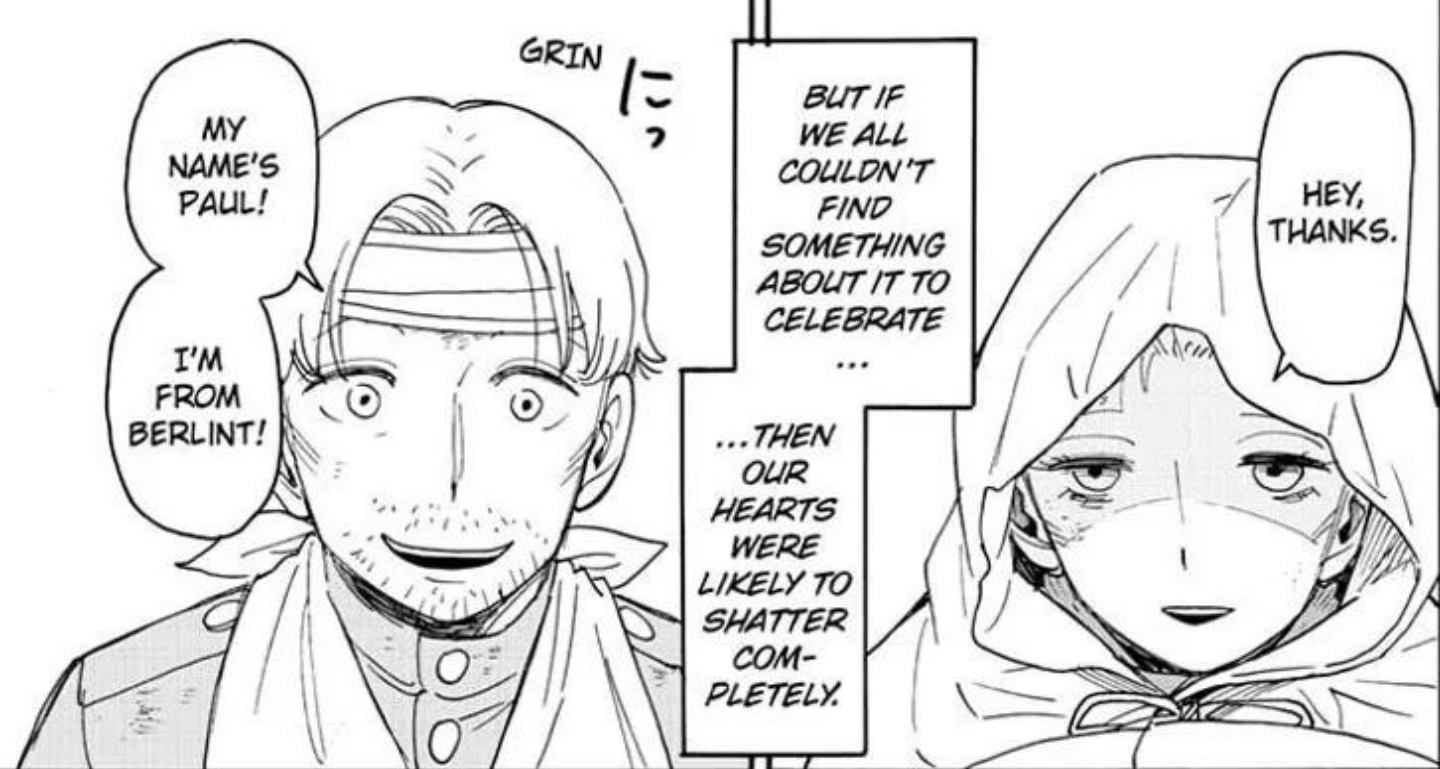


AND THE
NEXT THING I
KNEW, I WAS
BEING NURSED
BY OSTANIAN
TROOPS
WHO'D BEEN
ASSIGNED
TO CLEANUP
DUTY NEAR
A FORWARD
OUTPOST.

IN THE
END,
I WAS
CRAWL-
ING
ALONG
THE
GROUND.









WHEN
WE GET
BACK TO
BERLINT,
HOW
ABOUT
YOU AND
I GET
MARRIED?



HERE
YOU GO,
MARTHA.
HAVE
SOME
WATER.



LISTEN,
MARTHA
...



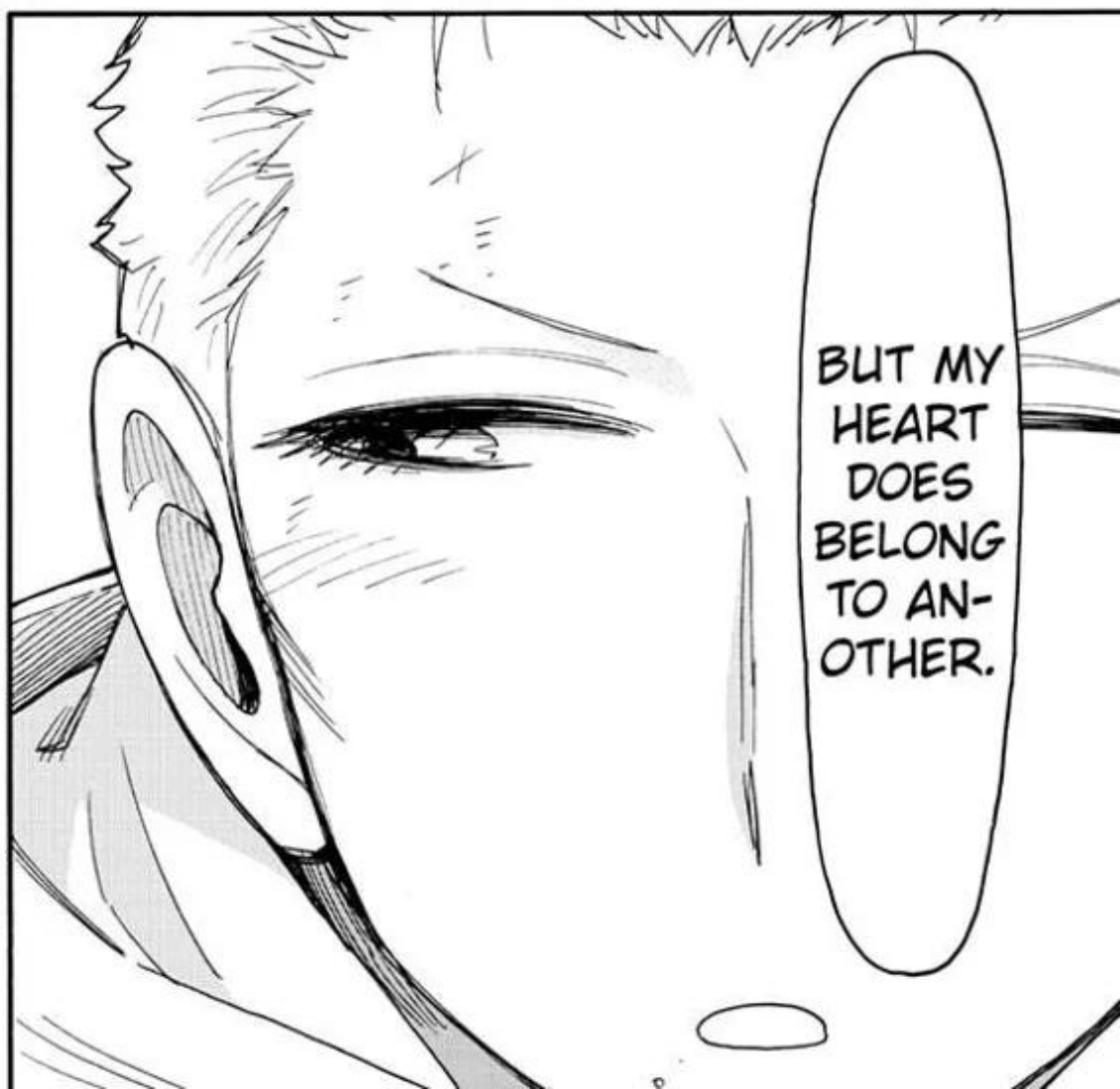
NO!

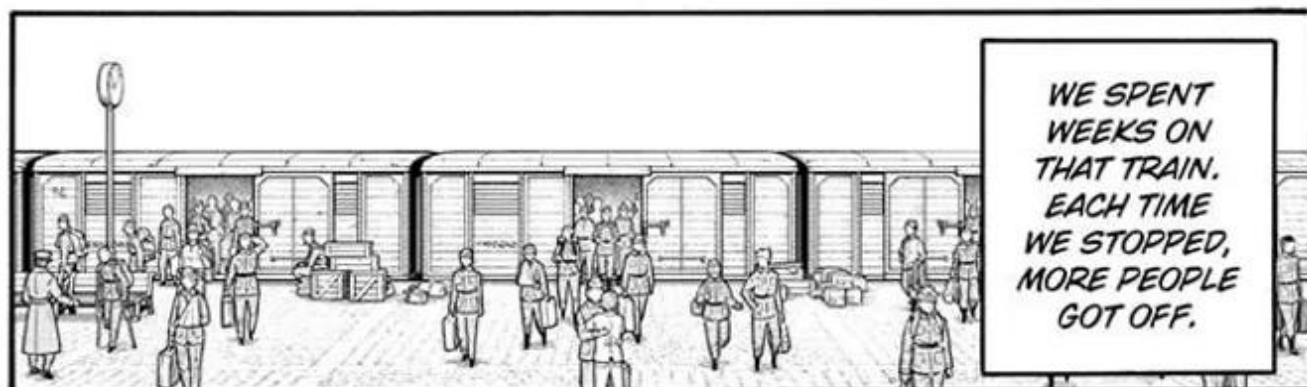
ALREADY
GOT A
HUSBAND?

I
C-CAN'T!



WELL,
THAT'S ALL
THE MORE
REASON TO
HEAL UP AND
COME HOME
HEALTHY.







PLENTY OF OTHER FOLKS DIDN'T MAKE IT EITHER.

THAT
ISN'T
FAIR!



WE'RE
BACK
HOME.

SHUF

LOOK,
MISS, WE
GOTTA
GET OFF
NOW.



To be continued!