

KING ZOLTAN THE FIRST/LAST

Written by

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EXT. MEDIEVAL MARKET - DAY

It is a clear and sunny day and we look down from the sky at a bustling market square of a small medieval town.

It is so crowded that the ground isn't visible and the shoppers weaving through the shops and stalls look like waves in a whirlpool.

Then we pan to the area around a CART filled with CABBAGES, which is devoid of people as though everyone is being magnetically repulsed.

ZOLTAN, an unremarkable looking man in his early-thirties, sits behind the cart of cabbages with a blank expression. CITY GUARDS surround the cart as shadows falling across Zoltan.

CITY GUARD

Permit.

ZOLTAN

What?

CITY GUARD

You need to pay the tax and get a permit to operate a market stall.

ZOLTAN

But...

Zoltan looks down at cart and then back up at the guards.

ZOLTAN (CONT'D)

This isn't a stall, this is a cart.

The guard, expressionless, draws a SMALL CLUB from his belt, but another guard puts a hand on his shoulder and shakes his head.

The guard nods in response and puts the small club away. He then draws a LARGE CLUB instead.

The other guards follow suit and also draw large clubs simultaneously as though they had rehearsed for it.

EXT. MEDIEVAL STREETS - DAY

Zoltan is severely beaten and is noticeably injured with dirtied and torn clothes. He limps down a narrow and empty street.

He drags behind him a cart with only one wheel that only has two cabbages in it.

Sound of fire crackling gets progressively louder until Zoltan turns a corner and an orange glow reflects off his face.

ZOLTAN'S WIFE is holding a TORCH and standing in front of a burning house. Zoltan walks up to her without changing speed.

ZOLTAN

Honey, I'm home.

ZOLTAN'S WIFE

You are a pathetic, miserable, unprincipled, unambitious, tiny-dicked coward. Your career is non-existent and your life is a stagnant waste of air and other people's time. Marrying you was the greatest shame of my life but it is fortunately a mistake that I can still rectify. Goodbye, I pray we never meet again.

Zoltan's wife walks away, still holding the torch, and disappears into the distance.

Zoltan looks up at his burning house as the roof finally collapses into itself. Then, another cracking sound is heard behind him.

He looks down at his cart.

ZOLTAN

Aw man.

The last wheel of his cart has fallen off and is now rolling away from him in the same direction and his wife left him in.

ZOLTAN (CONT'D)

I can't believe taxes has done this to me.

EXT. MEDIEVAL TOWN STREETS - DAY

Zoltan walks down the street holding two cabbages in his arms.

His eyes dart back and forth and he is looking every direction except in front of him. It is clear he doesn't know where he is going. He bumps into a LARGE MAN.

ZOLTAN

Oops. Sorry.

The large man turns to Zoltan.

LARGE MAN

Fuck you.

He turns back.

Zoltan follows where the large man is looking to see an INSTIGATOR giving a speech to a small crowd of about fifty people from atop a WOODEN BOX.

INSTIGATOR

And what are taxes? The seizure of the wheat from our fields? The stealing of the coins from our pockets? The taking of the cabbages from our carts?

The crowd is muttering sounds of agreement while Zoltan is trying to get a better look from behind the large man.

But the large man is much taller than him and Zoltan is almost entirely hidden, only poking out here and there.

INSTIGATOR (CONT'D)

What will the king demand as taxes tomorrow? Your wives from your beds? Your children from your cribs? Your very lives?

The crowd is getting agitated.

LARGE MAN

Yeah! Fuck taxes!

ZOLTAN

(Shouting)  
I also think the taxes are unfair!

No one in the crowd turns to look at Zoltan. It seems like no one has heard him.

INSTIGATOR

Today, the king may sit in his golden palace, eating what he wants to eat, doing what he wants to doing, bedding who he wants to bed, but, a tree-

<p>ZOLTAN (Whispering) Man, it sounds good to be king.</p>	<p>INSTIGATOR (CONT'D) -that drinks gluttonously from its roots will-</p>
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The crowd, including the instigator, falls silent and turns to Zoltan at the same time.

The large man steps out of the way and a path as opened towards Zoltan like the centre of a mosh pit.

Zoltan looks around like he is expecting someone to say something but it is completely silent.

ZOLTAN (CONT'D)  
I mean... the king doesn't have to  
pay taxes, right? I don't-

CUT TO:

Zoltan is on the ground and everyone who used to be listening to the instigator is beating him. But because there are a lot of people and only one Zoltan, they keeping bumping into and mistakenly hitting each other.

Every time that happens, it causes smaller independent fights to break out in the crowd.

It has become a massive riot and there is obviously more people in the riot now than there were originally listening to the instigator but it is too chaotic to count the exact number.

Everyone is taking turns oscillating between fighting each other and beating Zoltan. A few domestic animals are involved but no one can tell what exactly they are doing.

A group of about thirty town guards, led by an OFFICER, approach the riot in an orderly formation. People who notice them coming make way and run away but most people do not notice them.

The officer raises a SCABBARD with a SWORD HILT sticking out of it. He grabs the hilt but somehow draws a large club out of it instead.

OFFICER  
By the name of king, stop this  
senseless violence at once!

The officer does not wait for a response or even until he finishes speaking himself to rush into the riot with his guards.

He and the guards split up, breaking their orderly formation before even engaging. They start fights with everyone they see.

The guards escalate the violence far beyond what the rioting crowd was capable of.

Zoltan struggles to get up while, behind him, the struggle between the guards and the rioters move from one end of the frame to the other.

When the struggle leaves the frame entirely, Zoltan is almost on his feet. But a guard kicks him back down before he gets up completely and all the guards, including the officer, come and beat him. It is reminiscent of when he was being beaten by the crowd.

OFFICER (CONT'D)

Okay, okay, that's enough.

The officer holds back the other guards

OFFICER (CONT'D)

Our shift's over, let's go home.

The beating ends and the guards leave but the officer gives Zoltan one last kick before walking away. A METAL BADGE falls out of his pocket and lands beside Zoltan.

Still on the ground, Zoltan picks up the badge and studies it.

The badge has the symbol of a ceremonial-looking sword.

An ANCIENT MAN with a long white beard and a cane, wearing permanent squint, is behind Zoltan as he studies the badge. Zoltan does not notice him.

ANCIENT MAN

Do you know what that symbol means,  
young man?

Zoltan turns to the ancient man and looks around to see if he is talking to someone else.

The streets are completely devoid of people other than Zoltan and the ancient man.

ZOLTAN

What?

ANCIENT MAN  
(ignoring him)  
In ancient times, this land was  
said to have been ruled by a  
tyrant.

ZOLTAN  
What?

ANCIENT MAN  
(still ignoring him)  
And then an unremarkable young man  
pulled a sword out of a stone...

The ancient man flinches at what he just said and strokes his  
beard with his free hand.

ANCIENT MAN (CONT'D)  
Or maybe he got it from a lake.

ZOLTAN  
Are you talking to me?

ANCIENT MAN  
Then this and that happened, and  
then some other things happened.  
And finally, he killed the tyrant  
with the sword and became the new  
king.

We look at Zoltan, who is applying pressure to his wounds  
while a trail of blood streams down his face from his hair.

ANCIENT MAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
And that's how we ended up with  
this serene and peaceful kingdom we  
have today.

ZOLTAN  
Wait, that's all you have to do to  
become king? Kill the current king  
with a sword?

We zoom in to ancient man's face. He looks pleased with  
himself and nods slowly.

ZOLTAN (CONT'D)  
Where do you go to get a sword?

The ancient man opens his eyes wide for the first time.

ANCIENT MAN  
(shouting)  
How the fuck should I know?

He turns around and marches away, holding his cane instead of using it.

ANCIENT MAN (CONT'D)  
(muttering to himself)  
Damned kids these days, thinking I  
know everything just because I'm  
old.

Zoltan is alone again. He looks down at the badge then back at where the ancient man once was.

We zoom out and see that Zoltan is standing under a wooden sign hanging above a door. The sign depicts a hammer pounding out a sword on an anvil and it is clear it is a weapon-smith's shop.

Zoltan looks up and notices it.

ZOLTAN  
Oh.

Still looking up, Zoltan tries to put the badge into his pocket but after a few attempts, realises he does not have pockets.

Zoltan sees the two cabbages laying not far from him, as badly beaten as he is. He sticks the badge into the cabbage.

INT. WEAPON-SMITH'S SHOP - DAY

The inside of the shop is lit only by the little bit of light coming through the windows. The walls are full of medieval weapons and shields.

In the corner of the shop, the STOREOWNER sits behind the counter polishing a longsword. He is a focused, professional-looking demeanor.

Zoltan walks in through the door holding the two cabbages, and looks at the weapons on display.

The storeowner notices him enter and puts down the sword.

STOREOWNER  
Hey, what's up?

ZOLTAN  
Good.

The storeowner is staring at Zoltan without blinking.



Zoltan is staring back.

Close up on the storeowner, who still isn't blinking.

Close up on Zoltan, whose eyes are shifting and he is looking flustered.

Extreme close up on the storeowner's eyes. He looks like he is struggling to not blink.

Extreme close up on Zoltan's eyes. Trails of sweat are coming down his forehead into his eyelashes and he has to blink them away.

Zoltan finally gets embarrassed enough to rush out of the store.

The storeowner blinks and grunts. He goes back to polishing the sword as though nothing happened.

EXT. RURAL ROADS - DAY

Zoltan walks along the roads holding his two cabbages as the town he was in disappears into the distance behind him.

Zoltan approaches a crossroads leading into five directions with a signpost in the middle.

Focus on the sign with the same symbol as the badge Zoltan has stamped onto it.

Zoltan looks at the badge. It is stabbed into one of his cabbages and only half is peeking out.

ZOLTAN  
(to himself)  
Well, I guess I'll get a sword on  
the way. Maybe I'll find it in a  
stone or something.

Zoltan looks ahead and begins walking in the direction the sign is pointing to. He has a limp and is going at an excruciating pace.

ZOLTAN (CONT'D)  
Or maybe it was a lake?

EXT. FOREST TRAIL - DAY

Zoltan is walking down a wide dirt trail through a forested hill.

A family of deer run past Zoltan and Zoltan watches them disappear into the trees.

Birds squawking above catches Zoltan's attention.

Zoltan looks up to see an organised flock of birds fly across the empty sky.

Zoltan circles in place surrounded by the sound of different animals like a Disney princess.

Zoltan sighs and smiles.

ZOLTAN

Maybe things are looking up.

An army of around one hundred heavily-armed BANDITS burst out of the trees on both sides, scaring the rest of the animals out of the forest.

All shouting, the bandits and animals charge at Zoltan as Zoltan ducks for cover.

They all run past by Zoltan and he is left completely unharmed.

Looking behind him, Zoltan sees the army of bandits fighting a group of CARAVAN GUARDS protecting a few CARRIAGES.

Zoltan walks away and tries to cover his face with his cabbages but drops one of the cabbages instead.

Zoltan bends down to pick up the cabbage but sees the badge has fallen out.

After looking at the symbol on the badge, Zoltan picks it up and turns back around.

The fight is a chaotic mess and there are a few bandits and guards who are fighting the wrong people by accident.

ZOLTAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)

(shouting)

Hey!

The fight stops completely and it is silent, like when Zoltan whispered in the crowd in the town.

The bandits and guards part and Zoltan is revealed further up the road.

Zoltan points at the belligerents while holding two cabbages in the other hand.

ZOLTAN (CONT'D)  
(shouting)  
That's illegal!

The bandits and guards look at Zoltan expressionless.

Zoltan is breathing heavily.

ZOLTAN (CONT'D)  
Oh, good thing that worked, for a  
moment I was worried-

Zoltan is interrupted by all of the bandits forgetting about the caravan and charging at Zoltan.

Zoltan screams and runs.

The bandits chase Zoltan up and down the road and in a few circles.

Zoltan runs into the forest and the bandits lose track of him.

Zoltan, screaming, runs from one end of the frame to the other through some bushes.

Zoltan, still screaming, runs from one end of the frame to the other past some trees.

Zoltan, still screaming, runs into some moss-covered ruins deep in the forest.

Zoltan, still screaming, runs through the ruins. The ruins are already falling part and Zoltan's running loosens the stones.

One pillars falls after the other as Zoltan runs past.

Zoltan, still screaming, runs back out into the open.

Zoltan walks without looking in front of him, busy checking to see if he is still being followed.

ZOLTAN (CONT'D)  
I think I lost them.

Zoltan bumps into a BANDIT.

Zoltan realises he has just run back to where he started and where all the bandits still are.

BANDIT  
There he is!

ZOLTAN  
(screaming)  
Oh my god!

Zoltan screams in a high pitched voice as the bandits are about to kill him.

A landslide made up of mud and stones from the ruins crashes down the hill and wipes out all the bandits and most of the trees.

Zoltan is unharmed.

Zoltan looks around him and appears confused as to what just happened.

CARAVAN GUARD A approaches him.

CARAVAN GUARD A  
Wow, you've saved all of us. Thank  
you.

The guard goes to shake Zoltan's hand.

Zoltan tries to put both cabbages in one hand so he can shake the guard's hand.

The badge falls out of the cabbage.

ZOLTAN  
Oops.

The guard notices the badge.

CARAVAN GUARD A  
Oh, you dropped your- Whoa, what!

The guard points at Zoltan.

CARAVAN GUARD A (CONT'D)  
Agent! Everyone, get him!

ZOLTAN  
What?

CARAVAN GUARD A tackles Zoltan onto the ground.

CARAVAN GUARD B and CARAVAN GUARD C run over and dog pile on top of them.

They are trying to pin Zoltan down and pull him out at the same time. It is not working

CARAVAN GUARD A  
Put your hands up!

CARAVAN GUARD B  
(overlapping)  
Put your hands down!

CARAVAN GUARD C  
(overlapping)  
Put your feet up!

CARAVAN GUARD A  
(overlapping)  
Put your knees together!

CARAVAN GUARD B  
(overlapping)  
Touch your toes!

CARAVAN GUARD C  
(overlapping)  
Lick your elbow!

They give Zoltan no opportunity to follow any of their orders.

CARAVAN GUARD D (O.S.)  
Guys, move out of the way!

The three guards get up off of Zoltan and take a few steps back.

Zoltan opens his eyes and looks up, following the voice.

The sun is too bright to make out who said that. But as the glare fades, he sees CARAVAN GUARD D standing on top of a carriage.

ZOLTAN  
Wha-

As Zoltan begins to scream, the guard jumps off of the carriage and does a diving elbow drop onto Zoltan.

Zoltan is now unconscious, but the guards poke him a few times to confirm.

CARAVAN GUARD D  
It's okay, guys, I got him. We're safe now.

CARAVAN GUARD A  
Wow, you've saved all of us. Thank you.

Caravan Guard A reaches a hand out to Caravan Guard D.

Caravan Guard D stares him up and down and then walks away.

INT. DUNGEON - DAY

In a dungeon cell with windowless stone walls, lit only by a BRAZIER, Zoltan is tied to a CHAIR with a BAG over his head.

The BRUTE, a fat, middle-aged man, takes the bag off Zoltan's head.

Zoltan looks around.

ZOLTAN

What happened?

BRUTE

Tell me where you got that badge from.

ZOLTAN

Okay, I got it from-

The Brute punches Zoltan.

BRUTE

Tell me or I'll hit you!

ZOLTAN

You already-

The Brute punches Zoltan again.

BRUTE

You're only making it worse for yourself!

ZOLTAN

I didn't even-

The Brute kicks Zoltan, knocking him down with his chair.

BRUTE

Trying to get away, huh?

ZOLTAN

What?

The Brute beats Zoltan.

IN THE HALLWAY

Outside a BARRED DOOR, where sounds of Zoltan getting beaten come from. The PRINCESS, a young woman, is reading a SCROLL of parchment under the light of a row of TORCHES on the walls.

A LIEUTENANT, an old man, waits for the princess to finish reading.

LIEUTENANT

Your orders?

The princess addresses him without looking up.

PRINCESS

And how many bandits, roughly, did this man kill on his own.

LIEUTENANT

Well, we don't believe they were just random bandits. They're most likely mercenaries hired by the king.

The princess doesn't respond and seems disinterested.

LIEUTENANT (CONT'D)

And he didn't really kill them. They said it was more like a landslide he may or may not have caused.

The princess looks up and rolls the scroll back up.

PRINCESS

Now that is interesting. Show us the badge again.

LIEUTENANT

Yes, your highness.

The lieutenant hands the princess the badge that was once in Zoltan's cabbages.

The princess holds it up to the torchlight to get a better look.

PRINCESS

This must be the badge of the secret police. They supposedly report only to the royal family but they actually only report to the king himself.

The lieutenant walks over the princess's side to get a better look.

PRINCESS (CONT'D)  
Look at that symbol.

LIEUTENANT  
The old emblem of the tyrant  
slayer.

PRINCESS  
Ironical, isn't it.

The princess leans back to look through the barred door.

Through the bars, Zoltan is still on the ground and tied to the chair. The brute is still beating him.

PRINCESS (CONT'D)  
Now, what is that man doing this  
badge?

LIEUTENANT  
That's what we're trying to figure  
out, your highness, whether he's  
one of their agents.

PRINCESS  
We can assure you he is not. But if  
not, how did he end up with this?

The princess holds up the badge.

LIEUTENANT  
Do you think he could have-

PRINCESS  
Can we put it past him? Our  
veterans were struggling with the  
bandits, or mercenaries, but he  
took them out with just two  
cabbages.

The princess leans over again to look through the barred door. The lieutenant joins her.

The brute is still beating Zoltan.

LIEUTENANT  
He is a tough one.

PRINCESS  
Stop the interrogation.



The princess flicks the badge, like a coin, to the lieutenant who catches it.

PRINCESS (CONT'D)  
We will speak to him.

The lieutenant puts the badge away and salutes.

LIEUTENANT  
As per your orders, your highness.

IN THE CELL

Zoltan lies on the floor tied to the chair. The loud creaking of the cell door opening does not disturb him because he is unconscious.

The princess walks in with the lieutenant. Two soldiers follow behind her carrying a chair. They set it down across from Zoltan and the princess sits down.

PRINCESS  
Tell me your name.

Zoltan cannot respond because he is unconscious.

PRINCESS (CONT'D)  
Very well, perhaps we started off on the wrong foot. But we assure you that, if nothing else, we share the same enemies. Allow us to introduce ourselves.

The princess gestures to the lieutenant.

PRINCESS (CONT'D)  
This here is the most trusted advisor to the king of our quaint little nation.

The lieutenant nods.

PRINCESS (CONT'D)  
And also the second-in-command in our little operation here to usurp him.

The princess spreads her arms.

PRINCESS (CONT'D)  
We are, of course, your beloved princess. And the founder of our conspiracy.

The princess leans in towards Zoltan, who is still passed out on the ground.

PRINCESS (CONT'D)  
Have you heard of the legend of how  
this kingdom was founded?

EXT. LUSH COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

The HERO, a young man who looks like a better-built version of Zoltan, is harvesting cabbages from a small garden.

PRINCESS (V.O.)  
Back in ancient times, there was a  
young man who wanted nothing than  
to live a normal life.

HERO  
Wow, I want nothing more than to  
live a normal life.

PRINCESS (V.O.)  
But, one day, a tyrant who dreamed  
of owning the world came to the  
hero's lands.

The TYRANT wearing ARMOUR that hides his face walks into frame. Following him, the sky darkens and plants die.

TYRANT  
Hi, I'm a tyrant.

HERO  
Oh.

TYRANT  
Give me your cabbages.

HERO  
No.

The tyrant takes the hero's cabbages and leaves.

HERO (CONT'D)  
Fuck.

EXT. FARMLAND - DAY

The hero sits, leaning against a fence, in a farm where all the crops have died. FARMER A and FARMER B, a middle-aged man and woman, stand on the road behind the fence.

PRINCESS (V.O.)

The hero knew something had to be done. But his people were not one accustomed to violence.

FARMER A

Should we fight back?

FARMER B

What is fighting?

FARMER A

I don't know.

The hero sighs and gets up.

PRINCESS (V.O.)

Anyways, one day he came across a sword in a stone.

The hero begins to walk off and immediately bumps into a BOULDER with a SWORD sticking out of it.

HERO

What the hell?

He pulls the sword out of the boulder.

HERO (CONT'D)

Wow, thank you, boulder!

LIEUTENANT (V.O.)

Hold a moment, your highness.

INT. DUNGEON - DAY

The princess sits in Zoltan's cell and turns to look at the lieutenant.

PRINCESS

What is it?

LIEUTENANT

I believe it was actually a lake, your highness.

PRINCESS

Are you sure?

LIEUTENANT

Pretty sure.

The princess shrugs.

PRINCESS  
Well, anyways, let's say it was a  
lake, then.

EXT. LAKESIDE - DAY

The hero walks up to the lake.

PRINCESS (V.O.)  
  
So, the hero got a sword from a  
lake.

The hero reaches a hand into the water and pulls out a sword.

HERO  
Thank you, lake.

LAKE  
You're welcome.

HERO  
Wait a second.

PRINCESS (V.O.)  
And then this and that happened.  
Eventually, he killed the tyrant  
with the sword.

The hero turns around. The tyrant is right behind him.

TYRANT  
Hi.

The hero strikes the ground with a sword. It causes landslide  
which carries the tyrant into the lake and he disappears.

PRINCESS (V.O.)  
The hero founded his kingdom, and  
his name became legend.

The hero leaves the lakeside.

There is a time-lapse of a statue of the hero being built  
where he exploded the tyrant.

INT. DUNGEON - DAY

The princess crouches down next to the unconscious Zoltan.

PRINCESS

But there's a second part of this legend, no longer often told. You see, one day, the tyrant will return to take what does not belong to him once more. But so too, will the hero return to save these lands once more and reclaim his rightful place as its king.

The princess tilts her head.

PRINCESS (CONT'D)

Does any of that sound... familiar?

LIEUTENANT

Your highness, you can't possibly be suggesting-

PRINCESS

(interjecting)

Do not question us in front of others.

LIEUTENANT

But...

The lieutenant points to Zoltan

LIEUTENANT (CONT'D)

He's not even conscious.

PRINCESS

Oh.

The princess pokes Zoltan's face. Zoltan is unresponsive.

PRINCESS (CONT'D)

So he isn't. But don't do it anyways, it's a bad habit.

LIEUTENANT

Apologies, your highness.

The princess stands up, dusts herself off and leaves the cell.

PRINCESS

Anyways, if the legend is true and this is the hero, then this changes everything. But, if the legend isn't true and this is all a coincidence...

The princess looks back.

PRINCESS (CONT'D)  
Then this changes nothing.

The lieutenant salutes and the princess leaves.

Zoltan is lying on the ground tied to a chair in the same position as he had been this whole time.

PRINCESS (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Oh, and give him his things back.

Two cabbages fly into frame and hit Zoltan on the head, waking him up.

ZOLTAN  
Huh? What happened?

PRINCESS (O.S.)  
Give him the badge as well, we have no use for it.

The badge flies into frame and hits Zoltan on the head, knocking him back unconscious.

EXT. ARMY CAMP - DAY

Zoltan and the lieutenant stand in middle of a sprawling army camp, surrounded by soldiers going through drills and maintaining equipment.

The lieutenant has his arms folded and wears a serious expression.

Zoltan is holding two cabbages.

ZOLTAN  
Then, does that mean I'm going to become king?

The lieutenant does not look at Zoltan.

LIEUTENANT  
Sure.

ZOLTAN  
Don't I need a sword or something?

LIEUTENANT  
Yes.

ZOLTAN

Do I get it from a stone or a lake  
or something?

LIEUTENANT

No.

ZOLTAN

So where should I get it?

The lieutenant points at a large TENT further into the army camp.

ZOLTAN (CONT'D)

Oh. Thanks.

The lieutenant walks away.

Zoltan walks over the tent but stops before entering.

He looks over into the distance. Behind the WOODEN STAKES surrounding the camp, a large city is visible on a hill not too far away.

ZOLTAN (CONT'D)

Maybe things are actually looking  
up this time.

Zoltan enters the tent.

INT. QUARTERMASTER'S TENT - DAY

The QUARTERMASTER, an aging man, is polishing an AXE, surrounded by WEAPONS hanging off of RACKS.

Zoltan enters and the quartermaster waves at him.

QUARTERMASTER

Hey, what's up?

ZOLTAN

Good.

The quartermaster stares at Zoltan with a confused expression.

Zoltan is staring back.

Close up on the storeowner, who now has an expression of pity.

Close up on Zoltan, who is looking down.

Extreme close up on the storeowner's eyes. He is holding back tears.

Extreme close up on Zoltan hiding his face behind his cabbages.

Zoltan finally gets embarrassed enough to rush out of the store.

QUARTERMASTER

Well, that was weird.

He goes back to polishing the axe as though nothing happened.

EXT. ARMY CAMP - DAY

Zoltan walks around the army camp. Bells are being rung and horns are being blown. Soldiers are running past him. Everyone in the camp other than Zoltan seems to be in a rush.

Zoltan spots the princess outside a different tent.

The princess is putting on the last pieces of her ARMOUR when Zoltan approaches her.

ZOLTAN

Excuse me, I-

PRINCESS

Ah, the prodigal hero!

The princess grabs Zoltan by the shoulders.

PRINCESS (CONT'D)

It is good to see you have decided to join us after all.

She shakes Zoltan hard enough that his head jerks back and forth.

ZOLTAN

Um, right, do you know where I can get a-

The princess grabs Zoltan's arm and pulls him away.

PRINCESS

Let us be off, fate waits for no one no one.

She pulls Zoltan out of frame but one of the cabbages fall out of Zoltan's arms. Zoltan breaks free to go pick it up.



She stomps backs, this time picking up Zoltan above her head and carrying him away.

ZOLTAN  
Where are we going?

PRINCESS  
Hah! Not everyone can joke before a battle.

ZOLTAN  
Battle?

EXT. CAPITAL CITY - DAY

Much of the city's walls have been destroyed by catapult shots or tortoise siege engines. The parts that are not destroyed have siege towers parked on them.

Every single building in the city is on fire.

Houses in the residential district are burning down.

Stalls and carts in the market square are only smoldering timbers.

Flames are shooting up out of wells for some reason.

The lieutenant is engaged in a melee with the local army in the streets.

In an alleyway, the quartermaster is taking cover behind a PAVISE with a CROSSBOW and exchanging shots with sharpshooters on rooftops.

The princess is fighting on the walls and slaughtering the sentries. She appears to be having the time of her life.

She picks up a sentry and tosses him off the wall.

The sentry falls several stories and splatters on the ground right next to Zoltan, covering Zoltan in blood and guts.

Zoltan is surrounded by burning structures and mangles corpses, wearing the same rags he started with and holding two cabbages.

He studies the area and notices that he is only alive person in the vicinity.

ZOLTAN  
Uh oh.