

Battle of Berez

Fall of the Falcon



Penning by
Burgomaster of Berez
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I record these words so that future generations will remember the sacrifice of those who gave their lives to protect our beloved valley and the truth of the turning point of the war.

The year 346 was filled with tragedy and has become known to Barovians as the Dark Year.

The Great War had plagued Barovia for 26 years. My son was born when the war started, grew up during the war, and eventually served as a Knight of the Order of the Silver Dragon. My son has only known war and never the beautiful time of peace.

The Terg forces had set camp at Tser Lake, west of the falls. They had been planning to march across the Berez fields, cross the Luna River, conquer Berez and destroy Argynvostholt, the Knights of Order of the Silver Dragon's seat of power. It was believed if Berez and Argynvostholt fell, the war would be over and the Terg would claim Barovia.

Lord Falcon von Hapsburg called forth a battle council at Argynvostholt. Lord Argynvost was away at Tsolenka Pass and his daughter, Lady Lugdana would take his seat at the council. King Barov of Cadia was also away, and his son Prince Strahd von Zarovich would assume his father's seat.

Battle Plans

Lord Hapsburg's plan was for the Hapsburg army to cross east of the Luna River and draw out the Terg forces into the open fields of Berez. Prince Strahd would lead the Cadia army from the north near Vallaki, cutting off the Terg Forces from a retreat. Lord Argynvost's knights would arrive from Tsolenka Pass, taking the precarious route down to the Luna River, and attack from the South. Surrounding the Terg forces and destroying their army.

The plan was risky, to draw out the Terg forces it needed to be worthwhile and that was Lord Falkon von Hapsburg's role. The Lord of Barovia would lead a small force across the fields of Berez, a prize the Terg would certainly seize upon, drawing them out and exposing their north and south flanks. If the battle was successful; it would mean the end of the war.

I bid farewell to my son and Lady Lugdana, who accompanied Lord Falkon von Hapsburg. The Hapsburg army made camp on the east side of the Luna River. Lord Hapsburg made sure information was passed to the Terg that Lord Hapsburg was planning a surprise attack.



The Battle of Berez

The fall of the Falkon

On the cool spring morning of the battle, I stood on the shores of the Luna and watched as my son and the Lord of Barovia rode off across the fields of Berez to meet the Terg.

Lord Hapsburg's ruse worked; the bulk of the Terg forces marched out of their camp to meet Lord Hapsburg on the battlefield. Prince Strahd to the north overlooking the battlefield, waited for the signal. While Lord Argynvost's forces were marching up from the south.

When the signal was given, Lord Hapsburg led the charge towards the massive Terg forces, outnumbering Lord Hapsburg's army by hundred to one. Yet Prince Strahd remained motionless and did not join in the battle. Prince Strahd sat upon his horse, watching the battle unfold.

Lord's Hapsburg's forces were surrounded. A Terg dismounted Lord Hapsburg and soon he found himself alone, surrounded by hundreds of Terg. Hapsburg's forces pressed hard to get to their Lord, but to no avail.

The Terg fired six arrows into Lord Hapsburg before engaging him in hand-to-hand combat, and when they did, he struck down four of the Terg. Lord Hapsburg would not surrender and would not fall. A final arrow flew, piercing Lord Hapsburg's eye and striking him dead. The Terg forces chopped off his head and removed his crown, leaving his mangled body on the battlefield before they returned to their camp.



Prince Strahd watched the events play out and when Lord Hapsburg fell, he slowly turned and rode away.

Lord Argynvost arrived as the sun was setting, but it was too late. Lord Argynvost had been delayed as a massive force laid siege on the Gates of Tsolenka.

Lord Argynvost, Lady Lugdana, and my son ventured out to the battlefield to retrieve Lord Falkon von Hapsburg's remains. He was given a stately funeral and entombed in Castle Barovia.

Prince Strahd von Zarovich declared his forces were attacked by the Terg and thus was unable to advance. He blamed Lord Argynvost for not coming to Lord Hapsburg's aid.

No one knew where the Terg managed to garner such a large army to attack the Tsolenka Gate at the same time they fought Lord Hapsburg on the fields of Berez.

Lord Argynvost declared it was Prince Strahd von Zarovich's army that attacked the Gates of Tsolenka and was made to have us think it was the Terg. With Lord Falkon von Hapsburg, Lord of Barovia, dead and with no male heirs, King Barov of Cadia and his son Prince Strahd would declare rightful rule over Barovia, and so they did.

Lord Argynvost commanded the Hapsburg forces for the remainder of the war but became an enemy of House Zarovich.

