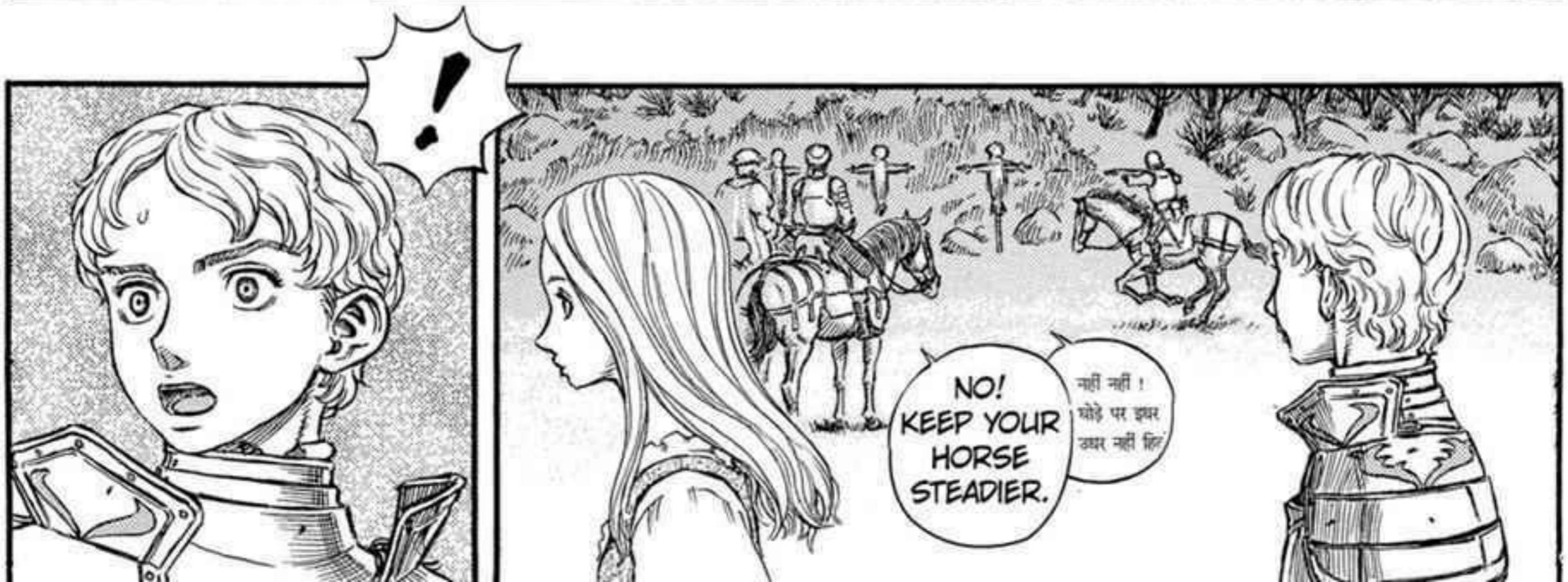
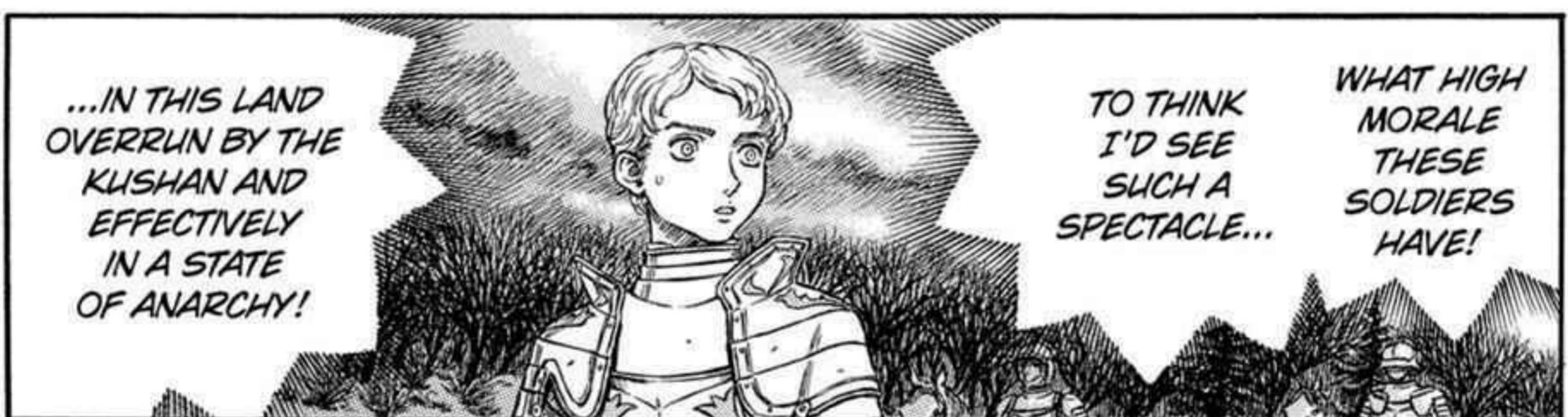
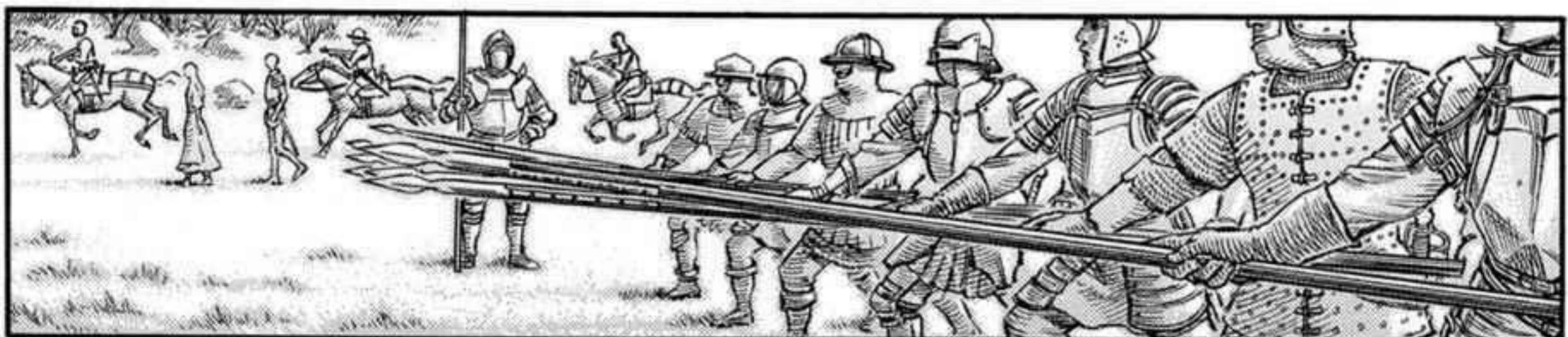
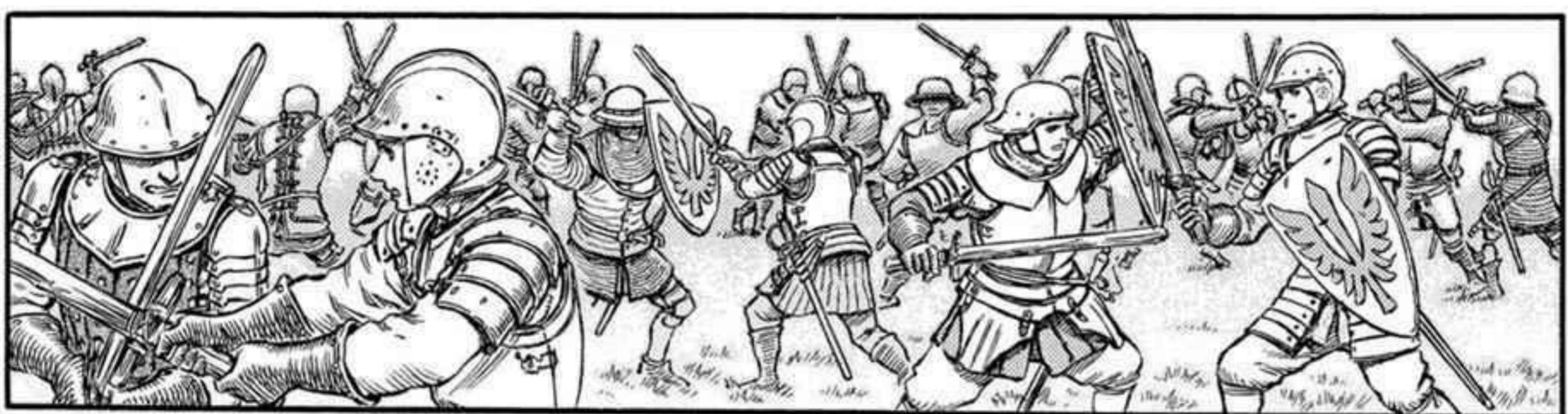
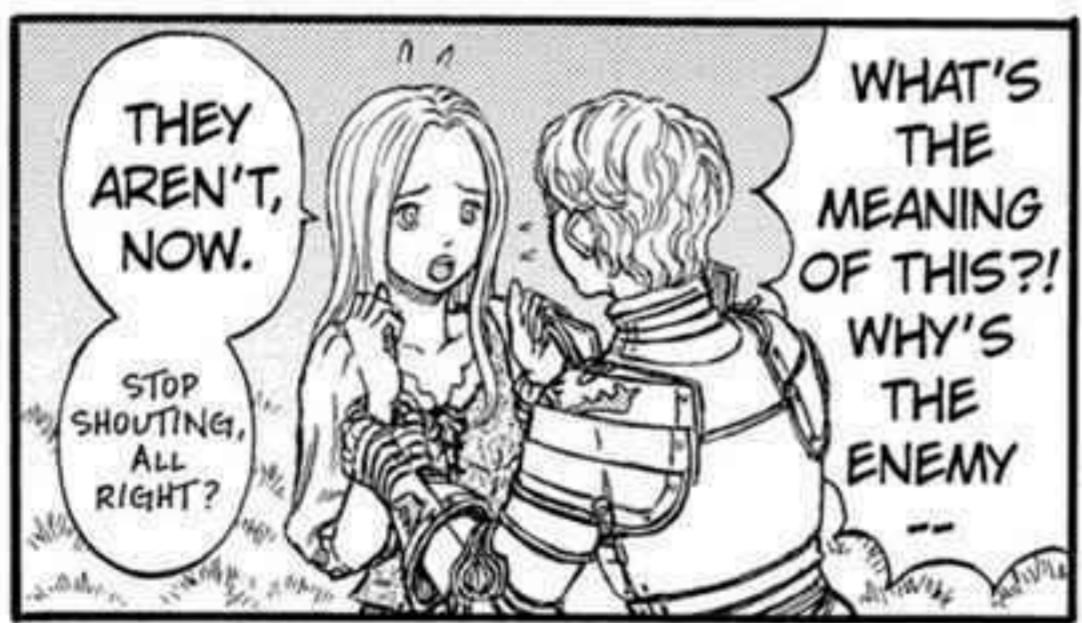
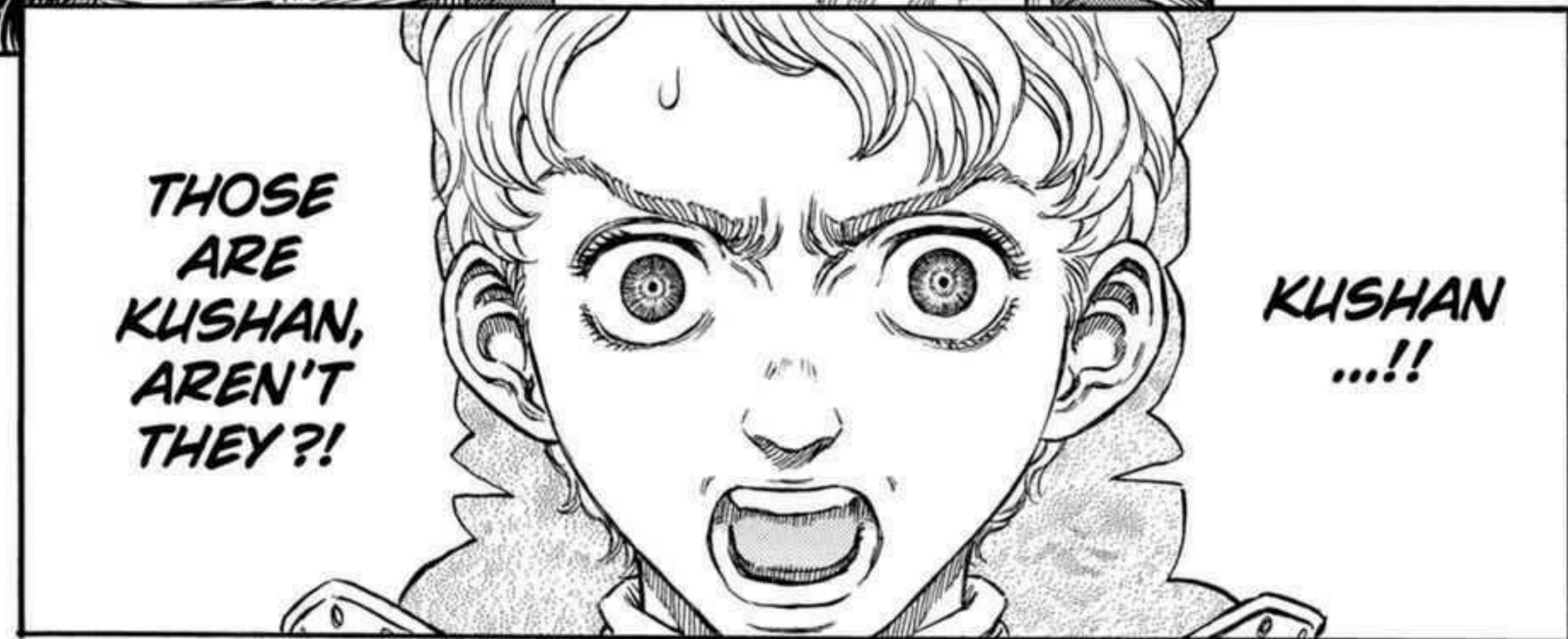


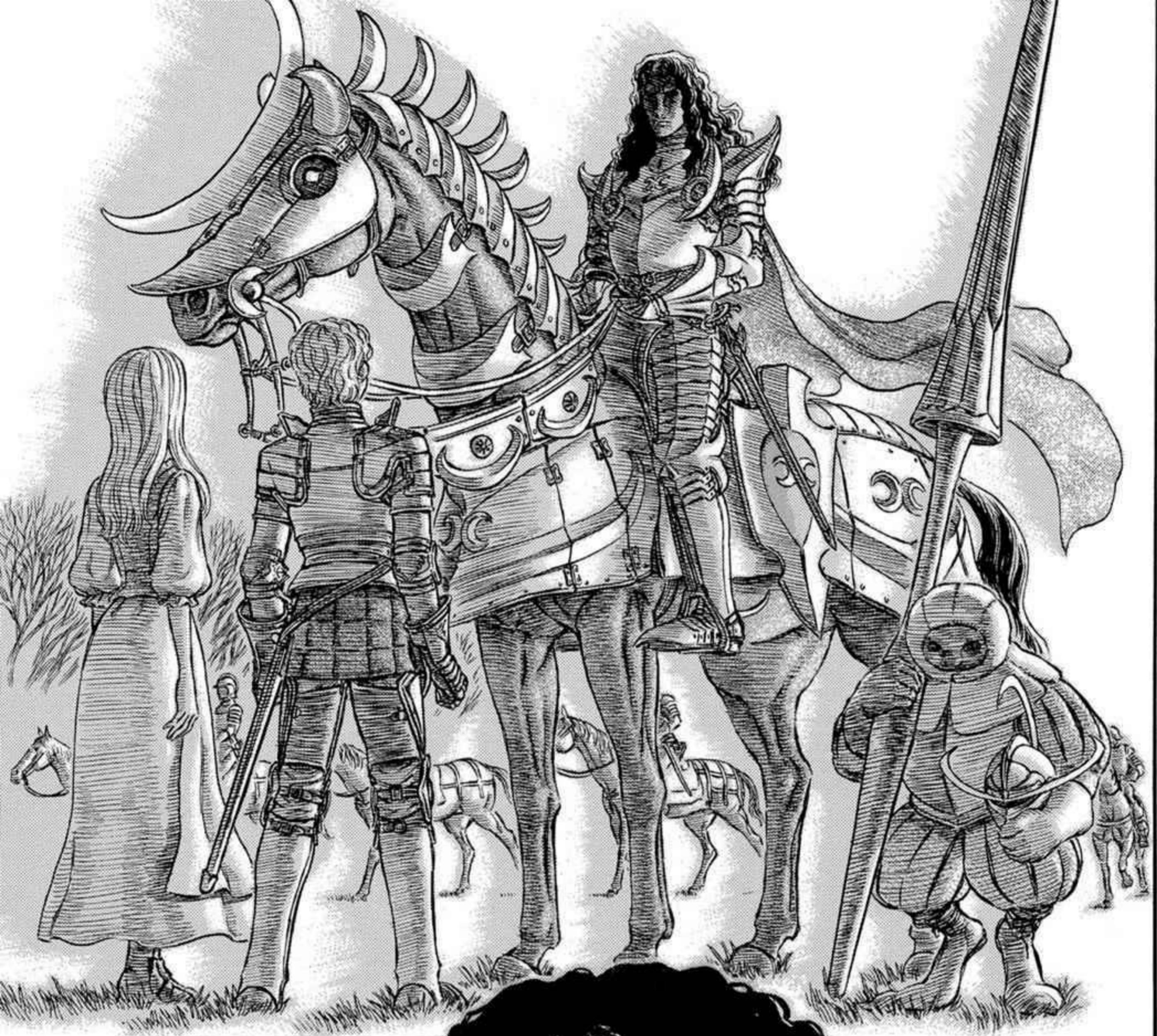
**WINGS OF LIGHT
AND DARKNESS**

光と闇の翼

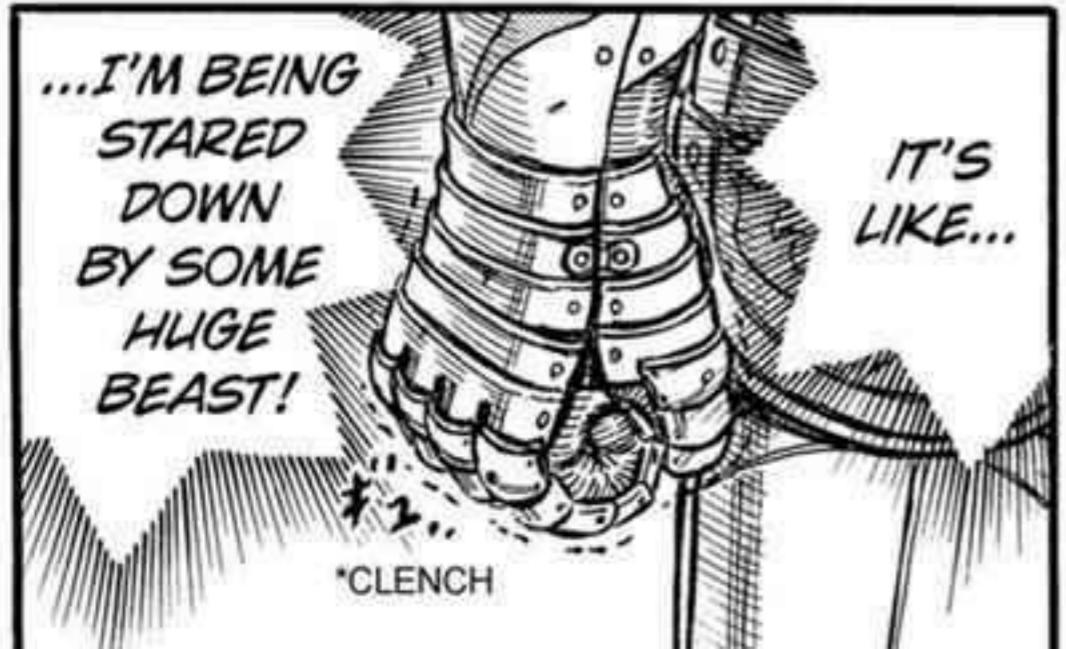
BERSERK







ALTHOUGH,
IN THEIR EMPIRE,
THEY WOULD
APPARENTLY
BE CALLED
"WAR
SLAVES."



DEPENDING ON HOW PLEDGES PERFORM AFTERWARDS, THEY ARE PROMOTED JUST LIKE ANY OTHER SOLDIER AND SOMETIMES EVEN PUT IN CHARGE OF OTHERS.

IT IS THE LAW OF OUR ARMY. SOLDIERS TAKEN PRISONER WHO SURVIVE THE FULL BRUNT OF BATTLE THREE TIMES ARE MADE TO CHOOSE CONCILIATION OR DEATH.

THEY ARE AN EMPIRE COMPRISING ONE ROYAL HOUSE OVER VARIOUS LESSER HOUSES...

...AND MANY GRUDGES EXIST AMONG THEM.

THE KUSHAN ARE NOT NECESSARILY MONOLITHIC.

LETTING PREVIOUS ENEMIES COMMAND OUR MEN SO READILY...!

THAT'S ABSURD !!

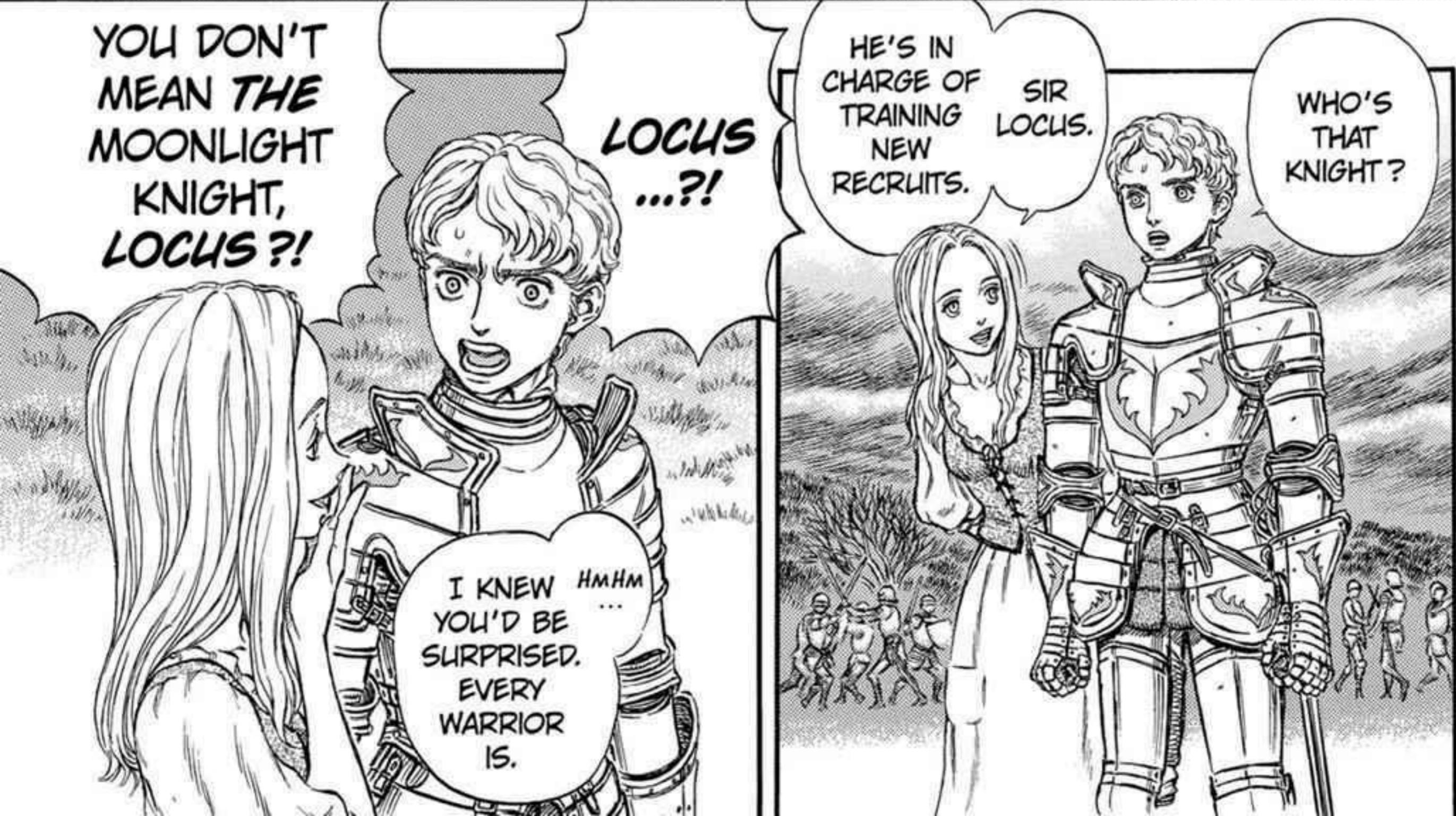
WE ARE AN ARMY THAT HAS LEARNED FROM THE KUSHAN AND REFINED ITSELF. THE KUSHAN COMMAND MEN ONLY BY FEAR, BUT WE MAKE USE OF BOTH FEAR AND INCENTIVE.

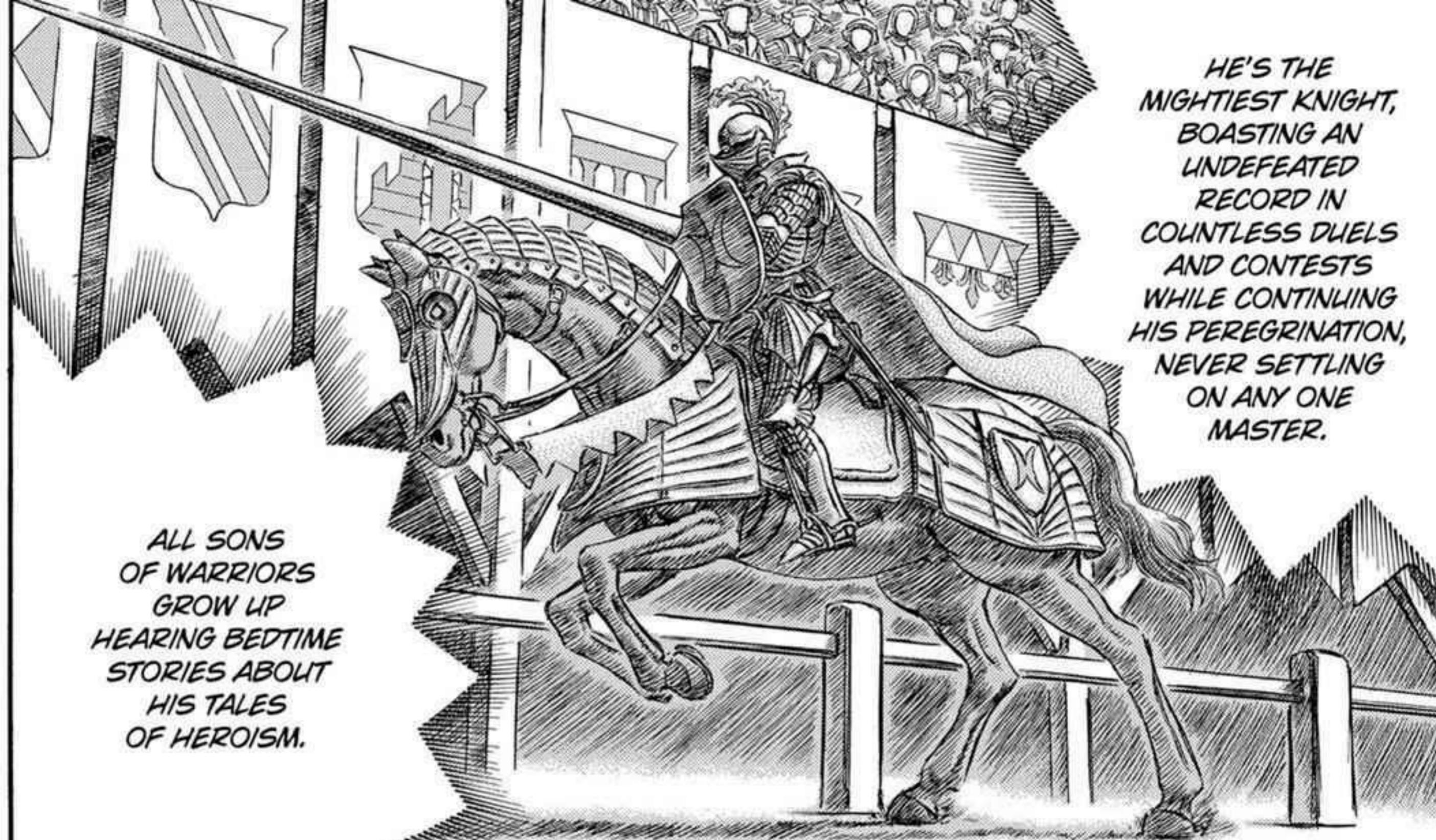
CITIES... HOUSES... THE BITTERNESS OF THOSE WITH SLAIN PARENTS AND BROTHERS...!!

BUT... WHAT ABOUT THE FEELINGS OF THE PEOPLE OF MIDLAND?!

AND MORE THAN ANYTHING, PUTTING THEM IN HARM'S WAY ON THE FRONT LINES MEANS WE CAN SURELY REDUCE CASUALTIES AMONG OUR BRETHREN. THUS, LESS TEARS SHED BY OUR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

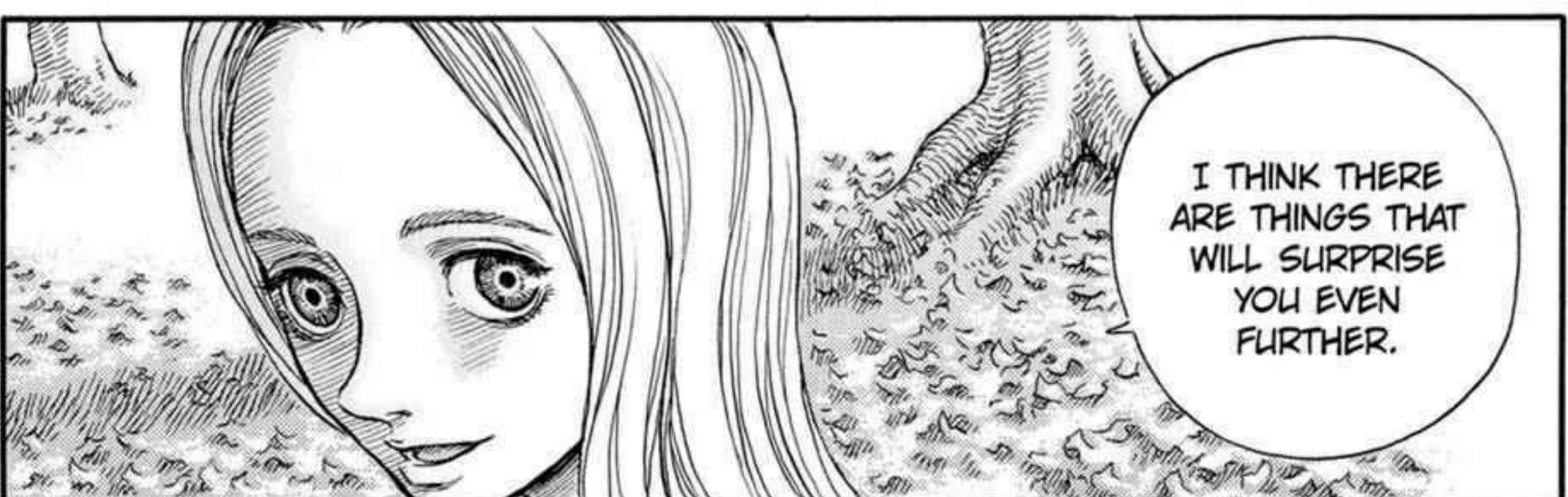
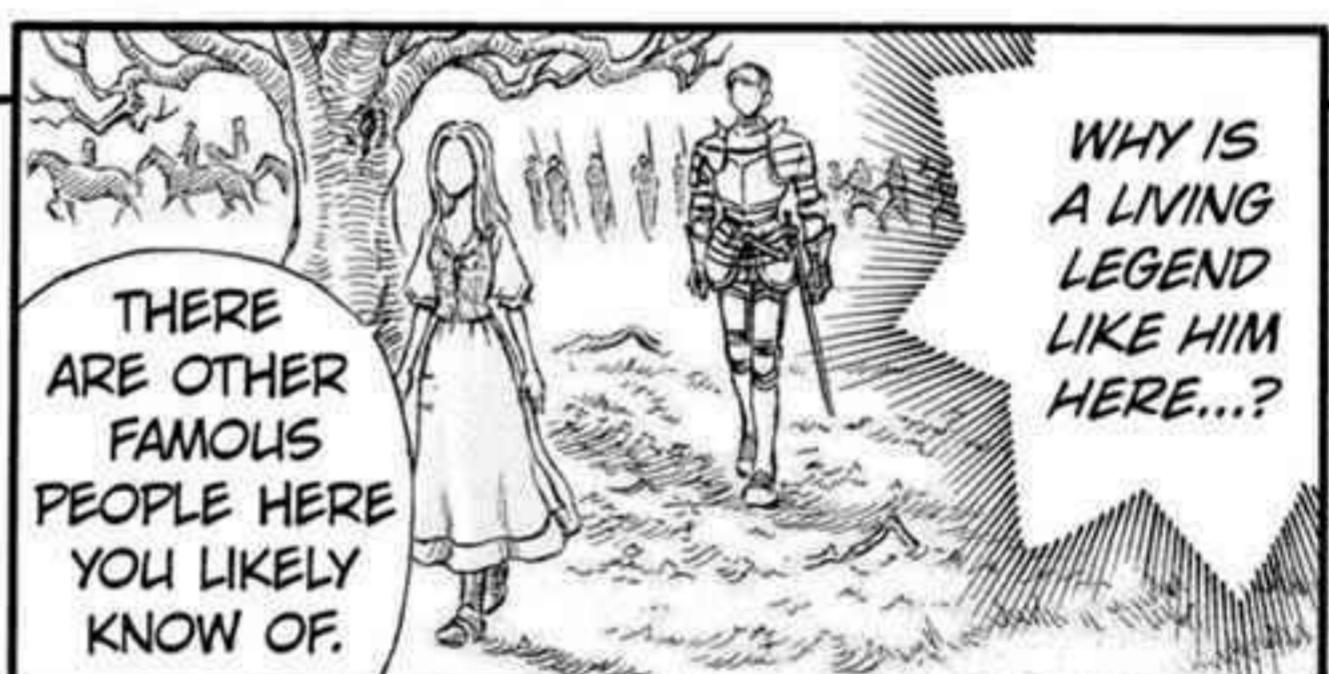
THIS OUR REASON FOR EXPOSING THEM TO THE BRUNT OF BATTLE THREE TIMES. OUR BITTERNESS DOES NOT SOON VANISH, BUT THEIR OFFENSES ARE JUDGED.

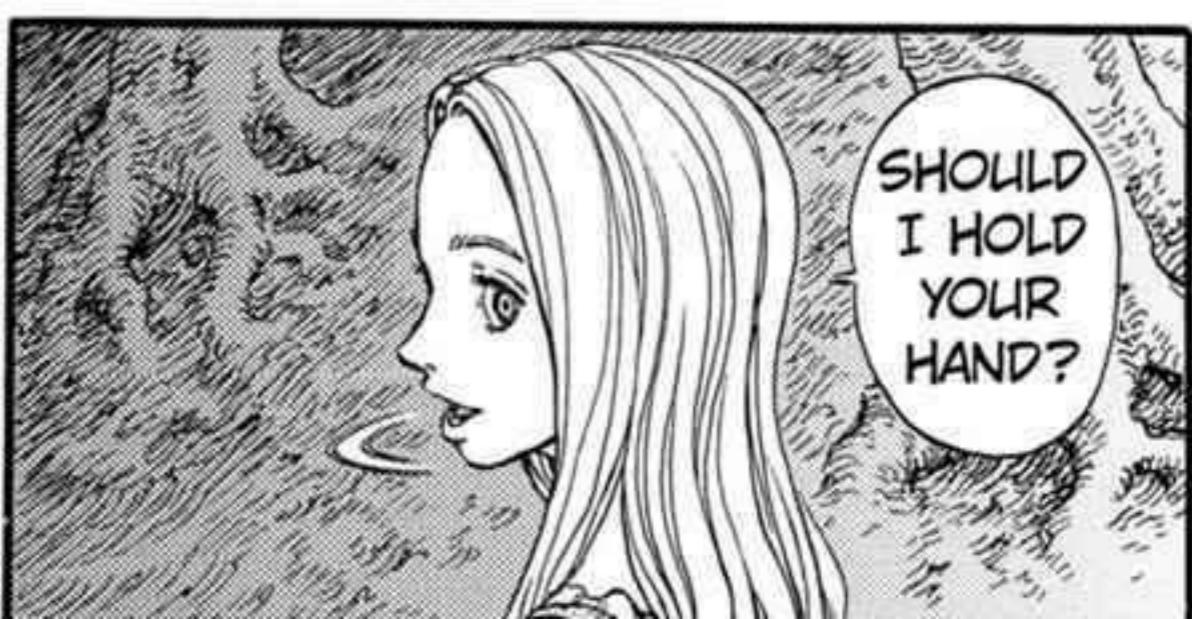
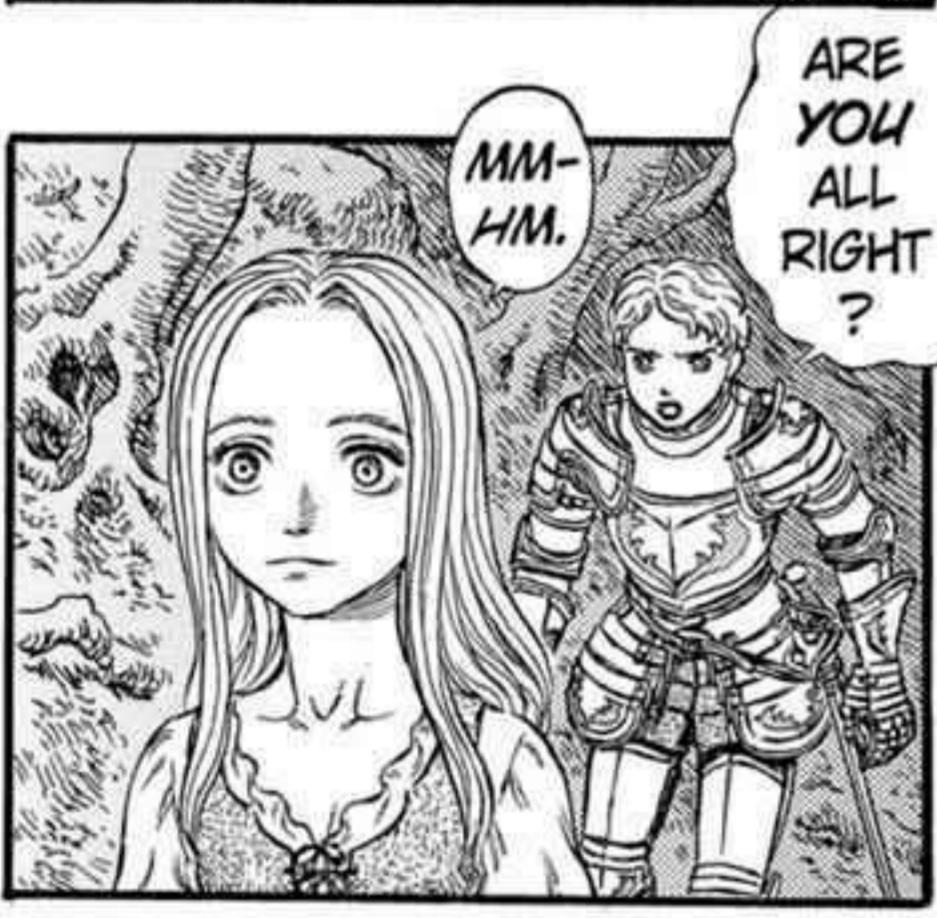
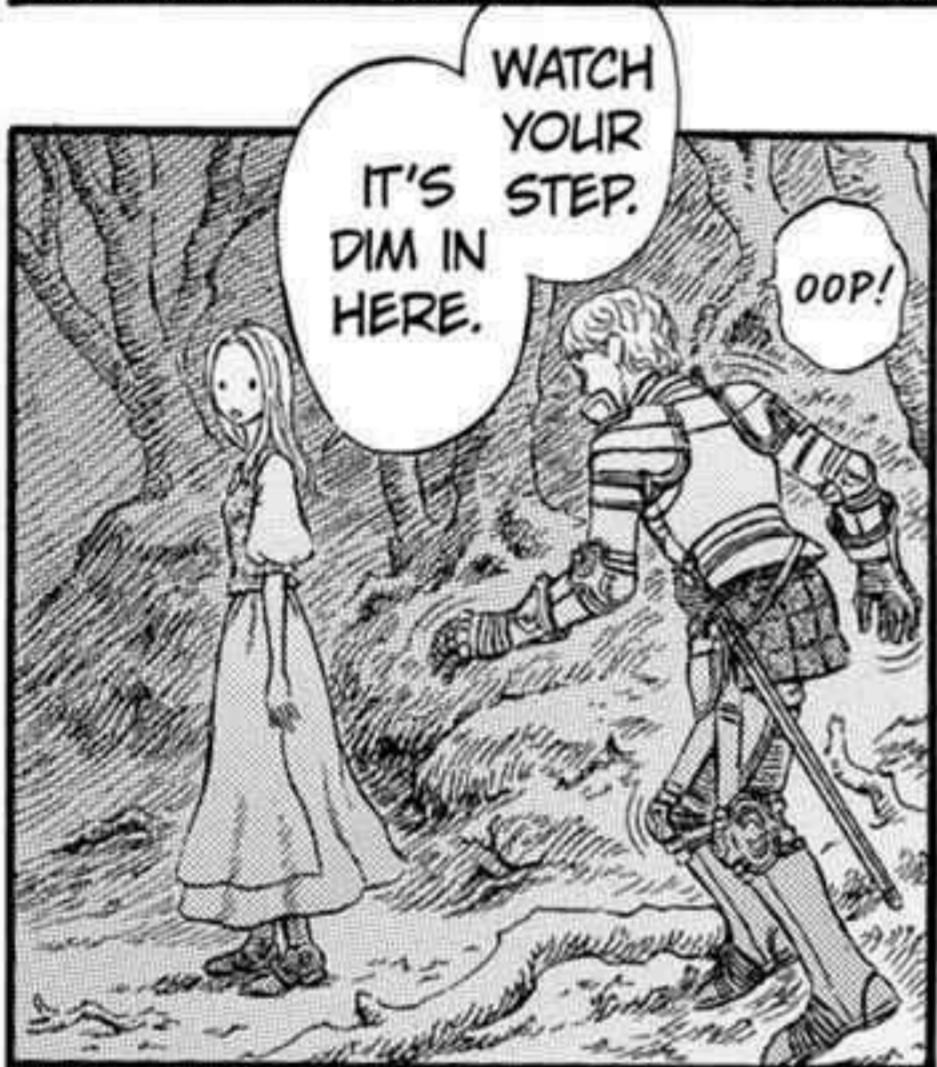
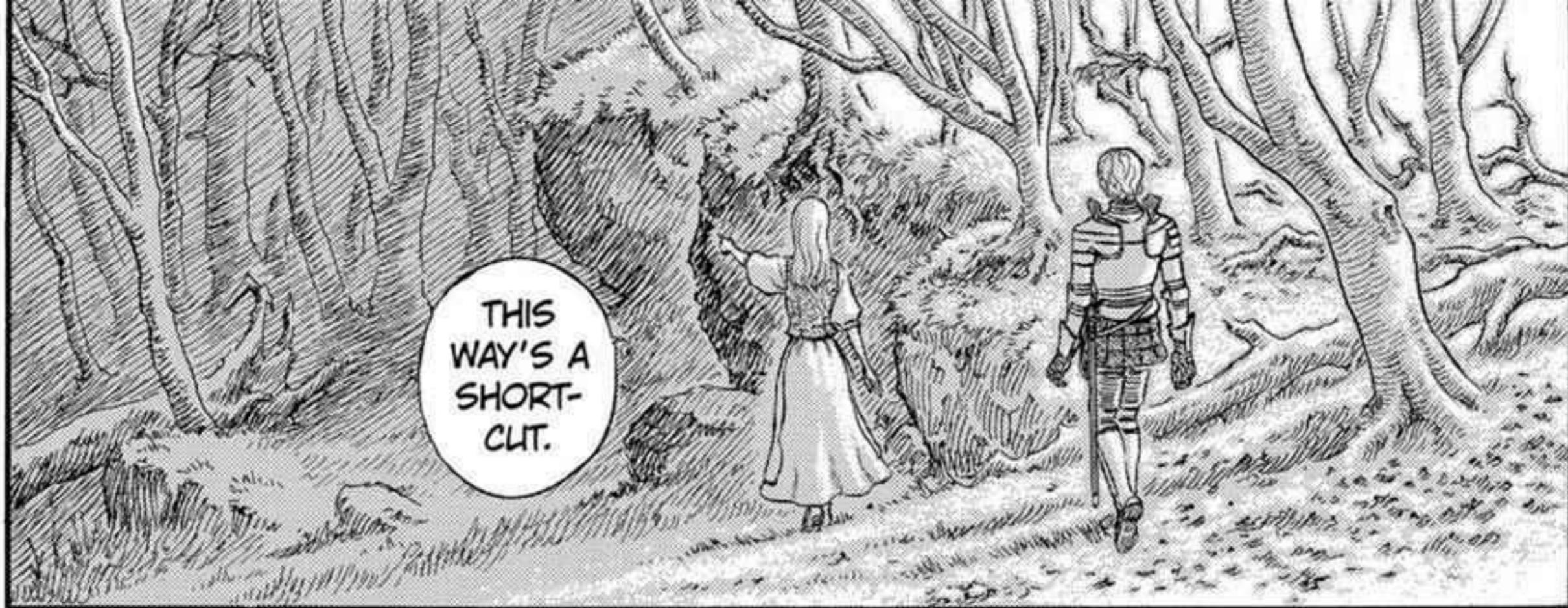


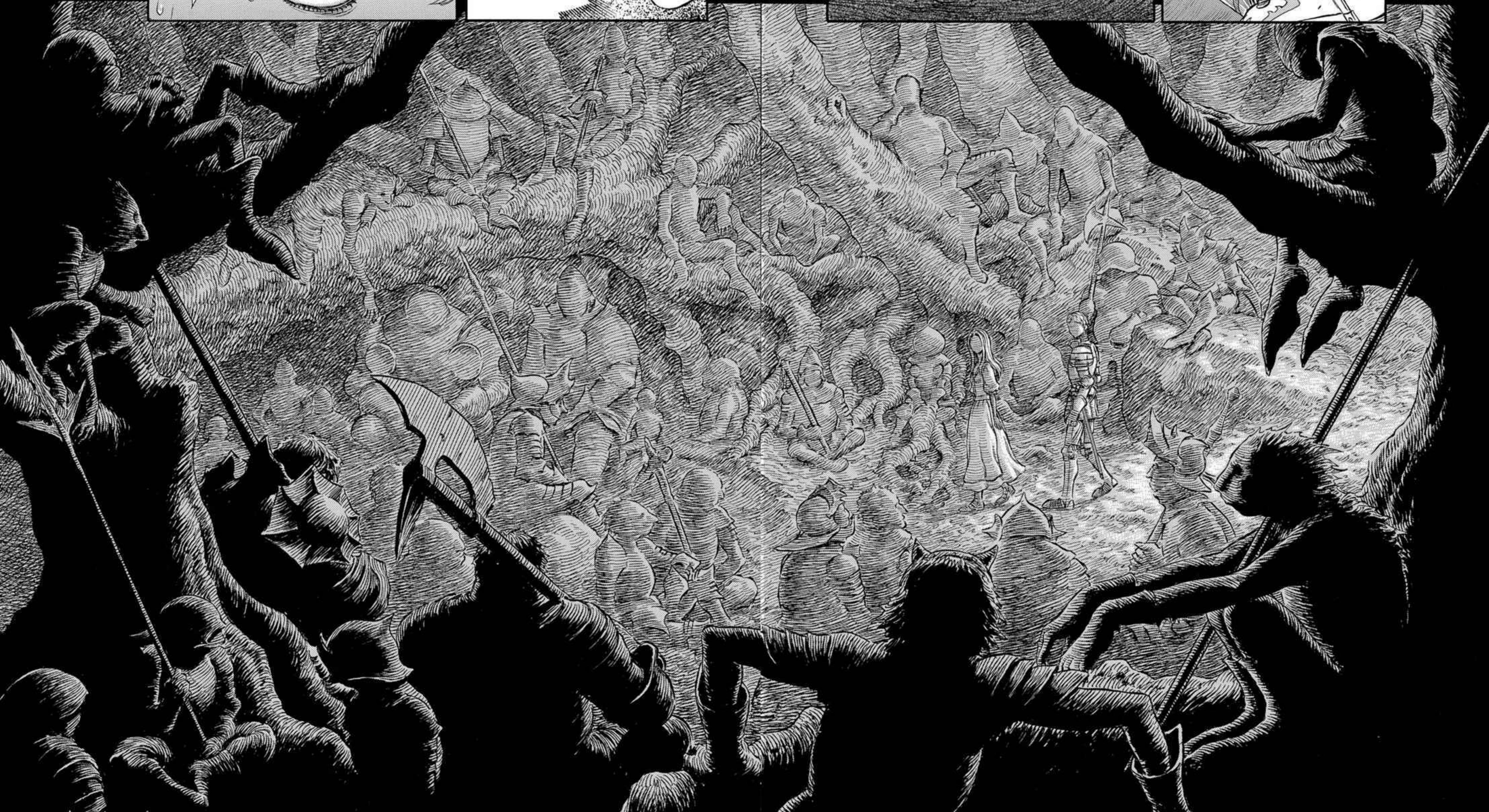


HE'S THE
MIGHTIEST KNIGHT,
BOASTING AN
UNDEFEATED
RECORD IN
COUNTLESS DUELS
AND CONTESTS
WHILE CONTINUING
HIS PEREGRINATION,
NEVER SETTLING
ON ANY ONE
MASTER.

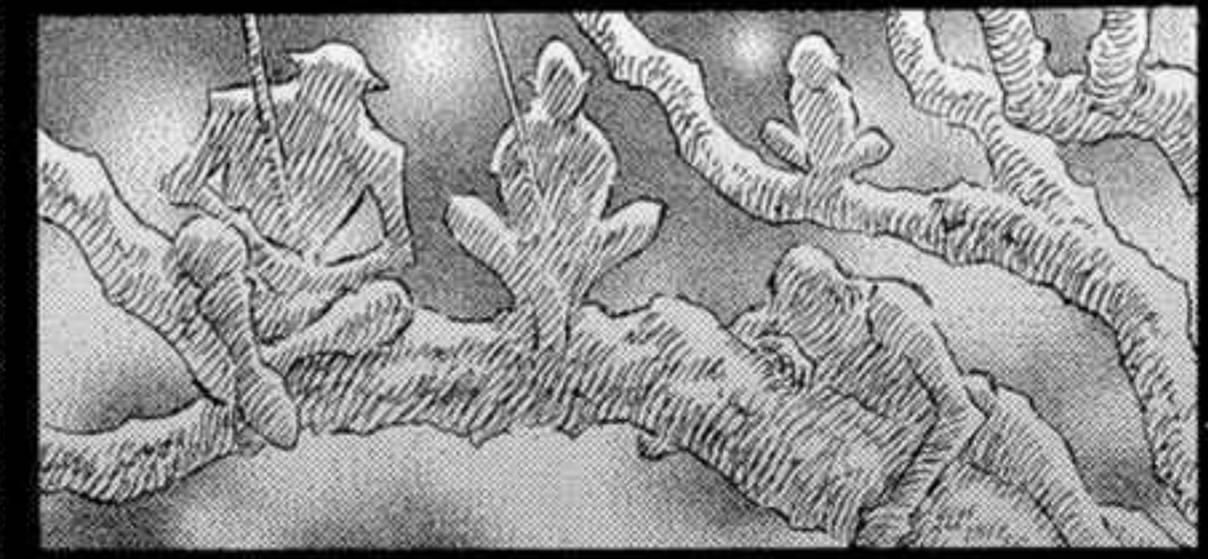
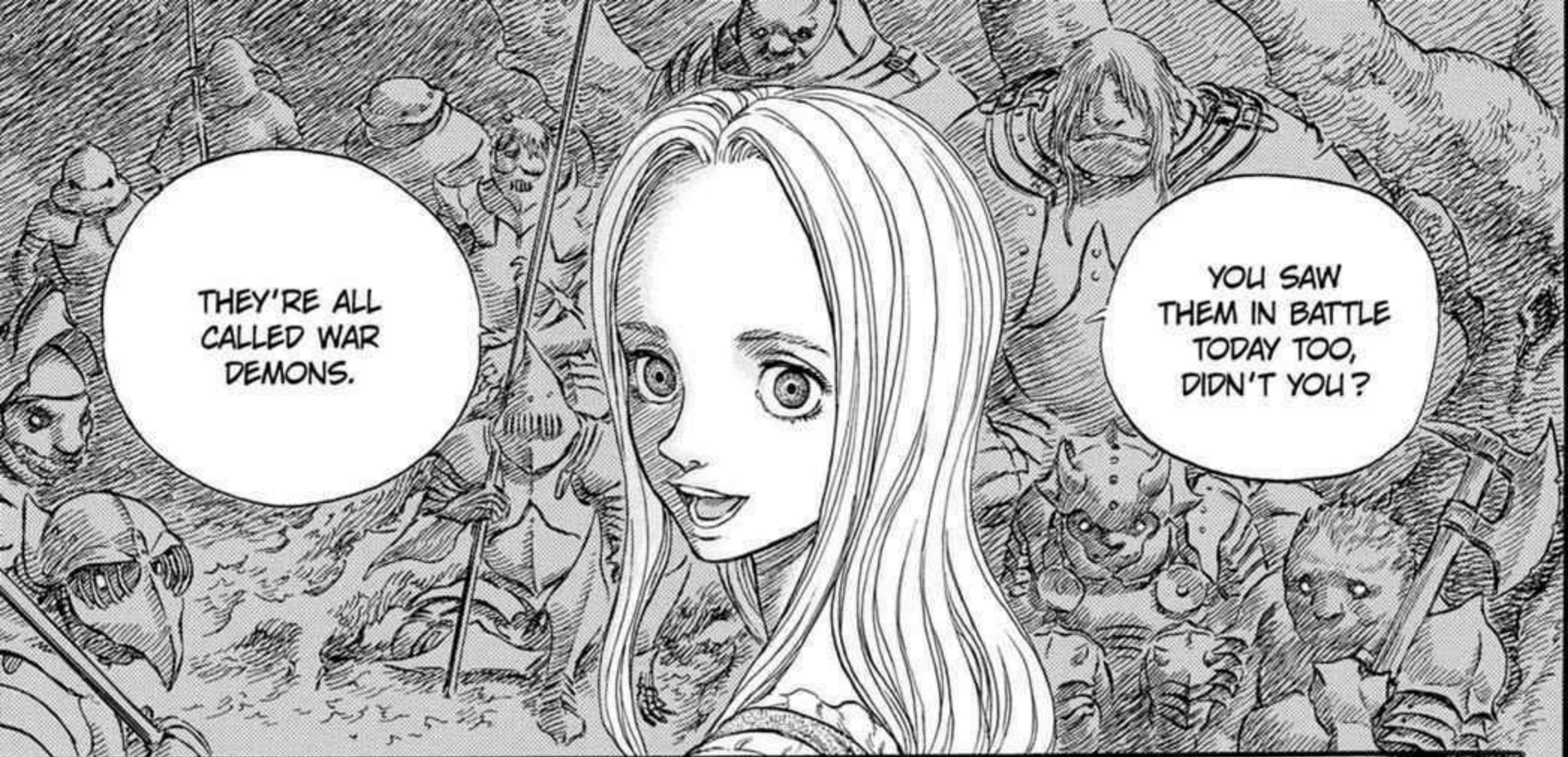
ALL SONS
OF WARRIOR
GROW UP
HEARING BEDTIME
STORIES ABOUT
HIS TALES
OF HEROISM.

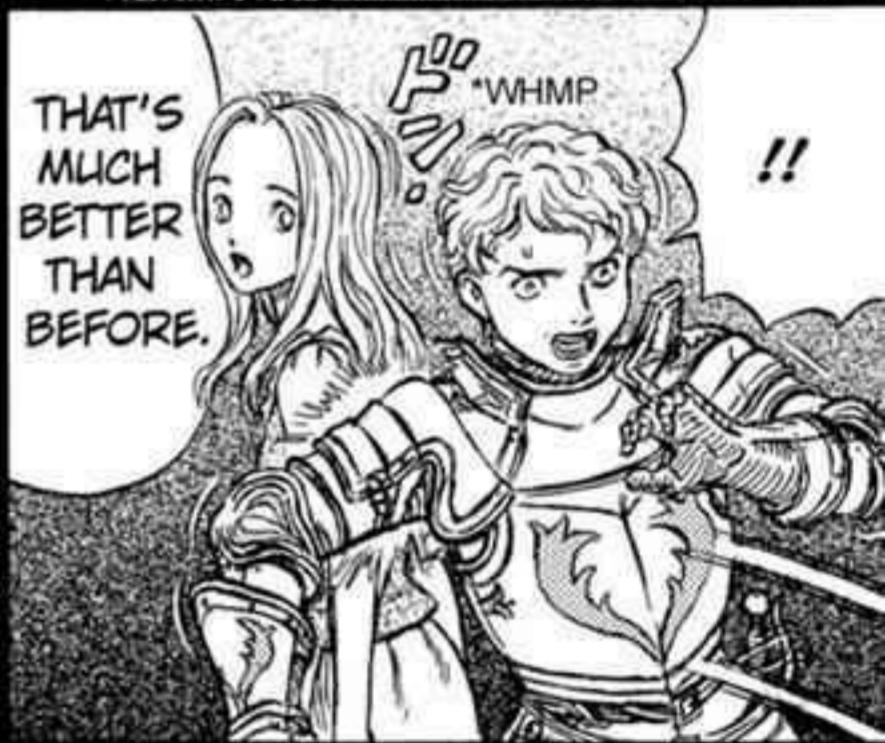


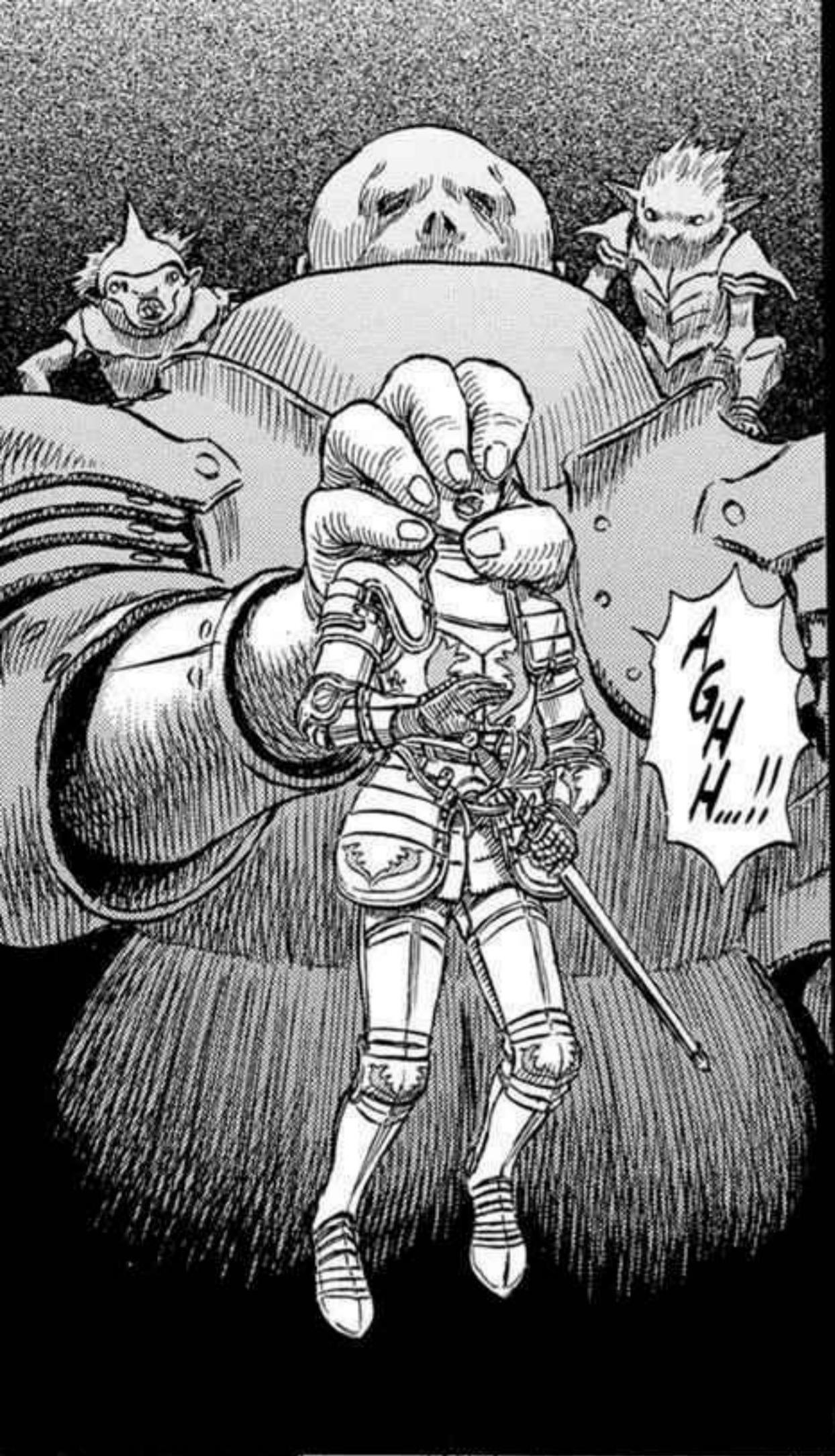










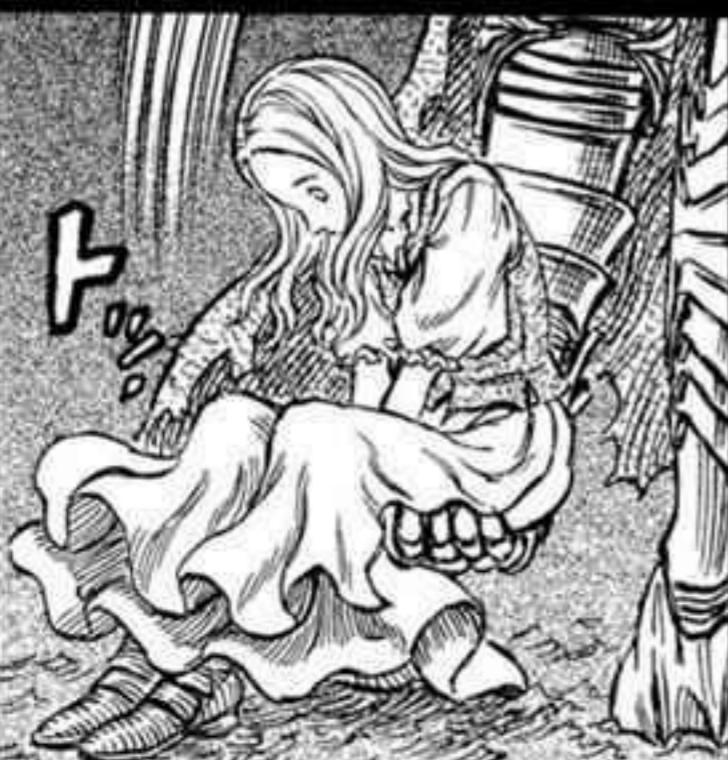




GRUNBELD
...!!



*FX: TMP







TOUCH
THEM AND
YOU WILL
HAVE
TO DEAL
WITH ME.



THE
HAWKS'
MEDIUM
...?

THOUGH
YOU ARE THE
HAWKS' MEDIUM,
TO WALK AROUND
HERE WITHOUT
A GUARDIAN...

BUT YOU ARE
DEFENSELESS,
MISS SONIA.

WHAT USE
WOULD A
GUARD BE
AGAINST
WAR
DEMONS?

WHAT
THE HELL
ARE
THEY?

THE HAWK
AWAITS
BEYOND
THERE.

OKAY.

THE NEXT
TIME YOU
COME HERE,
PLEASE
INFORM
ME.

HMM...
I'M NOT
EXACTLY
CERTAIN
MYSELF.

MISS
SONIA...

NEXT
TIME I'LL
BRING YOU
A CORPSE,
OUR
SECRET.

YOU'LL
UNDER-
STAND
EVENTU-
ALLY.

AHH...

...
HUMAN
?

ARE
THEY...

*FX: TURN

*FX: WHISPER

R- REALLY?
I'D LIKE A
WOMAN...

AT LEAST
IT ENDS
WITH US
JUST HATING
EACH
OTHER AS
HUMANS.

WHEN
COMPARED TO
THAT BLINCH,
THE KUSHAN
DEFINITELY DO
SEEM A LOT
MORE SIMILAR
TO US.

SOME-
THING'S
FUNDAMENTALLY
DIFFERENT.

BUT
THOSE
SOLDIERS
...

A UNILATERAL...
FEAR OF THE
UNKNOWN.

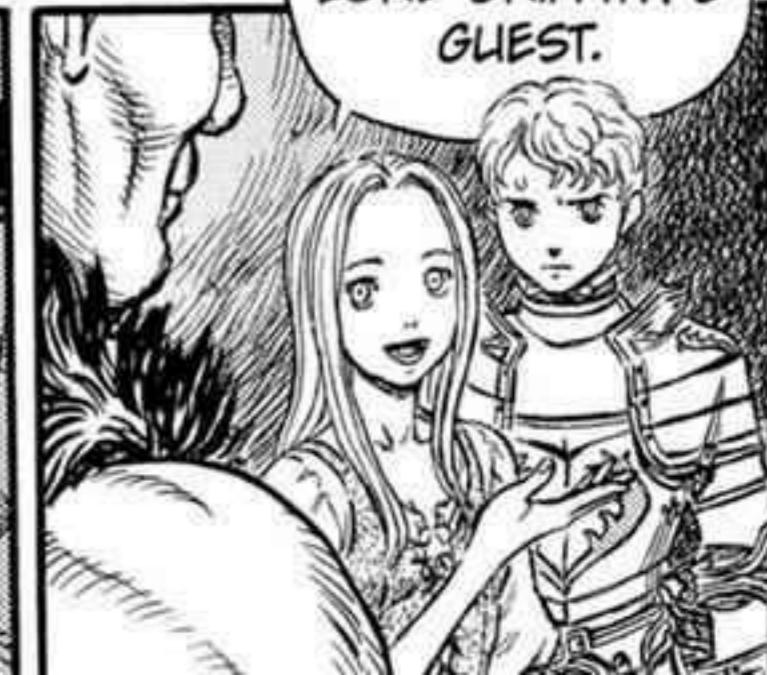
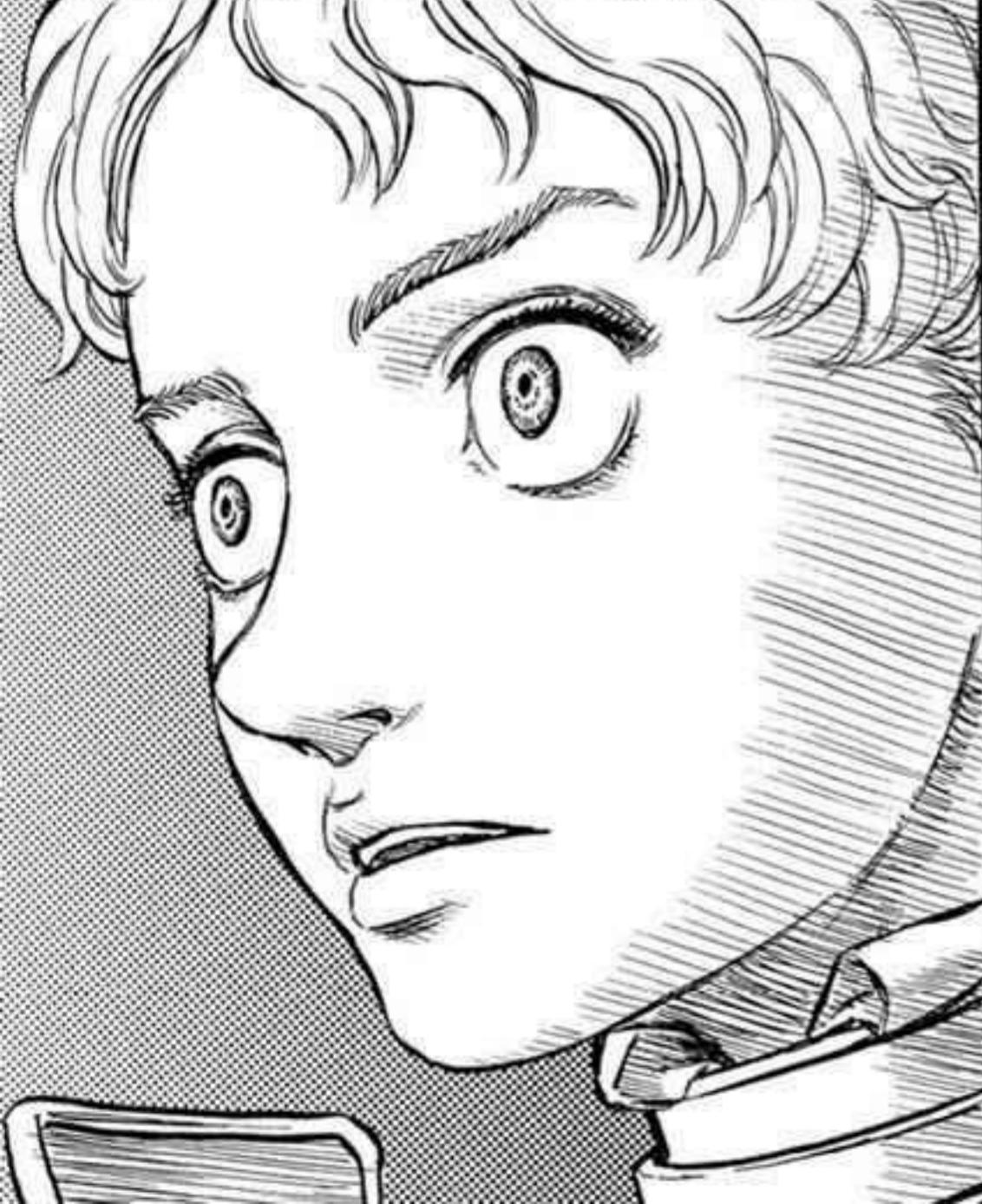
IT WAS LIKE
BEING A SHEEP
WANDERING
INTO A PACK
OF WOLVES.

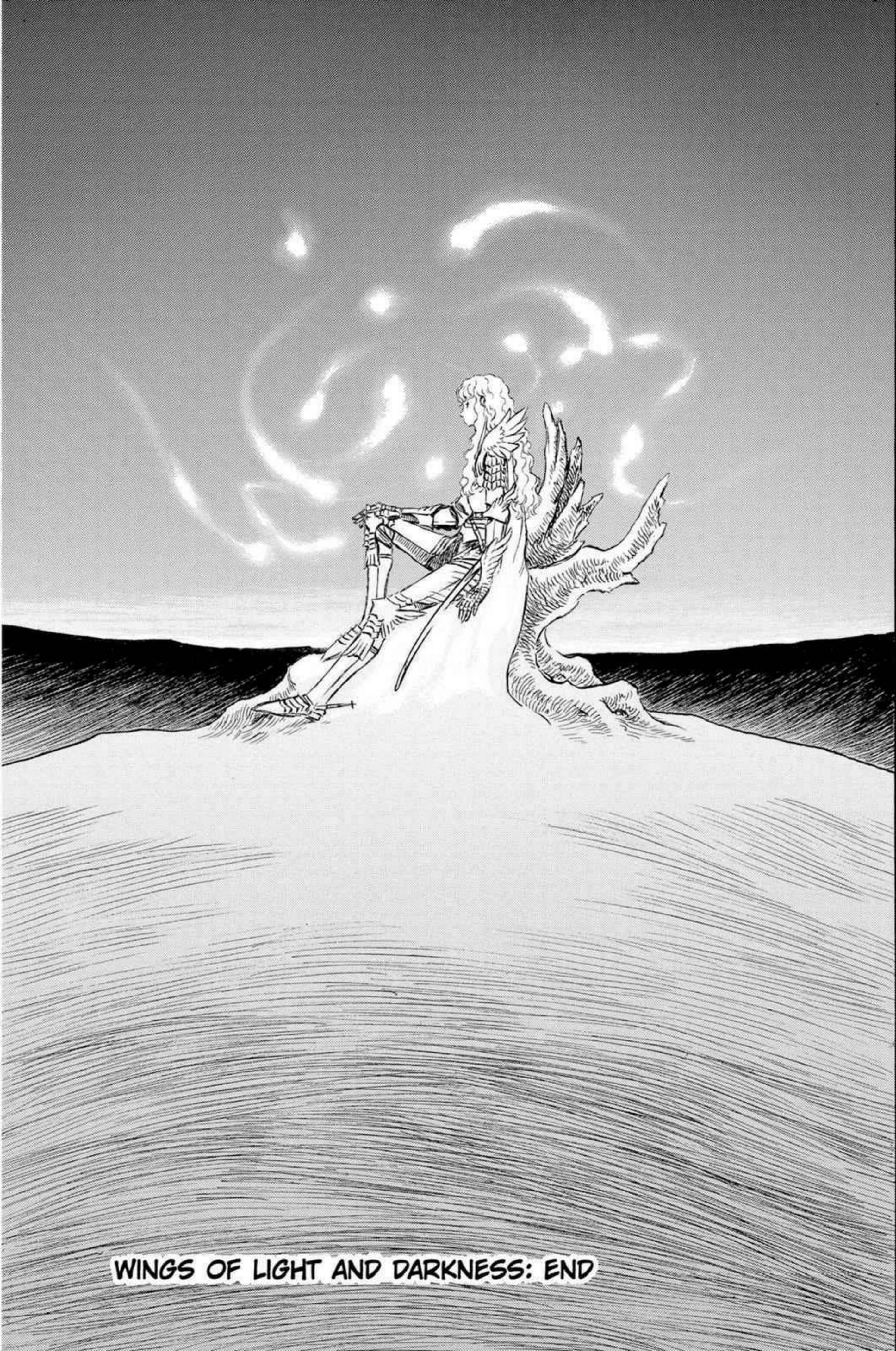
HEROES
KNOWN
THE WORLD
OVER.
AND...

A
MYSTERIOUS
INHUMAN
BAND OF
SOLDIERS.

WHAT
IS THIS
PLACE
...?

...THE
BAND
OF THE
HAWK.





WINGS OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS: END