





THE SAGA@FTANYA THE EVIL

Win or lose, he could only do his duty.

"Our home countries, our land, our hometowns..."

But he refused to regret it. He swore to defend the Empire, the Reich, the country he loved, to the bitter end. And to that end, he would fight, pouring the youths of the country into a war of attrition, that absurd waste of human life, and he would win.

What a fucked-up job.

To protect our country, we put the children we should be defending through a meat grinder.

How incredibly absurd. Children paying the price because the adults don't have a plan! It shouldn't be allowed. If there's such a thing as purgatory, we'll never find out. I'm sure we've reserved our seats on the express to hell.

"The people behind us, the future of our children, the stability of our nations—all this is on our shoulders."

So Zettour raised his sonorous voice and appealed to the audience's emotions.

Everyone wished.

They wished for their hometowns to be peaceful. They wished for the people to be at peace. And ultimately, they wished for a peaceful future for their children.

"Just like Horatius on the bridge, we know we must stand our ground. Our future isn't so cheap that we would simply give it away to the red menace."

So they wished.

"Today, as of this moment, I, as representative of the Imperial Army, declare the military district to be under civilian authority. I hope the future of the Reich and our good neighbors will be a bright one."

Even Horatius didn't defend the bridge alone. He had reliable friends standing with him. They must have known what their fate would be.

"My good neighbors, I have a favor to ask of you. The difficulties ahead are

the same for both of us, so I urge you to please, for the children's future, stand on the bridge alongside us. Friends!" he called to them. In front of their leaders, he acted as if he was one of them. "Please let us fight...for the future..."

I'll trail off, overcome with emotion, and give them a good manly cry. With tears in his eyes, Zettour straightened up and looked around.

The venue was full of passionate stares focused on him. Until now, the audience had been silent, but here came a moan that couldn't be put into words.

He had their emotions where he wanted them.

Looking around the room, he gathered as many eyes on him as possible, breathed deeply to steady himself, and traded his Logos for that ticket to hell.

I'll go ahead and despise myself. Oh, Hans von Zettour, you've become an honest liar in the interests of your country.

"I cannot give you orders. And I can't even really make a request and feel good about it. So as one of your neighbors, I suppose all that is left is to bow my head and hope."

But that's why I'm begging.

For the fatherland's future.

"I beg you, as a good neighbor. I hope that as fellow warriors standing shoulder to shoulder on the bridge, and as brothers who will share the bread of peace together one fateful day, you will allow us to walk with you."

Do these people I'm egging on know what's in store?

Maybe they think they do. But without having seen all the corpses of children or having heard the now all-too-familiar wails of the bereaved, it may not even be possible to understand.

As a good individual, I grieve so much: Is this all really necessary?

As an evil member of an organization, I accept it: yes.

We must hold the defensive lines until road conditions stabilize. That's what the General Staff decided. Regardless of my own opinion, the orders came down.

It was possible to object and counter until the decision was made, but...once a major policy was decided, there was no longer any room for debate. The only thing to do was carry it out with all one's might.

I've got to execute, thought Zettour self-deprecatingly.

With this ineptitude, I couldn't find any other way. Lieutenant General Hans von Zettour, feeling deeply alone, could only snap bitterly.

So hell begets hell. Fuck me.

(The Saga of Tanya the Evil, Volume 5: Abyssus Abyssum Invocat, fin)

Appendixes: Mapped Outline of History



Mapped Outline of History

Attention!
Achtung!



Mapped Outline of History

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Both armies fighting on the eastern front continue their operations while beginning to think about how to make

beginning to think about how to make it through the winter.

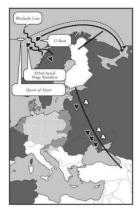
The Imperial Army General Staff begins reorganizing in preparation for a major operation.

Meanwhile, the Salamander Kampfgruppe is sent to the east to be combat tested.



The General Staff considers the Salamander Kampfgruppe to have accomplished the mission it was formed for and orders it to return to

After a very short break, the core unit, the 203rd Aerial Mage Battalion, is sent on a mission over the Northern



Off the coast of Norden, the 203rd Aerial Mage Battalion engages in a series of commerce raiding operations. Though they get results, they also suf-fer heavy casualties and lose 25 percent of their members.



The Salamander Kampfgruppe is re-formed, and with the 203rd Aerial Mage Battalion at its core, it is sent east once again. They set about building and securing positions to protect a wide area.

The Empire changes the system of government in occupied territory. They initiate the Good Neighbor Friendship Policy to transition from military to civilian administration.

Mapped Outline of History



The Imperial Army has been able to maintain superiority or parity on all fronts.

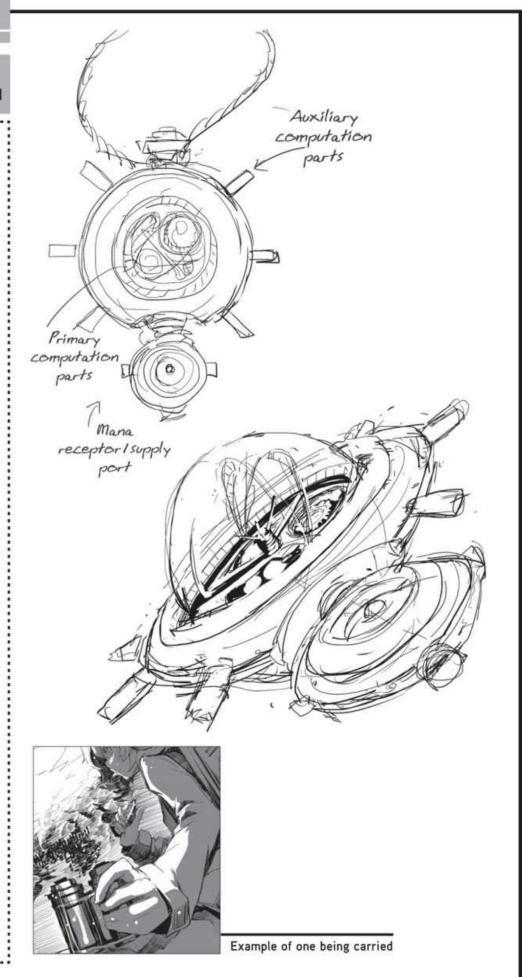
On the other hand, exhaustion from the prolonged fighting is beginning to surface, so planners are looking for a way to end the war as soon as possible.

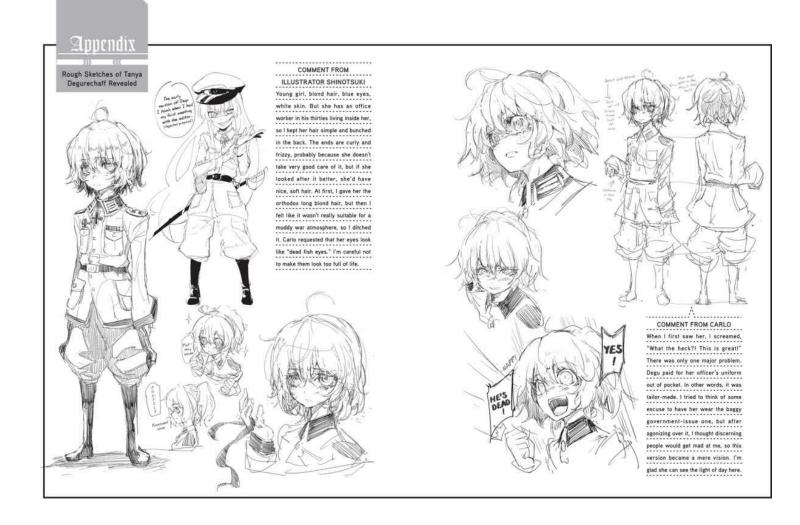
Appendix

Rough Sketches of the Computation Orb Revealed



Computation orbs are the result of applying scientific observation and analysis to the legendary phenomena brought about by orbs and scepters commonly known as miraclesthat is, magic-and coming up with a practical way to manifest them. It's a tool that optimizes the interference that mage's mana has on the world to make practical use possible.





Afterword

To everyone who picked up Volume 5, I'm sorry to have kept you waiting. To the heroes who bought all of the volumes through 5 at once, nice to meet you. I'm Carlo Zen.

This came out later than planned, but I would appreciate it if you would believe me when I say, "I wasn't slacking off! I was doing my best!" ... There's going to be a manga and a TV anime!

By the powers of a great many people combined, plans for a manga (Chika Tojo's doing it!) and anime are in the works.

Back in 2013 when I said how brave Enterbrain is, I never dreamed all this would happen.

So you're a hero of heroes, huh, Enterbrain...?

No, maybe I should have foreseen it to some extent. Every time I had a meeting with them, I did sense this pretty heroic aura.

Yes, it was...a peaceful holiday afternoon. When I lumbered out to an event—a meeting—what I saw before me was a café where sophisticated people drink tea.

It was a cheerful meeting. After having the "Do a bit more xx; make it xx" (censored) conversation, we discussed the manga, the anime, my new book, and whatnot.

If you're not going to call that heroic, then what will you?

And so, though I can't quite believe it, there are manga and anime projects starting up...I think? I'm reflecting on how lucky I am to have the support of so many people.

And now I must extend my thanks once again to everyone who has helped me out.

A warm thank-you to Tsubakiya Design for the design, Tokyo Shuppan Service Center for the proofreading, my editor Fujita, and to the illustrator who always does such wonderful illustrations, Shinotsuki.

And of course, my gratitude goes out to you, the readers supporting me. I hope to see you again next time.

January 2016 Carlo Zen



¹ partisan In this context, it means combatants who are not regular enlisted soldiers but members of an irregular militia. Whether they should be referred to as a resistance, terrorists, or freedom fighters is an extremely sensitive issue, so I won't deal with it here.

² **Grouchy** Marshal Emmanuel de Grouchy was Napoleon's last marshal! The last marshal! It has such a cool ring to it. Except for the part about how he was appointed only because there was no one else...

He was a general who had forces during the Battle of Waterloo but failed to act on his own discretion (meaning he didn't make his own call and take the optimal action).

One hundred percent adherence to orders isn't right. What's right is accomplishing the mission the orders are asking you to. He's a classic example to bring up during such discussions.

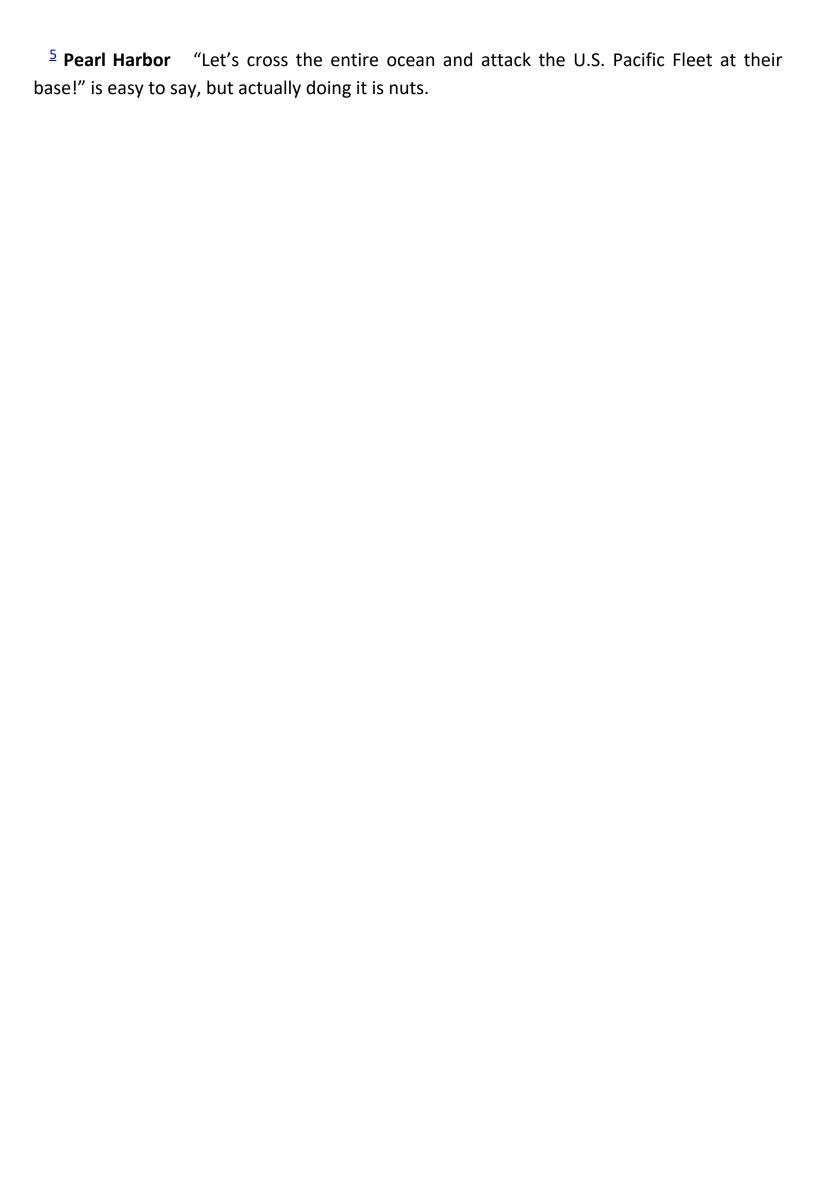
By the way, he was also one of those unlucky types who was actually surprisingly talented but got pummeled in the history books for that one failure.

³ **Davout** Marshal Louis-Nicolas Davout is known as probably Napoleon's best marshal.

Not only did his military prowess make Napoleon envious, he displayed prodigious talent in many fields including government and organizational management. Aside from the things that made him a bit too cutthroat of a boss—his uncommon strictness and adherence to the rules, his uncompromising separation of public and private spheres, and his excessive belief in meritocracy—he was perfect.

⁴ **Desaix** Like Grouchy, he was on an operation with a detachment, but...when he heard the cannons of the Battle of Marengo, he acted on his own discretion, and his name went down in world history.

Under Napoleon, who was on the brink of defeat, he dashingly rushed forward, shouted, "There is yet time to win another battle!" and charged into the enemy forces. He was a great general who saved Napoleon from defeat and died himself in battle.



⁶ **Scapa Flow** Scapa Flow is a natural harbor and was a base for the Royal Navy. It was into that well-protected harbor that the German Navy's U-47, commanded by Günther Prien, penetrated during World War II. It got past the lookouts and sank the battleship *Royal Oak* that was anchored there. Captain Prien's greatest enemy wasn't the Royal Navy's warning screen, however, but his own boat's torpedoes. He fired seven at the anchored ship, but five of them malfunctioned... He was furious and said it was like having a "dummy rifle."

⁷ **Luftwaffe** The German air force during World War II.

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