

Day One

My dear diary, it's been almost one year since our Emperor of Xin-Xi approved my request to join the glorious troops of defenders. Now my training year is over, and I can finally keep the promise I made to my mom — to keep the bandits far away from our house and never let them return again.

Day Two

These days are alarming. Our commander said that our enemies — the wicked Luxidoor — have become so greedy for gold that they've already dug throughout their entire kingdom. Now they plan to expand and strike our Empire with a sudden assault, which could occur at any moment.

Moreover, our intelligence service — those brave cloaks — reported that the vicious Aumux assassins will deport any survivors who manage to escape slavery to the wastelands, just like they once did to the Vengir nation.

Day Three

Preparations to repel the invasion have intensified. Our Emperor delivered a speech, informing every citizen that the best way to defend ourselves is to attack first — so that our unprepared enemies will be severely weakened for years. His Majesty also urged us to spend all our savings for a safe future. So my family and I did just that.

And, for the first time in a long while, my wife wrote me a letter! She said, “Dear, be careful! Return alive — we need you at home!”

Day Four

Early morning, still pitch dark. The entire platoon received an extraordinary order — to move two tiles along the road that was built yesterday. The Emperor said it was “built for commercial purposes to prove to Luxidoor that our intentions are genuine.”

The commander, however, suggested that enemy cloaks might be hiding somewhere in the fog.

Day Four — Part Two

The sun has risen, and we’ve stepped onto enemy tiles after our quick march. What we saw beyond the fog astounded the entire troop: farms everywhere! We had expected even emptier lands than our own. It didn’t seem right — as if Luxidoor was preparing to invade us.

“Did you expect mighty swordsmen and knights to come?” said a local mindbender who appeared unexpectedly from behind. “Now you see that your dictator has been deceiving you all these years — draining stars from your wallets only to stay in power,” he added.

“Now watch our cloaks liberate your village from tyranny! Both your wife and mother shall live as we do — in our prosperous cities,” said the mindbender.

“Hurray!” we exclaimed.

“Now go back to your sweet home with new purple shields!” said the mindbender.

