

Transcript

Speaker 1

They say Japan was made by a sword. They say the old gods tipped a coral blade into the ocean, and when they pulled it out, four perfect drops fell back into the sea, and those drops became the islands of Japan. I say Japan was made by a handful of brave men. Warriors willing to give their lives for what seems to have become a forgotten word. Honor. Ladies and gentlemen, Winchester, America's leader in all forms.

Speaker 2

Of armor that used by the United States Army, celebrates our nation's centennial by bringing you a true American hero.

Speaker 3

One of the most decorated warriors this country has ever known. Winner of the Medal of Honor for his gallantry on the hallowed ground of Guinnessburg.

Speaker 2

He is late. of the 7th Cavalry and the triumphant campaign against the most savage of the Indian nations.

Speaker 1

Ladies and gentlemen, I present to you, Captain Nathan Aldred. Captain Nathan Aldred.

Speaker 2

Yes. Yes.

Speaker 1

Ladies are one moment.

Speaker 4

Ladies.

Speaker 2

Damn you, Aldrin, get out there.

Speaker 4

This is your last performance.

Speaker 1

You're fired.

Speaker 4

Now get out there.

Speaker 1

Come on.

Speaker 4

I'm sick of this. Come on.

Speaker 3

Yes.

Speaker 2

My thanks, Mr. McCabe, if you are too kind. This, ladies and gents, is the gun that's winning the West. By many a time I found myself surrounded by a swarm of angry hostiles with nothing but this rifle between me and a certain and gruesome death. But let me tell you folks, the red man is a fearsome enemy. And if he'd have had his way, why this scalp of mine would be long gone, and there'd be a balder man standing before you today. Like those poor ***** out there on the little bighorn. Bodies stripped bare, mutilated, left to rot in the sun. This, ladies and gentlemen, the 73 lever action. Trapper. Seven shot capacity, accurate, 400 yards, one round per second. Now, son, have you ever seen what this could do to a man? This'll blow a hole in your daddy 6 inches wide. That's right, missy. This beauty. You could kill yourself five, six, 7 braves without ever having to reload. Note the patent loading port and the smooth cocking action. My thanks on behalf of those who died. in the name of better mechanical amusements and commercial opportunities. Mr. McCabe here will take your orders. God bless you all.

Speaker 1

I must say, Captain, you have a flair for the old melodrama.

Speaker 2

You're alive.

Speaker 1

I am indeed. Your man Custer says to me, We're going to the Little Bighorn. Says I, what's this wee stuff? It's the walk-in ticket for me. Nine lives I have, but I tell you what else I have. I have a good job for the both of us. God knows it looks like you're going to need one. What?

Speaker 2

Kind of a job.

Speaker 1

The only job you're fit for, boy. A man's job. Unless, of course, you get your heart setting a career in the theatre.

Speaker 3

Nathan.

Speaker 1

Just listen to what your man has to say.

Speaker 3

It's been a while. It's good to see you. Nathan Algren, I'd like you to meet Mr. Omura from Japan and his associate, whose name I've given up trying to pronounce. Sit down, please.

Speaker 2

Whiskey.

Speaker 3

Now, Japan's got in mind to become a civilized country. And Mr. Omura here is... willing to spend what it takes to hire white experts to train their army. And if we play our cards right, the Emperor grants the U.S. exclusive rights to supply arms.

Speaker 2

Well, I have an agreement with the Winchester Company. I'm certain Mr. Omura here has some concept of what an agreement is.

Speaker 5

Your performances for the Winchester Company bring you \$25 a week. We will pay you \$400 a month.

Speaker 2

Five for each. And another 500 when we get the job done. How many other genuine heroes you got lined up? Whiskey.

Speaker 1

So who will be betraying your boys to fight?

Speaker 5

His name is Katsumoto Moritsu. He was once the emperor's teacher. He's samurai.

Speaker 1

Samurai.

Speaker 5

The word you might use is warrior.

Speaker 3

Mr. Omura is familiar with our experiences dealing with renegades.

Speaker 2

Is he?

Speaker 3

He's even read your book. Captain Algren's study of the tribes was a crucial factor in our defeat of the Cheyenne.

Speaker 5

Please excuse. What is funny?

Speaker 2

The core back together again is just so...

Speaker 4

It's funny.

Speaker 2

Excuse me. I need to use the necessities.

Speaker 3

This isn't a problem. I'll just talk to him for a minute.

Speaker 5

Colonel Bagley, we contacted you because you are Captain Oluglen's superior officer, and you assured us of his participation.

Speaker 3

He'll do it. I just need a minute. Nathan. I did what I was ordered to do out there, and I have no remorse. So what do you say we put the past behind us?

Speaker 2

You want me to kill Japos? I'll kill Japos.

Speaker 3

I'm not asking you to kill anybody.

Speaker 2

You want me to kill the enemies at Japos? I'll kill the enemies at Japos. Rebs or Sue or Cheyenne. For 500 bucks a month, I'll kill whoever you want. But keep one thing in mind. I'd happily kill you for free. July 12, 1876. There is some comfort in the emptiness of the sea. No past, no future. And then at once I am confronted by the hard truth of present circumstances. I have been hired to help suppress the rebellion of yet another tribal leader. Apparently, this is the only job for which I am suited. I am beset by the ironies of my life.

Speaker 1

Captain, I presume? Yes. Oh, jolly good. How did you do? Simon Graham. Twenty years ago, this was a sleepy little town. Oh, look at this. You see, the emperor's mad for all things Western, and the samurai believe it's changing too fast. It's like the ancient and the modern are at war for the soul of Japan. So your new employer, Mr. Umura, is bringing in every Western expert he can get his hands on. Lawyers from France, engineers from Germany, architects from Holland, and now, of course, warriors in America. I came over with the British tradition old years ago. I was too relieved of my position. I had a rather unfortunate tendency to tell the truth in a country where no one ever says what they mean. So now I very accurately translate other people's lies. For 2,000 years, no emperor was even seen by a commoner. You have to realize what an absolute truth this is, what an honor. It's all highly ritualized, of course. You may look at him, but do not speak, unless spoken to, obviously. If he stands, you must bow. If he bows, you must bow lower. Do I look presentable? Haven't worn us in a decade. Rather snug around the midriff. And bow.

Speaker 5

The divine Emperor Meiji bids you welcome. He is grateful for the assistance your country offers. We hope to accomplish the same national harmony you enjoy in your homeland. The Emperor is most interested in your American Indians if you have fought against them in battle.

Speaker 3

We have, Your Highness. The Red Man is a brutal adversary.

Speaker 5

The Emperor wishes to ask Captain Oglen if it is true they wear eagle feathers and paint their faces before going into battle, and that they have no fear.

Speaker 2

They are very brave. Thank you very much.

Speaker 1

And step back. Step back. Step back. I'm tired.

Speaker 5

Right, you little *****.

Speaker 1

You shall stand up straight, or I will personally shit-kick every far Eastern bannock that appeared before my eyes.

Speaker 2

Well done, Sergeant.

Speaker 1

When you understand the language, the Rebbeton falls into place.

Speaker 2

The first rank will kneel, rifles at the ready! The second rank! July 22, 1876. For six months' work, I am to receive three years of captain's pay, teaching Orientals to soldier. Help! They are an army of conscripts. Most of them are peasants who have never even seen a gun. Fire! They are led by General Hasegawa, a man of small stature who nonetheless commands enormous respect. What can the General tell me about this man, this samurai, Katsumoto? He seems to have great knowledge of Katsumoto and his rebellion. I will count on his help when facing the samurai. Whose supplies are weapons?

Speaker 1

Katsumoto no longer dishonors himself by using firearms, you see.

Speaker 2

He uses no firearms.

Speaker 1

You see, to those who wanted the old ways, Katsumoto is a hero.

Speaker 2

How well does he know this man?

Speaker 1

Well, the general and Katsumoto fought together for the emperor.

Speaker 2

He fought with the samurai.

Speaker 1

He is samurai. You must understand, Katsumoto pledged his sword to defend the emperor. They say that the samurai's sword is his soul. They're paradoxical people, Samra. I've been trying to write a book about them for years, but they're sent to you very much for themselves. The ***** are still wearing armour. Yes, and when the Irish were still comporting themselves in loincloths, these chaps were already the most sophisticated warriors on Earth.

Speaker 2

I need more detailed information to their battle tactics.

Speaker 1

I have several more books just waiting to be translated. Oh, the captain will be speaking the lingo in no time. You should hear him blathering on in Blackfoot. Really? A fellow linguist? Oh, capital. Oh, come on, sir. A word or two in the savage tongue. Just hello or goodbye or no, no, no. Cut his tongue out and boil him in oil. Early day tomorrow, Captain Darren. It's about bedtime, isn't it? I've always had a dread fascination with scalping. I never quite understood its technique.

Speaker 2

Imagine someone who hates you with the utmost intensity. Grabbing a handful of your hair while you're lying prostrate and helpless. Then scraping a dull blade of a rusty knife around your scalp with a saw-like motion. And let your imagination grasp, if you can, Mr. Graham, the effect of a strong, quick jerk on the turf of your hair to release any clinging particles would have on your nervous system. You'll have some idea of how it feels to be scouted.

Speaker 1

Mr. Graham.

Speaker 2

How soon can you translate those books?

Speaker 1

Right away. I'm just delighted you're taking such an interest in samurai.

Speaker 2

I don't give a damn about the samurai. I want to know my enemy.

Speaker 1

I shall not sleep until it is dawn. Soggy. I bid you good night. Can I get you anything, sir?

Speaker 3

This is a punitive expedition, Captain.

Speaker 2

Colonel Bagger, these people had nothing to do with the rains.

Speaker 1

Good night.

Speaker 3

Quietly now, boys.

Speaker 5

Fire.

Speaker 2

I suppose we should be grateful they're all firing in the same direction.

Speaker 1

Couldn't have put it better meself, sir.

Speaker 2

Rifle, bud, against the shoulder. Aye, down the sight. Now slowly. Well done.

Speaker 3

Nathan! Katsumoto has attacked the railroad at the border of his province.

Speaker 5

We cannot govern a country in which we cannot travel freely. He must be stopped now. My railroad is a priority for this country.

Speaker 2

They're not ready.

Speaker 3

The rebels don't have a single rifle. They're savages with bows and arrows.

Speaker 2

Whose sole occupation for the last thousand years has been war.

Speaker 3

You have superior firepower and a larger force. I am ordering the regiment to move against the Rebel Katsumoto. You will track him down and engage him.

Speaker 2

Load. Mr. Graham, tell this man to fire at me.

Speaker 1

I beg your pardon?

Speaker 2

Tell this man if he does not shoot me, I will kill him.

Speaker 1

Captain, if I might have a word.

Speaker 2

Tell him! Tell him.

Speaker 1

Load! Faster! Faster.

Speaker 2

Shoot me, damn it. Fire! Fire! They're not ready.

Speaker 3

The regiment leaves at 6am.

Speaker 1

A thousand miles of rail track laid in less than two years. It's astonishing.

Speaker 2

You know, Moore owns all of it.

Speaker 1

As soon as you can get rid of the samurai, it will, yes. How do you intend to find Captain Earth?

Speaker 2

Don't worry, Mr. Graham. I assure you, he'll find us.

Speaker 3

Move into position.

Speaker 1

First company, form a battle line on me.

Speaker 2

Second company, form on first company! Great point company, form up behind.

Speaker 5

Fill in on command.

Speaker 2

Where's Hasegawa?

Speaker 1

Apparently he refuses to fight against Captain Oda.

Speaker 2

Cover now.

Speaker 3

Captain Odrin! We are not here as combatants.

Speaker 2

Then who's gonna lead these men?

Speaker 3

They're on officers, for Christ's sake. Let's move to the rear.

Speaker 2

We'll be there presently. Fix bayonets.

Speaker 5

Fix bayonets.

Speaker 3

Mr. Graham, will you accompany me to the rear?

Speaker 1

Again, of course.

Speaker 2

Sergeant Cant, report to the rear. And see to the disposition of the supply trains.

Sergeant Cant, did you hear my order?

Speaker 5

I did indeed, sir.

Speaker 2

Good, then you will obey it.

Speaker 5

Now, no disrespect, intended servant.

Speaker 1

Shove it up your ***.

Speaker 5

Load! Load.

Speaker 2

Come in.

Speaker 1

Come in.

Speaker 4

Somebody come.

Speaker 2

You'll be fine, sir. Pursue firing position.

Speaker 1

Pursue firing position.

Speaker 2

Fire on my order only! Hold your back.

Speaker 3

You get it, fall back.

Speaker 5

Hey.

Speaker 4

What is your name? This is my son's village. We are deep in the mountains and the winter is coming. You cannot escape.

Speaker 2

Charlie, good.

Speaker 4

He's okay right there now.

Speaker 2

Sake. Sake.

Speaker 3

Please.

Speaker 2

No.

Speaker 5

No.

Speaker 3

I told you.

Speaker 2

Morning. Go, you go. What's your name? You got a name, don't you? You don't know what I'm saying, do you? I don't know why you don't talk. You're angry. You're angry because they make you wear a dress. *** ** * *****.

Speaker 4

This temple was built by my family 1000 years ago. My name is Kazumoto. What is your name? Are my words not correct? I will practice my English with you. If you would honor me.

Speaker 2

You kept me alive just to speak English? And what do you want?

Speaker 4

To know my enemy.

Speaker 2

I've seen what you do to your enemies.

Speaker 4

The warriors in your country do not kill.

Speaker 2

They don't cut the heads off defeated kneeling men.

Speaker 4

General Hasegawa asked me to help him end his life. A samurai cannot stand the shame of defeat. I was honored to cut off his head. Many of our customs seem strange to you, and the same is true of yours. For example, not to introduce yourself is considered extremely rude even among enemies.

Speaker 2

Nathan Ogren.

Speaker 4

I'm honored to meet you. I have enjoyed this conversation in English.

Speaker 2

I have questions.

Speaker 4

I have introduced myself. You have introduced yourself. This is a very good conversation.

Speaker 2

I have questions.

Speaker 4

Questions come later.

Speaker 2

Who's the warrior in the red armor?

Speaker 4

My brother-in-law, Hirotaro.

Speaker 2

And the woman who cares for me?

Speaker 4

My sister, Hirotaro's wife. Her name is Taka.

Speaker 2

I killed her husband.

Speaker 4

It was a good death.

Speaker 2

You! Thank you.

Speaker 5

Hoy.

Speaker 2

Nicely done. Good try. Fly.

Speaker 4

Cortana, what is he?

Speaker 1

What is he?

Speaker 2

Yes. I just realized. I've been remiss. Forgive me, I have yet to thank you for looking out for me yesterday. That is your job, correct? Protecting me. Well done, Bob. You don't mind if I call you Bob, do you? I knew Bob once. God, he was ugly as a mule. You ladies' man, Bob.

Speaker 4

Ujo is teaching you the way of the Japanese sword.

Speaker 2

Yes, indeed.

Speaker 4

You fought against your red Indians.

Speaker 2

Yes.

Speaker 4

Tell me of your part in this war.

Speaker 2

Why?

Speaker 4

I wish to learn.

Speaker 2

Read a book.

Speaker 4

I would rather have a good conversation. Why? Because we are both students of war. So, you were the general of your honor.

Speaker 2

No. I was a captain.

Speaker 4

This is a low rank.

Speaker 2

A middle rank.

Speaker 4

And who was your general?

Speaker 2

Don't you have a rebellion to lead?

Speaker 4

People in your country do not like conversation.

Speaker 2

He was a lieutenant colonel. His name was Custer.

Speaker 4

I know this name. He killed many warriors.

Speaker 2

Oh, yes, many warriors.

Speaker 4

So he was a good general.

Speaker 2

No. he wasn't a good general. He was arrogant and foolhardy. And he got massacred because he took a single battalion against 2,000 angry Indians.

Speaker 4

2,000 Indians? How many men for Castor?

Speaker 2

211.

Speaker 4

I like this General Castor.

Speaker 2

He was a murderer who fell in love with his own legend, and his troopers died for it.

Speaker 4

I think this is a very good day.

Speaker 2

Well, maybe you can have one just like it someday.

Speaker 4

If it is my destiny.

Speaker 2

What do you want from me?

Speaker 4

What do you want for yourself?

Speaker 2

What are you doing? Why are we having these conversations? What the hell am I doing here?

Speaker 4

In spring, the snows will melt and the passes will open. Until that time, you are here. Good day, Captain.

Speaker 2

1876. Day unknown. Month unknown. I continue to live among these unusual people. I am their captive and then I cannot escape. Mostly I'm treated with a kind of a mild neglect, as if I were a stray dog or an unwelcome guest. Everyone is polite. Everyone smiles and bows. But beneath their courtesy, I detect a deep reservoir of feeling. They are an intriguing people. From the moment they wake, they devote themselves to the perfection of whatever they pursue. I have never seen such discipline. I am surprised to learn that the word samurai means to serve, and that Katsumoto believes his rebellion to be in the service of the Emperor. Please forgive. Too many mind. Too many mind.

Speaker 1

Aye. Mind soul.

Speaker 2

Mind people what? Mind enemy. Too many mind. No mind. No mind.

Speaker 4

Maika.

Speaker 2

Arigato. Okawari? Not so fast. What are these? Hashi. Hashi.

Speaker 5

Hashi.

Speaker 4

Hashi. Hashi.

Speaker 2

Hashi. Mage. Mage. Mi. Mi.

Speaker 1

Mi.

Speaker 4

Chawan.

Speaker 2

No, no, not so fast. Ogren. Ogren. Alugren. All right.

Speaker 4

All right.

Speaker 2

All right.

Speaker 4

All right.

Speaker 2

Nobutada.

Speaker 4

Hi.

Speaker 2

She's been very kind to me.

Speaker 4

She's honored to hold my guest in her house.

Speaker 2

Winter 1877. What does it mean to be samurai? To devote yourself utterly to a set of moral principles, to seek a stillness of your mind, and to master the way of the sword.

Speaker 5

Called.

Speaker 2

Samui. Samui? Samui. Watashi samui. Watashi samui. Watashi mo samui. Watashi mo samui. Also called watashi, fire. He. He.

Speaker 5

Edaga.

Speaker 2

Edaga. Mueru. Mueru, to burn. Mueru. Mueru. Mueru. Edaga, mueru. Edaga, mueru. Edaga, mueru. Edaga... I'm sorry. Come in the side. Come in the side for your husband, Hero Taro. . Spring, 1877. This marks the longest I have stayed in one place since I left the farm at 17. There's so much here that I will never understand. I've never been a church-going man, and what I have seen on the field of battle has led me to question God's purpose. But there is indeed something spiritual in this place. And though it may forever be obscure to me, I cannot but be aware of its power. I do know it is here that I have known my first untroubled sleep in many years. No, no, you gotta get the ball. No, no, get it. No, no, not me. You gotta get the ball. You gotta get the ball. The ball.

Speaker 4

Did you okay?

Speaker 3

Hey.

Speaker 2

Kakamoto.

Speaker 4

Hey! The perfect blossom is a rare thing. You could spend your life looking for one, and it would not be a wasted life.

Speaker 2

Who sent those men to kill you?

Speaker 4

I'm writing a poem about a dream I heard. The tiger's eyes are like my own, but he comes from across a deep and troubled sea.

Speaker 2

Was it the emperor? Omura.

Speaker 4

If the emperor wishes my death, he has but to ask.

Speaker 2

So is Omura.

Speaker 4

I'm having trouble finishing the poem. Can you suggest a last line?

Speaker 2

I'm not a writer.

Speaker 4

Yet. You have written many pages since you came here.

Speaker 2

What else has she told you?

Speaker 4

You have nightmares.

Speaker 2

Every soldier has nightmares.

Speaker 4

Only one who is ashamed of what he has done.

Speaker 2

You have no idea what I have done.

Speaker 4

You have seen many things.

Speaker 2

I have.

Speaker 4

You do not fear that, but sometimes you wish for it. Is this not so? Yes, I'm also. It happens to men who have seen what we have seen. And then I come to this place of my ancestors. I never remember. Like these blossoms. We are all dying. To know life in every breath. Every cup of tea, every life, we take the way. of the warrior.

Speaker 2

Life, every breath.

Speaker 4

That is. Bushido. Aye. The Emperor has granted a safe passage to Tokyo. We leave tomorrow.

Speaker 2

Good.

Speaker 4

Good. When I took this, you were my enemy.

Speaker 3

Aldren? Aldren, my God, you are alive. Will you never cease to astonish howitzers? Yes, indeed. As soon as the Emperor signs the damn trade agreement, he gets the whole package. Including this particular item, 200 rounds a minute, And the new cartridge is cut down on jamming.

Speaker 2

I need a bath.

Speaker 3

After living with those savages, I can only imagine. Welcome back, Captain.

Speaker 5

Gentlemen, come in. Captain Oldben, it seems you have endured your captivity with little ill effect.

Speaker 2

I was not ill-treated, sir.

Speaker 1

Mr. Omura, I have here a draft of the arms agreement.

Speaker 5

Captain Oldben, I'm eager to know how many summer I have joined Katsumoto.

Speaker 2

I'm afraid I don't know.

Speaker 3

You spent the entire winter at his encampment.

Speaker 2

As his prisoner.

Speaker 3

Has he fortified his position? Has he acquired firearms? Come, man, tell us what you saw.

Speaker 2

As you said, Colonel. They're savages with bows and arrows.

Speaker 5

Sir, about the... I'm sure your documents are in order, Ambassador. Thank you. If you leave them on my desk, I will address them at the appropriate time.

Speaker 2

With all due respect, sir, our president's patience is wearing thin. Perhaps there's someone else we should be speaking to?

Speaker 5

With all due respect, Ambassador. Perhaps there is someone else we should be speaking to. For instance, the French, or the English, or any of the allegations waiting in the next room.

Speaker 1

Yes.

Speaker 2

Well, we should be looking forward to hearing from you.

Speaker 5

Good afternoon, gentlemen. Captain Holgren, perhaps you and I might have a word in private. Please sit down. May I offer your whiskey?

Speaker 2

No, thank you.

Speaker 5

Kazmoto is an extraordinary man, is he not?

Speaker 2

He's a tribal leader. I've known many of them.

Speaker 5

But none who are samurai. Their ways have great appeal.

Speaker 2

I don't see how this concerns me.

Speaker 5

But it does. You see, you are right, Captain Oakland. Last year we are not prepared to go to battle. You are right, and Colonel Bagri was wrong. But now we are ready. If Katsumoto is allowed to attract other samurai to his cause, we will have 10 years of rebellion. This is something I will not allow. Either I will stop him at the council today, or you will lead my army against him. And with these new weapons, you will crush him.

Speaker 2

I appreciate the offer.

Speaker 5

It is not an offer.

Speaker 2

Mr. Mora, my contract with you was to train your army.

Speaker 5

Then we will make a new contract, one that we recognize the extraordinary contribution you have made to the Emperor. Do we understand each other?

Speaker 2

Yes, we understand each other perfectly.

Speaker 5

Then I am pleased.

Speaker 1

Captain Orban, what in heaven's aim is going on? The diplomatic community is abuzz. Amura has passed laws against the samurai.

Speaker 2

Mr. Graham, I need a drink.

Speaker 1

Is your friend Katsumoto really planning to go up against the council this afternoon? Oh, my God, it started. Captain Ogren.

Speaker 2

Ogren, tie down. Lanka! Oi, what's up?

Speaker 4

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Speaker 3

Heard you were leaving. Omur offers you my job and you run away. I suppose I should thank you. \$500 a month, including back pay for time spent in captivity. There's enough there to climb back inside a bottle for the rest of your life. You're welcome. Well, it is pretty much over. Katsumoto's under arrest. Omura won't let him last the night. With Katsumoto dead, we should have little trouble handling what's left of the rebellion, even without you. Especially without you. Just tell me one thing. What is it about your own people that you hate so much?

Speaker 5

Run.

Speaker 2

Don't stop.

Speaker 1

Whatever you do, don't stop. The President of the United States? Sorry, I think I'm meant to be sick.

Speaker 2

How's your poem coming?

Speaker 4

The end is proving difficult.

Speaker 2

This is Mr. Simon Graham. You'd like very much to take your photograph.

Speaker 4

I thought you'd return to America.

Speaker 2

I decided to stay, see if I could convince you to escape.

Speaker 4

How do you plan to do that? Mr. Graham? Perhaps you would care to take pictures of my village?

Speaker 1

I would be greatly honoured.

Speaker 3

No, you're soon enough.

Speaker 4

The Emperor could not hear my words. His army will come. It is the end. For 900 years my ancestors have protected our people. Now I have failed them.

Speaker 2

So you will take your own life. Shame. Shame for a life of service, discipline, compassion.

Speaker 4

The way of the samurai is not necessary anymore.

Speaker 1

Necessary.

Speaker 2

What could be more necessary?

Speaker 4

I will die by the sword. My own or my enemies?

Speaker 2

And let it be your enemies. Together, we will make the Emperor hear you. Kariwa yi hito deshita. Who's this? I, sir... Hito... Koroskara.... . . . I'd say two full regiments. They'll come in waves of 1000. And they have the howitzers.

Speaker 4

It makes no difference. They will come and we will make our stand.

Speaker 2

How many men will we have?

Speaker 4

Maybe 500. Like General Caster?

Speaker 2

There was once a battle at a place called Thermopylae. 300 brave Greeks held off a Persian army of a million men. A million. You understand this number?

Speaker 4

I understand this number.

Speaker 2

For 2 days, the Greeks made them pay so dearly, the Persian army lost all taste for battle and were defeated soon after.

Speaker 4

What do you have in mind?

Speaker 2

Take away the advantage of their guns. We're overconfident we use that. Lure them close. Close enough for a sword.

Speaker 4

You believe? A man can't change his destiny.

Speaker 2

I think a man does what he can until his destiny is revealed. May 25th, 1877. This will be the last entry in this journey. I've tried to give a true accounting of what I have seen, what I've done. I do not presume to understand the course of my life. I know I am grateful to have partaken of all this, even if for a moment.

Speaker 4

You will need this.

Speaker 2

What does it say?

Speaker 4

I belong to the warrior in whom the old ways have joined the new.

Speaker 3

Good God. Sir, the Imperial Army of Japan demands your surrender. If you and your fellows lay down your arms, you will not be harmed.

Speaker 4

This is not possible, as Mr. Omran knows.

Speaker 3

Captain Olgren, we will show you no quarter. You ride against us, and you are the same as they are.

Speaker 2

I'll look for you on the field.

Speaker 1

Captain Olgren.

Speaker 2

Mr. Graham. Perhaps you can use these for your buck.

Speaker 1

Yes, I will. Captain. Godspeed.

Speaker 2

Mr. Graham.

Speaker 1

They die.

Speaker 3

Kill and skip.

Speaker 1

Please, why are they?

Speaker 3

They're covering their retreat.

Speaker 5

Even the mighty samurai cannot stand up to the howitzers. See where they attack.

Speaker 3

I'd advise sending in skirmishers first.

Speaker 5

Nonsense.

Speaker 1

Full attack.

Speaker 2

They're coming. wait for the volley second.

Speaker 3

What on earth?

Speaker 5

What is happening?

Speaker 3

The attack has been stopped.

Speaker 5

Send in the rest of the regiment.

Speaker 4

What happened to the warriors at Palmopoli?

Speaker 2

Dead to the last man.

Speaker 3

*** ** * ***** thinks he can win.

Speaker 2

I'll bring two more regiments up here, son. We won't be able to stop them again.

Speaker 4

You do not have to die here.

Speaker 2

I should have died so many times before.

Speaker 4

Now you leave again.

Speaker 2

Yes.

Speaker 4

It was not your time.

Speaker 2

It's not over.

Speaker 5

This is madness. He's going to attack.

Speaker 3

Yes.

Speaker 5

He's defeated. He must accept his shame. All of them.

Speaker 2

Now.

Speaker 1

Fire! Fire and move.

Speaker 2

No.

Speaker 4

You have your honor again. Let me die with mine.

Speaker 2

Are you ready? I will miss our conversations. Perfect.

Speaker 3

They are perfect.

Speaker 2

On behalf of the United States of America, the signing of this treaty will usher in an era of unprecedented prosperity and cooperation between our two great nations.

Speaker 5

On behalf of the Emperor, we are pleased to have successfully concluded this... negotiation.

Speaker 2

This is Katsumoto's sword. He would have wanted you to have it. Let the strength of the samurai be with you always. He hoped with his last breath that you would remember the ancestors who held this sword. and what they died for.

Speaker 5

Hiccup.

Speaker 2

You were with him? At the end.

Speaker 4

Sorry.

Speaker 5

Emperor, this man fought against you.

Speaker 2

Your Highness. If you believe me to be your enemy, command me, and I will gladly take my life. I have dreamed of a unified Japan, of a country strong and independent and modern. And now we have railroads and can own western clothing. But we cannot forget who we are or where we come from. Ambassador Swanbeck, I have concluded that the treaty is not in the best interest of my people.

Speaker 1

Sir, if I may...

Speaker 2

So sorry, but you may not. This is an outrage. Hiko. Tell me how he died. I will tell you how he lived.

Speaker 1

And so the days of the samurai had ended. Nations like men, it is sometimes said, have their own destiny. As for the American captain, no one knows what became of him. Some say that he died of his wounds, others that he returned to his own country. But I like to think he may have at last found some small measure of peace that we all seek and few of us ever find.

