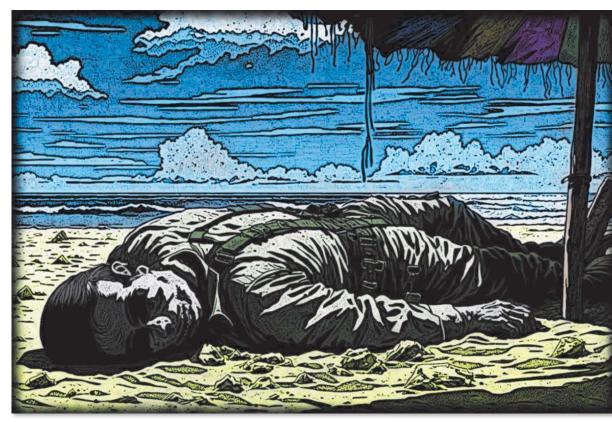
The whole Empire was talking of the Special Military Operation which the Tsar had ordered. The townspeople rejoiced it was not a War - so they did not feel so bad about people from Buryatia and Yakutia having a look at the Magical Country before they did.

Instead, they liked to believe that everything was going according to The Plan, although not one of them could say what it was as the goals constantly changed from one backwards advance to another.



Ivan dying to go on holiday.

They did not even mind murderers, rapists or even cannibals being released from every prison in the land to visit there as well. After all, they were surely dying to go.

Following six months' holiday in the Magical Country the heroes would return home as reformed citizens and never offend again. If they did re-offend, the Tsar would benevolently reward them with a return trip to the Magical Land straightaway, and just ignore their victims.