



WATER WEZ? (WHAT ARE WEZ?)

UNDERSTANDING WATER MANAGEMENT

LONG AGO, OUR COUNTRY FACED A SEVERE DROUGHT...



UNTIL ONE DAY, A MYSTERIOUS WATER SPIRIT APPEARED AND BROUGHT RAIN, SAVED US



AND PROSPERED TO BECOME THE FITORIA KINGDOM



EVENTUALLY, SOME OF US MOVED TO BUILD ANOTHER VILLAGE UPSTREAM. WE WERE GOING TO BUILD A BIGGER EMPIRE.

HOWEVER, THINGS TURNED SOUR. THE WATER SLOWLY STOPPED COMING BECAUSE THE UPSTREAM PEOPLE TOOK ALL THE WATER



WE HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THE TREATY AND KEEPING TO OUR PROMISE.

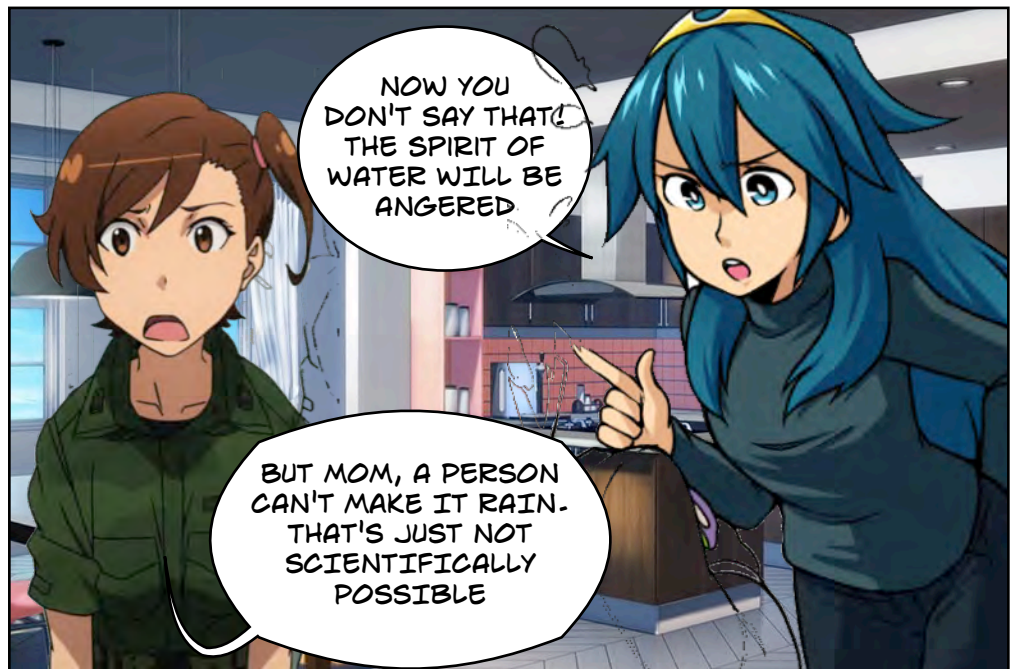
LIARS! THE RIVERS COME IN DIRTY AND DRY!

TALKS OF A WATER WAR HAVE BEEN GOING ON EVER SINCE I WAS BORN

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THE DAY FOR THE SPIRIT TO RETURN...



BUT ME? I COULD CARE LESS ABOUT SOME DUMB MYTH



NOW YOU DON'T SAY THAT! THE SPIRIT OF WATER WILL BE ANGERED

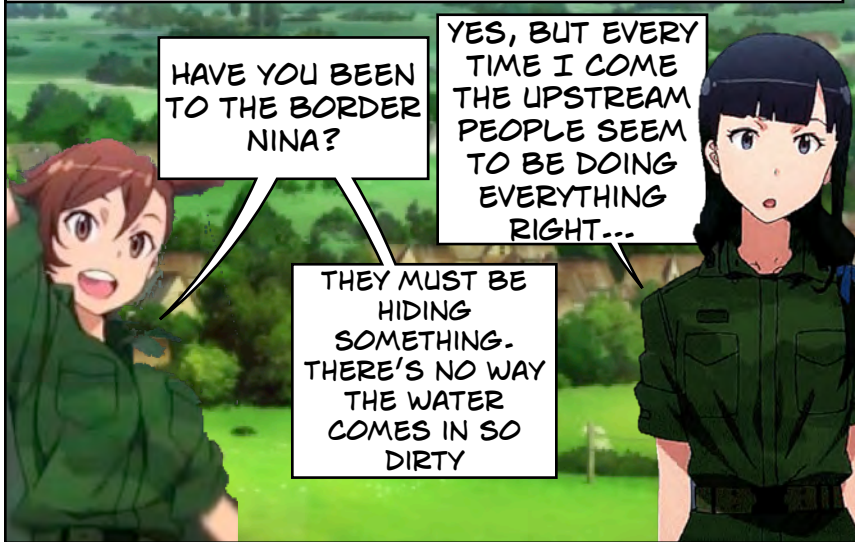
BUT MOM, A PERSON CAN'T MAKE IT RAIN. THAT'S JUST NOT SCIENTIFICALLY POSSIBLE



MY NAME IS ELFRIDA, 18 YEARS OLD.

I DECIDED TO JOIN THE ARMY TO FIGHT AGAINST THE UPSTREAM PEOPLE THIS YEAR.

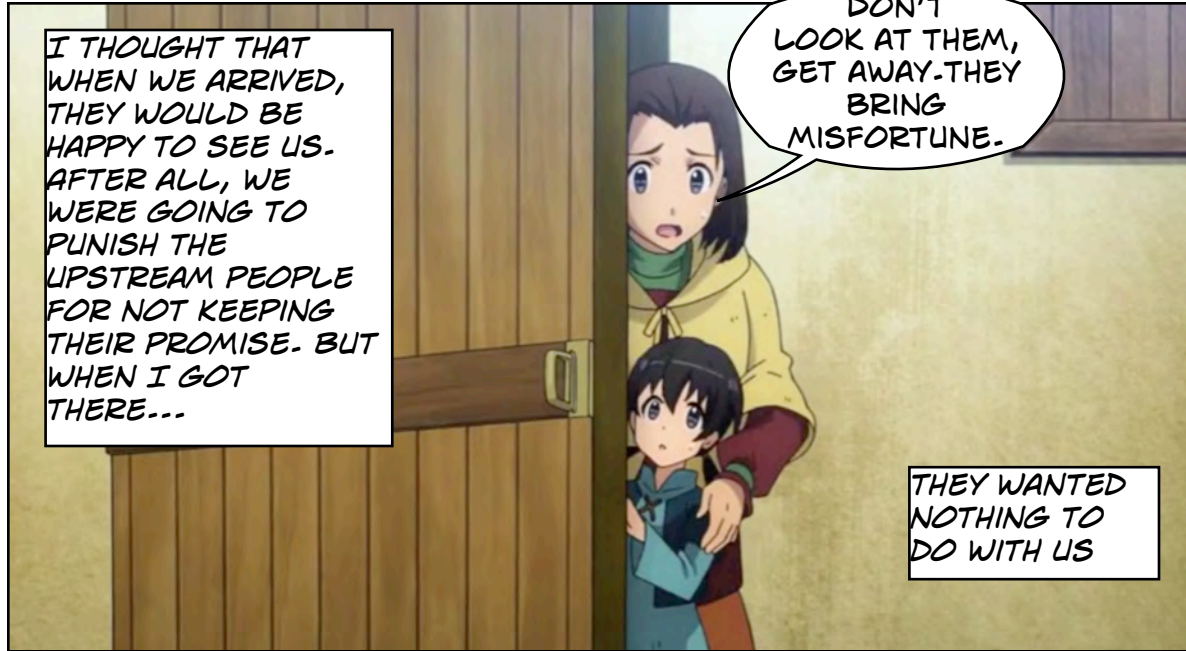
TODAY'S MISSION: BORDER SECURITY. I AM GOING WITH MY BEST FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE NINA.



HAVE YOU BEEN TO THE BORDER NINA?

YES, BUT EVERY TIME I COME TO THE BORDER PEOPLE SEEM TO BE DOING EVERYTHING RIGHT...

THEY MUST BE HIDING SOMETHING. THERE'S NO WAY THE WATER COMES IN SO DIRTY



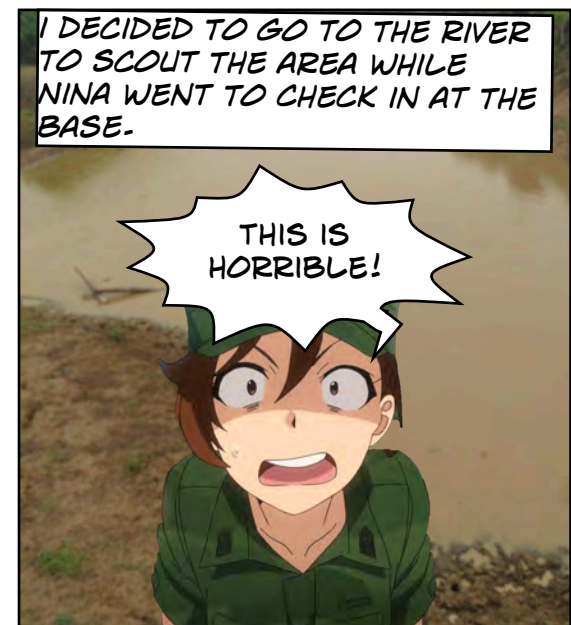
I THOUGHT THAT WHEN WE ARRIVED, THEY WOULD BE HAPPY TO SEE US. AFTER ALL, WE WERE GOING TO PUNISH THE UPSTREAM PEOPLE FOR NOT KEEPING THEIR PROMISE. BUT WHEN I GOT THERE...

DON'T LOOK AT THEM, GET AWAY. THEY BRING MISFORTUNE.

THEY WANTED NOTHING TO DO WITH US

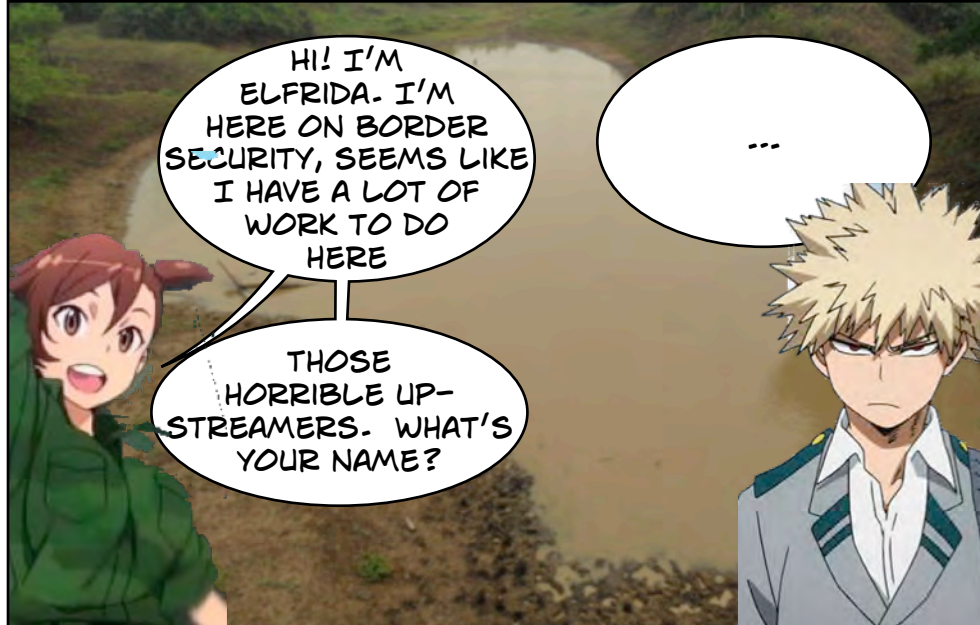


HM, I WONDER WHY WE'RE SO UNWANTED



I DECIDED TO GO TO THE RIVER TO SCOUT THE AREA WHILE NINA WENT TO CHECK IN AT THE BASE.

THIS IS HORRIBLE!

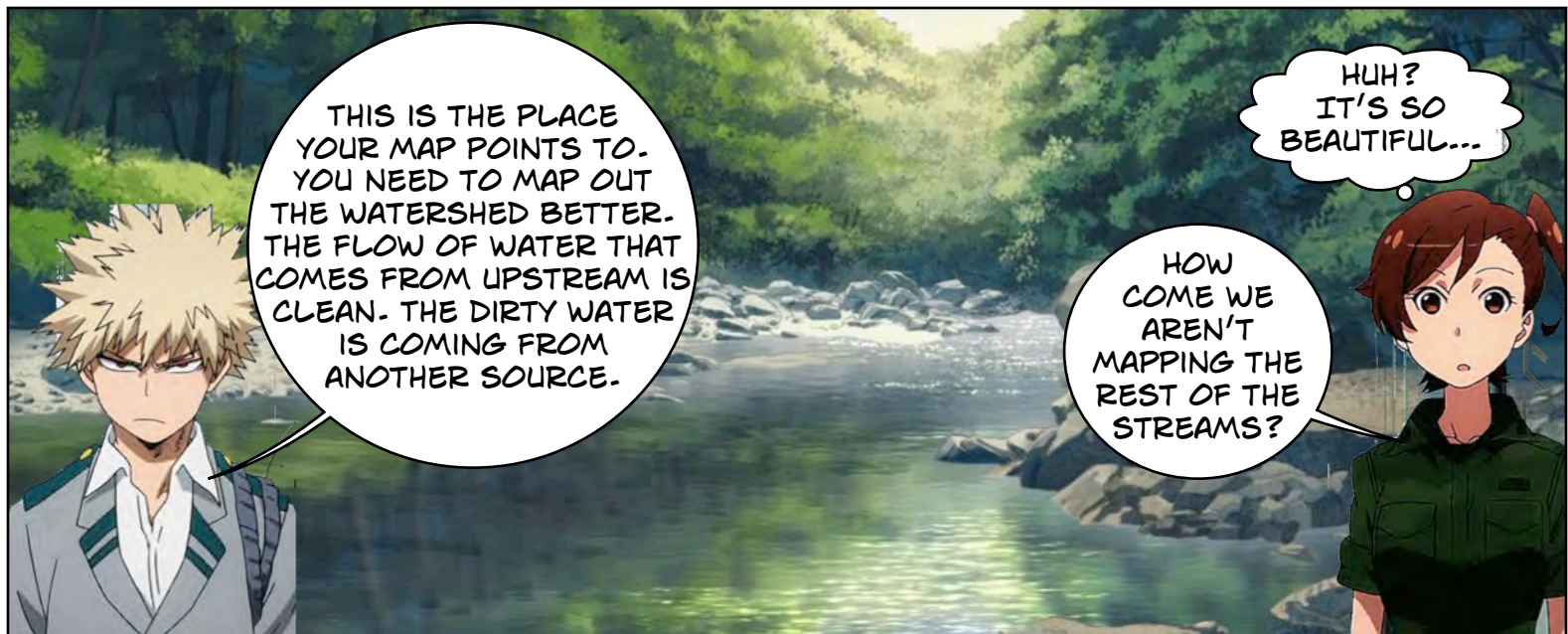
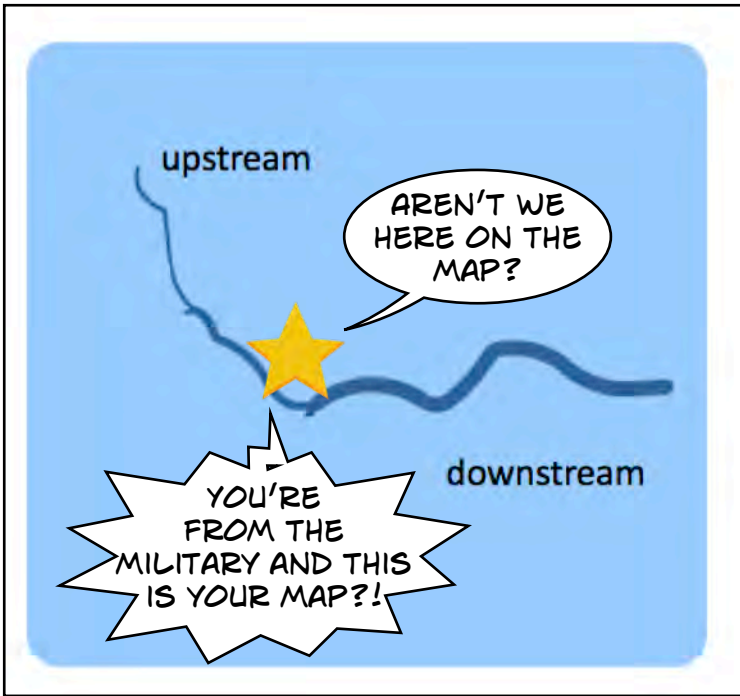
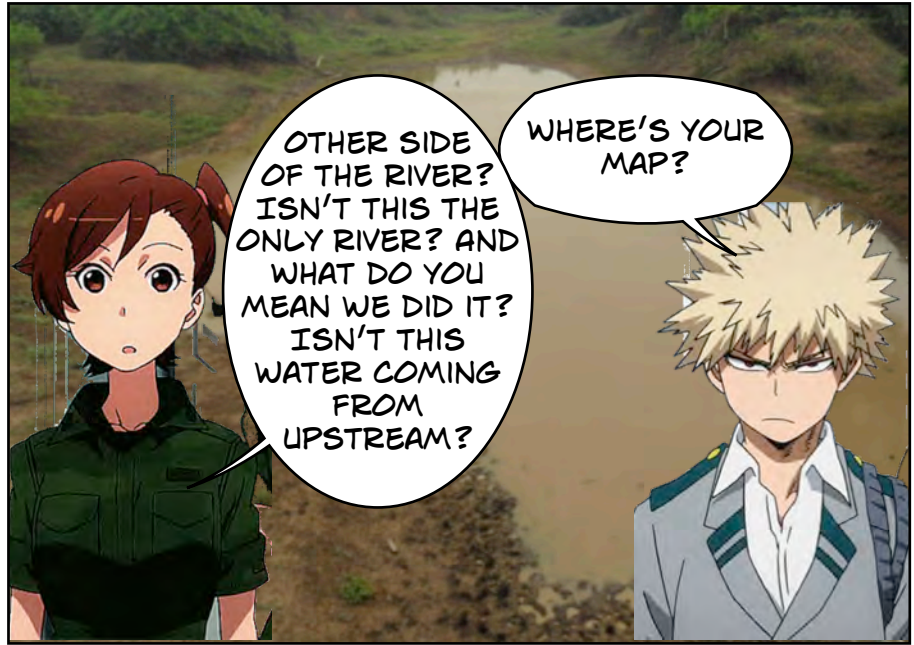
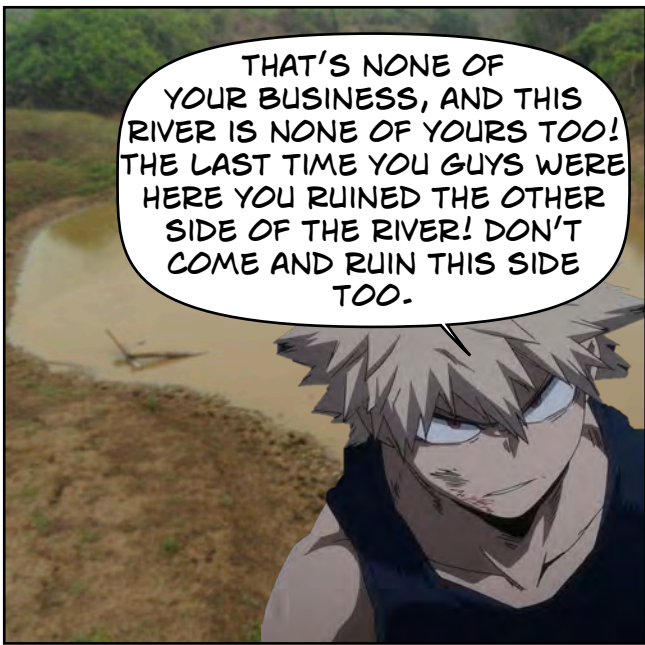


HI! I'M ELFRIDA. I'M HERE ON BORDER SECURITY, SEEMS LIKE I HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO HERE

THOSE HORRIBLE UP-STREAMERS. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

...






EVERY TIME YOU GUYS COME YOU NEVER LOOK AT THE ENTIRE SYSTEM OF WATER. YOU ONLY PROTECT THE MAIN ROUTE. BUT DID YOU KNOW THAT A WATERSHED IS MORE COMPLICATED THAN THAT? STREAMS COME TOGETHER TO DISCHARGE WATER INTO THE MAIN RIVER. THE SMALLEST STREAMS ARE 1ST ORDER STREAMS, THAT FLOW INTO 2ND ORDER STREAMS THAT FLOW INTO OUR MAIN RIVER (3RD ORDER).



RIGHT NOW WE ARE AT THIS SECOND ORDER STREAM.

BASED ON THE MAP THE WATER IS COMING FROM OUR OWN BORDERS. DID YOU KNOW 1ST AND 2ND ORDER STREAMS MAKE UP FOR 70% OF THE WATER SUPPLY? AND YET NOBODY TAKES CARE OF IT. THAT'S WHY IT'S ENDED UP LIKE THIS. YOU FOCUSED SO MUCH ON THE UPSTREAM SOURCE THAT YOU AREN'T LOOKING AT WHERE IT'S MOST IMPORTANT.



HM, IN THAT CASE WE HAVE TO START INVESTIGATING THOSE FIRST ORDER STREAMS.

TURNS OUT, THERE WAS A LOT TO DO... WE HAD NEGLECTED THESE SMALL STREAMS AND ENDED UP POLLUTING IT WITH TRASH. WE ALSO DISCOVERED THAT WE NEEDED TO PLANT MORE TREES AROUND THE AREA TO PREVENT SOILS FROM ENTERING THE STREAMS. SO WE DECIDED TO HOLD A RIVER CLEAN UP AND TREE PLANTING SESSION WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY. AT FIRST, IT WAS TOUGH...

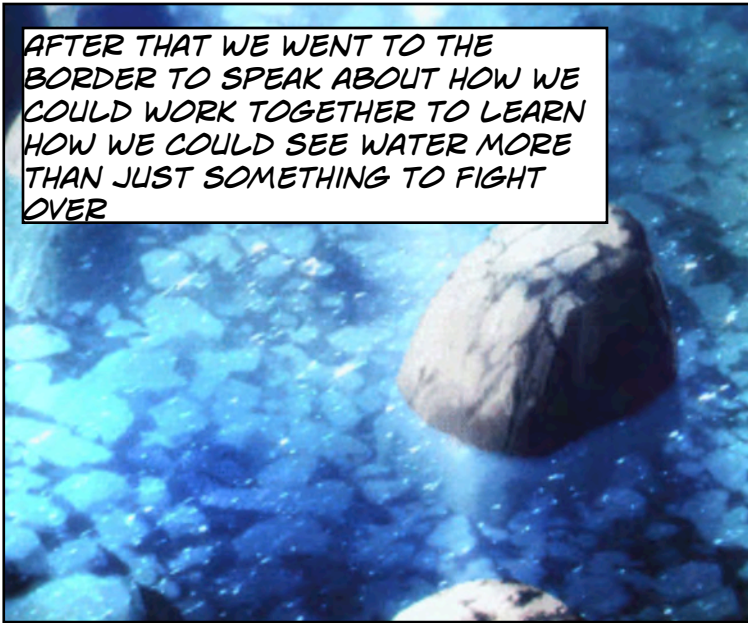


RIVER CLEAN UP!



BUT AFTER WE GREW PLANTS AND CLEANED THE RIVER, THE RIVER BECAME CLEAN AGAIN

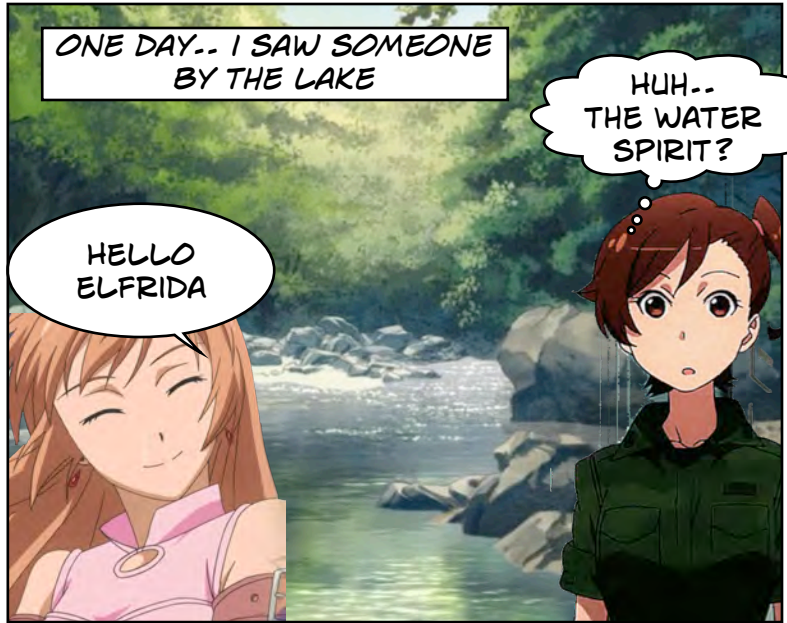
AFTER THAT WE WENT TO THE BORDER TO SPEAK ABOUT HOW WE COULD WORK TOGETHER TO LEARN HOW WE COULD SEE WATER MORE THAN JUST SOMETHING TO FIGHT OVER



ONE DAY.. I SAW SOMEONE BY THE LAKE

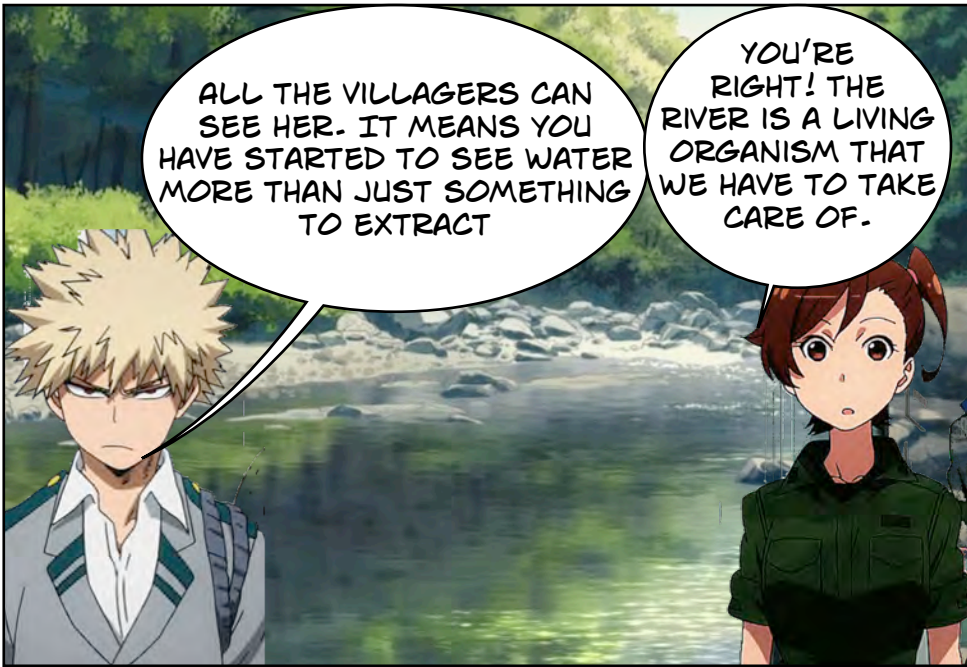
HELLO ELFRIDA

HUH.. THE WATER SPIRIT?



ALL THE VILLAGERS CAN SEE HER. IT MEANS YOU HAVE STARTED TO SEE WATER MORE THAN JUST SOMETHING TO EXTRACT

YOU'RE RIGHT! THE RIVER IS A LIVING ORGANISM THAT WE HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF.



TWO MONTHS LATER, I HAD TO PACK UP AND GO HOME. OUR MISSION HERE WAS OVER



PLEASE PROMISE ME YOU WILL TRY TO COOPERATE RATHER THAN TO FIGHT.

OF COURSE. AND I'LL COME VISIT.

