



A new dawn for Campoverde Foggiano

EMMA RETURNS TO HER CHILDHOOD VILLAGE, CAMPOVERDE FOGGIANO, AFTER MANY YEARS. THE RURAL VILLAGE, ONCE VIBRANT AND FULL OF LIFE, IS NOW A SHADOW OF ITS FORMER SELF: ABANDONED FARMS, CLOSED MARKETS, AND A STEADILY DECLINING POPULATION. EMMA'S GRANDMOTHER WARMLY WELCOMES HER AND TAKES HER ON A WALK THROUGH THE VILLAGE, EXPLAINING HOW MANY FAMILIES WERE FORCED TO LEAVE, UNABLE TO SUSTAIN THEMSELVES ECONOMICALLY DUE TO A LACK OF INNOVATION AND RESOURCES. THE OVERGROWN FIELDS AND "FOR SALE" SIGNS ON ONCE-THRIVING FARMS WEIGH HEAVILY ON EMMA'S HEART, BUT HER GRANDMOTHER'S QUIET HOPE IGNITES A SPARK WITHIN HER.

THE SITUATION BECOMES MORE TROUBLING WHEN EMMA COMES ACROSS A DISTRESSING HEADLINE IN THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER: "SALVATORE SCAGLIOZZI: DEVELOPER PLANS TO BUY CAMPOVERDE FOGGIANO." SCAGLIOZZI, A WEALTHY AND RUTHLESS ENTREPRENEUR, INTENDS TO TURN THE VILLAGE INTO A LUXURY RESORT, DISREGARDING ITS AGRICULTURAL ROOTS. HER GRANDMOTHER REVEALS THAT SOME DESPERATE FARMERS HAVE ALREADY SOLD THEIR LAND TO SCAGLIOZZI FOR A PITTANCE. OUTRAGED, EMMA VOWS TO FIGHT FOR THE VILLAGE'S FUTURE.

AT A VILLAGE ASSEMBLY, THE MAYOR AND RESIDENTS EXPRESS THEIR DESPAIR OVER AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE, FEARING THAT CAMPOVERDE MAY DISAPPEAR ENTIRELY. EMMA PROPOSES APPLYING FOR EUROPEAN FUNDS, SPECIFICALLY THROUGH THE INITIATIVE "A LONG-TERM VISION FOR THE EU'S RURAL AREAS – TOWARDS STRONGER, CONNECTED, RESILIENT, AND PROSPEROUS RURAL AREAS BY 2040". HER PROPOSAL IS MET WITH SKEPTICISM FROM SOME RESIDENTS, WARY OF THE LENGTHY AND COMPLEX BUREAUCRATIC PROCESS, BUT EMMA REASSURES THEM, OFFERING TO PERSONALLY LEAD THE APPLICATION PROCESS. HER DETERMINATION REKINDLES A NEW HOPE IN THE COMMUNITY.

WHILE EMMA AND HER GRANDMOTHER WORK TIRELESSLY ON THE CHALLENGING TASK OF PREPARING THE FUNDING APPLICATION, SCAGLIOZZI SPREADS FALSE INFORMATION, CLAIMING THAT EUROPEAN FUNDS ARE UNRELIABLE AND CANNOT SAVE THE VILLAGE. HIS PROPAGANDA SHAKES THE CONFIDENCE OF SOME RESIDENTS, BUT EMMA, BOLSTERED BY HER GRANDMOTHER'S UNWAVERING SUPPORT, REFUSES TO GIVE UP. AFTER WEEKS OF HARD WORK, AN INITIAL REJECTION, AND REVISIONS, THE EUROPEAN FUNDING IS FINALLY APPROVED. EMMA ANNOUNCES THE NEWS WITH EXCITEMENT, AND THE VILLAGE ERUPTS IN JOY.

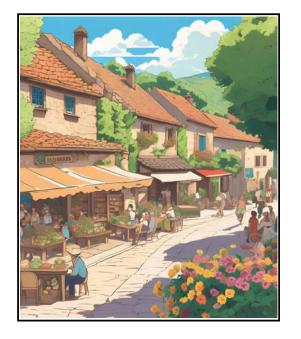
SHORTLY AFTER, EMMA RECEIVES AN INVITATION TO REPRESENT CAMPOVERDE AT THE PRESTIGIOUS EUROPEAN "ORGANIC DAY" COMPETITION IN BRUSSELS. SEEING THIS AS A CHANCE TO SHOWCASE THE VILLAGE'S POTENTIAL, EMMA AND HER GRANDMOTHER CREATE AN INNOVATIVE RECIPE: PANZEROTTI, MADE WITH ORGANIC WHEAT AND LOCALLY GROWN TOMATOES. DESPITE SETBACKS, SUCH AS EQUIPMENT FAILURES AND LAST-MINUTE CHALLENGES, EMMA'S PRESENTATION AT THE COMPETITION WINS OVER THE JUDGES. THE RECIPE TAKES FIRST PRIZE, BRINGING INTERNATIONAL FAME TO CAMPOVERDE FOGGIANO.

WITH THE FUNDING AND NEWFOUND RECOGNITION, THE VILLAGE BEGINS TO TRANSFORM: SOLAR PANELS AND IRRIGATION SYSTEMS ARE INSTALLED, ABANDONED FARMS ARE RESTORED, AND THE ONCE-EMPTY MARKET SQUARE COMES BACK TO LIFE. TOURISTS START VISITING CAMPOVERDE TO ENJOY ITS ORGANIC FOOD AND RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE, WHILE YOUNGER GENERATIONS BEGIN TO SEE A FUTURE IN STAYING RATHER THAN LEAVING.

DEFEATED, SCAGLIOZZI LEAVES THE VILLAGE, WHILE THE COMMUNITY CELEBRATES THEIR VICTORY AND A FRESH NEW BEGINNING.





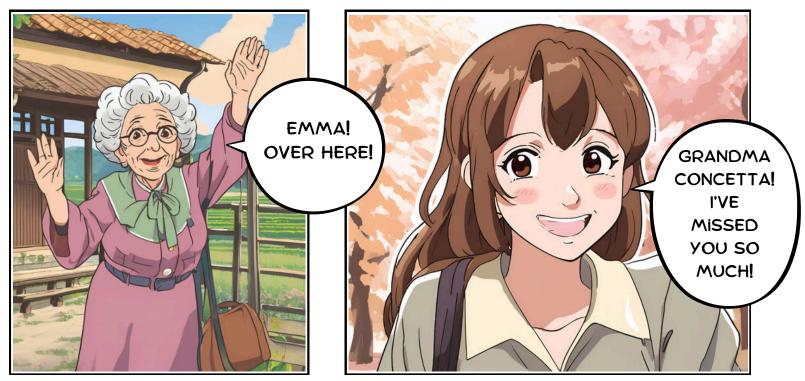


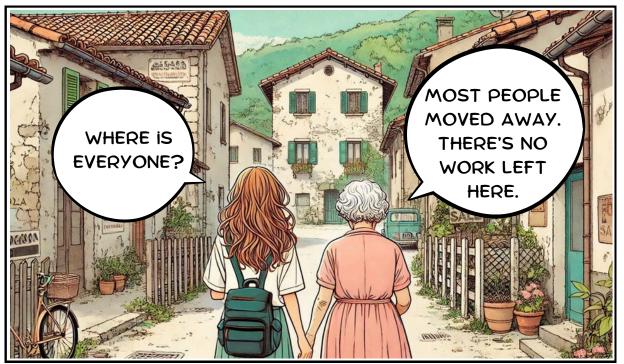


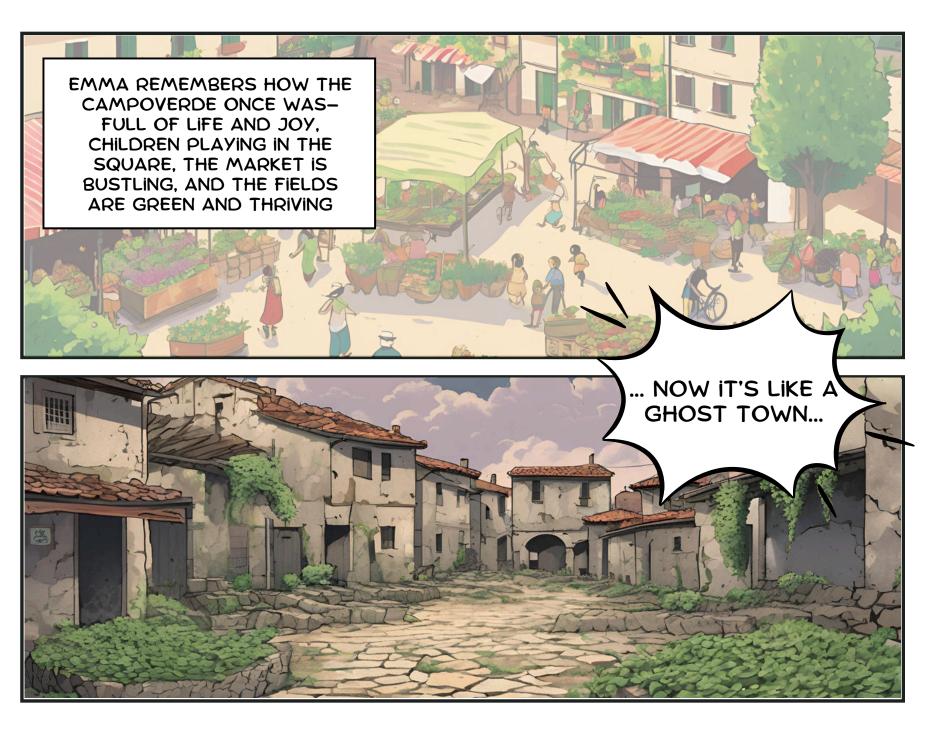
AFTER YEARS AWAY, EMMA
RETURNS TO
CAMPOVERDE FOGGIANO, THE
VILLAGE SHE ONCE CALLED
"HOME".

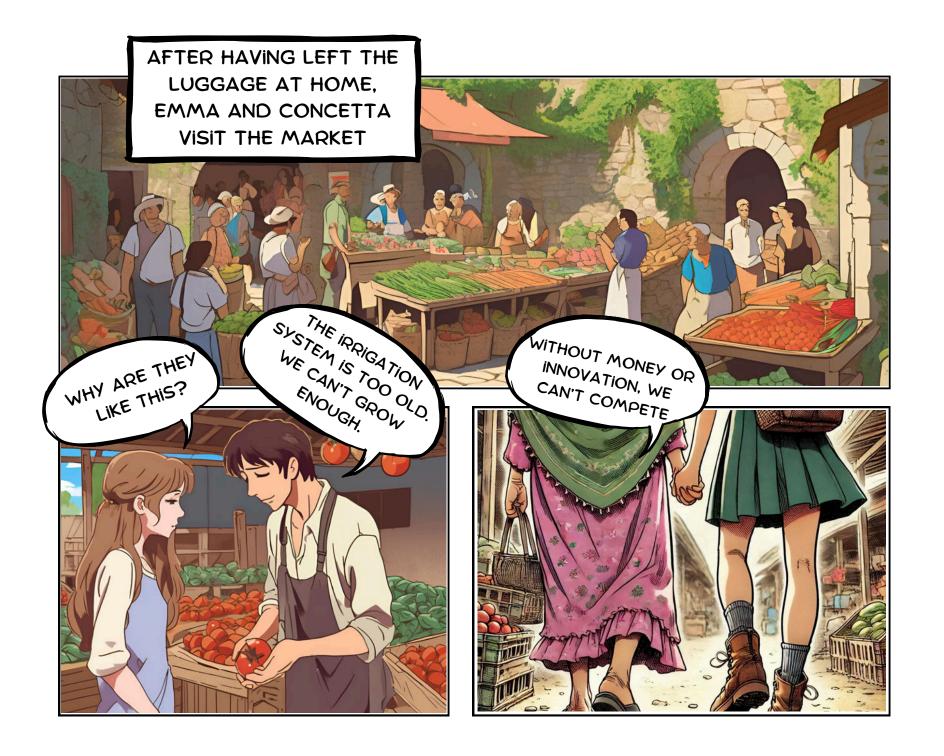


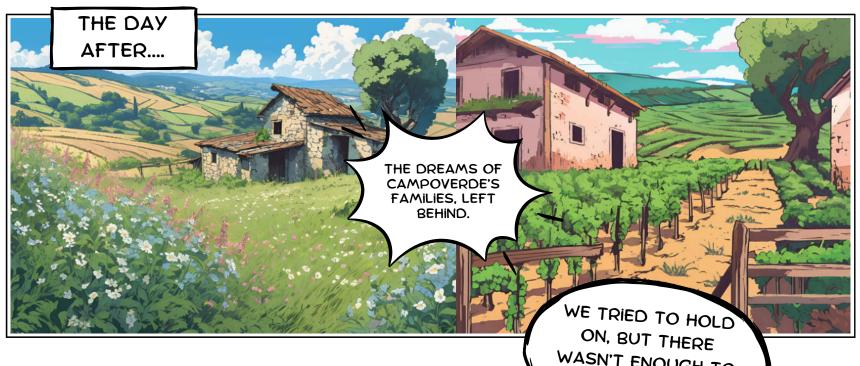














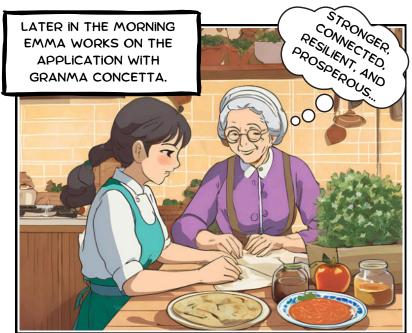
















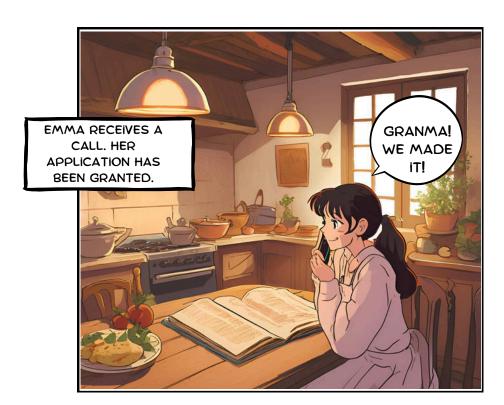






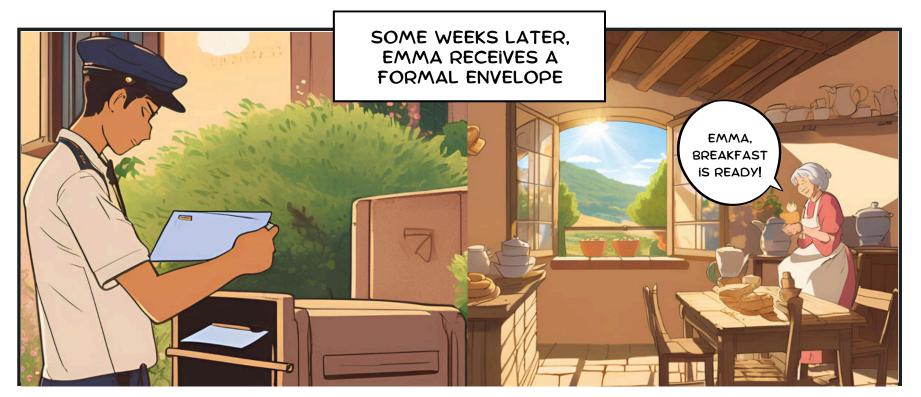










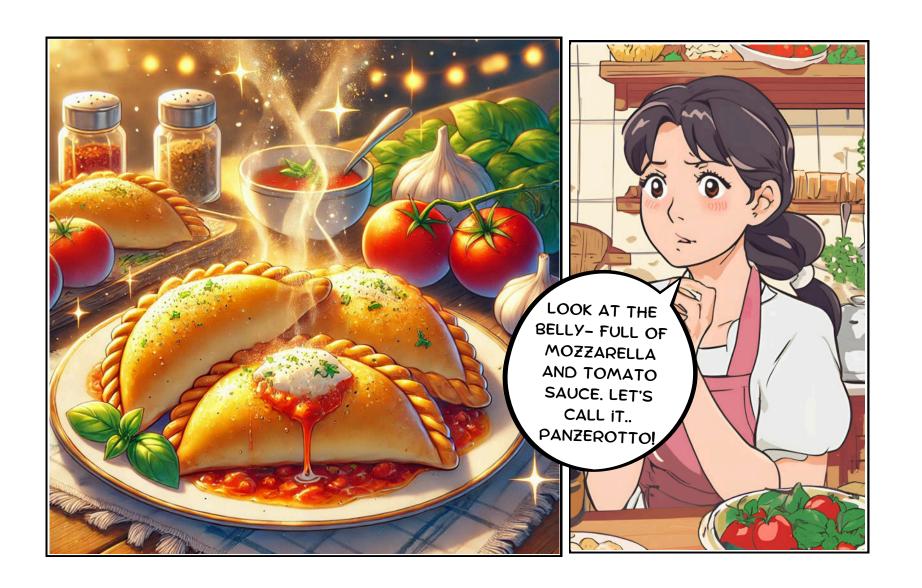


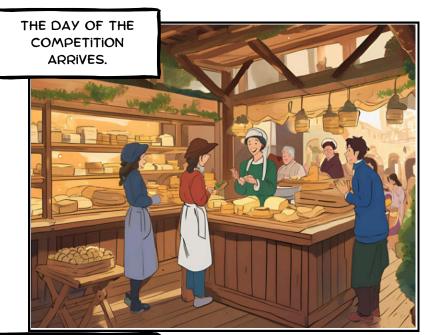














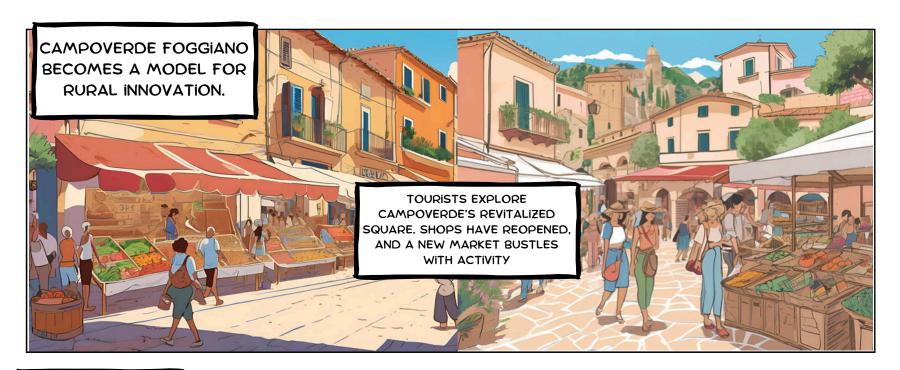


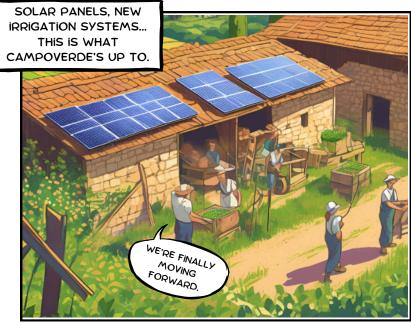
























The end

Comics created by Agnese Gobbi for Igor Vitale International s.r.l.

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