

THE RED STEEL SAGA

An ending untold — the day the last stand fell



Kurokaru Fallen · Red Steel Ascendant

When the war for Emberfall began, none dreamed that a single tank would decide the fate of Kurokaru. This is the tale of Red Steel — of the lord who claimed it, the lady who coveted it, the god-machines who came to take it back, and the ten battles that ended an age.

1 Act 1 — The Shadow Tank Raid

It began with a machine the Shadow clan called Kurogane — "Black Steel" — the pride of their war-forge. At dawn it rolled out of the mist, and the town of Emberfall could not stand against it. Black Steel took the day; and in the flush of victory the Shadow Cultists poured their forbidden power into its hull. The tank drank deep, its plating glowing ember-red. Kurogane was no more. Red Steel had been born.

2 Act 2 — The Shadow Tank Rising

Empowered and all but unstoppable, Red Steel drove on the heart of Emberfall. The defenders held as long as flesh could hold, but the cult pressed in from every side and the tank's guns never tired. When the smoke cleared, the Shadow banner flew over the square. Emberfall had fallen.

3 Act 3 — The Siege of Emberfall

Word of the fall carried far. Lord Clark of the Kuraku Shogunate raised his host — and Lady Nancy of the Nanshi rode hard to join his banner. Together the two shogunates fell upon the occupiers, and for the first time the Shadow cult was broken and driven from the streets. Emberfall breathed free again, and Red Steel lay still upon the field, a broken husk of ember and iron.

4 Act 4 — Lord Clark's Prize

Clark claimed the wreck as his prize and began the long haul home. But the Shadow clan would not see their reformed god dragged away in chains. On a narrow mountain trail the raiders melted from the trees on every side, and Clark's column fought an ambush from all directions to keep the fallen tank in tow.

5 Act 5 — The Secrets of Tanknomancy

Safe in his castle laboratory, Clark bent over the husk and began the forbidden craft the clans would name Tanknomancy. But an ally had become a rival: Lady Nancy, her envy of the prize curdled into betrayal, stormed the castle to seize its secrets for herself. Clark fended her off — and as blades rang, Red Steel stirred beneath his hand, reborn, and loyal now to Clark alone.

6 Act 6 — The Iron Heart Awakens

The clans believed they had warred over a tank. They were wrong. Red Steel's burning core was the stolen heart of an Ultra — and the god-machines came down from the mountains to reclaim it. They reset the tank to their will, but Lord Clark, Titan Slayer, battered them hard among the ruins. Bloodied yet unbroken, the Ultras withdrew with Red Steel in their midst — the tank hungry now for vengeance.

7 Act 7 — Defend the Forge

Clark tracked the god-machines east, to the Flame of the East — the terrible forge where Titans are born. At its gates he brought the Ultras to battle and broke them at last, and the fire in the East was doused. The Foundry's final machines fell one after another.

8 Act 8 — Red Steel Returns

Yet the war was not finished. Grief-maddened, Red Steel — Enraged rolled down upon the villages of Kurokaru for revenge. It ransacked the streets, and the town militia could not halt it outright — but they made it pay. Of the three prizes it came for, Red Steel seized only one, and limped from the fight sorely injured.

9 Act 9 — Run Them Down

Word reached Clark that the enemy was fleeing with precious Ultra material — carts of it, rolling down the mountain road. He gave chase, cutting down cultists as he ran the caravan to ground, and hauled back two of the three carts before they could vanish into the dark. The forge's lifeblood was his.

10 Act 10 — Red Steel: Last Stand

It came to one last stand. Lord Clark, Lady Nancy, and all of Kurokaru united for a final, desperate assault on Red Steel and the Ultras. Clark's scouts had found the control dais at the heart of the enemy host — but the god-machines were ready, and the Tanknomancy ran deeper than anyone had guessed. As night fell the corruption spread faster than the allies could push; house-guards turned upon their own lords in the dark, and the assault came apart. Before Clark could reach the console he was overwhelmed and dragged down. The last stand broke, and Kurokaru fell.

Red Steel conquered the lands of Kurokaru. Lord Clark was taken alive — a prize now, chained in the ruin of his own forge. Lady Nancy vanished into hiding, the last free banner of a fallen world. One by one the noble houses bent the knee and swore themselves to the living tank; and the Ultra army spread across the realm, raising forge after forge to birth ever more of its kind. Already Red Steel's cold eye turns to the lands beyond Kurokaru. And in the East the fire burns brighter than it ever did in the days of iron — no longer red, but a sickly, Tanknomantic green.

... and the fire spread.