

## **ANANIAS GIRMAY**

WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL | 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

Hercules the beetle was busy munching on some delicious rotting fruit and starts flying to the nearest flower with fruit on it and finishes his current fruit. He goes to grab another one but the suddenly, BOOM! An earthshaking explosion happens that sounds louder than a fighter jet. A bunch of weird-looking pesticide-like things sprinkle down on the surrounding area near Hercules, and he notices that all the other animals, especially smaller ones like the insects, hummingbirds and lots more animals around him turn in to more bipedal, humanoid versions of themselves.

He notices that he feels different .... He feels...... Human?...

Because Hercules feels so weird, he decides to look for humans and finds a nearby human home and looks around and notices, and OH MY GOD THE HUMANS LOOK SO CRAZY!!!! The humans make some sort of gasping, wheezing noise and start to notice Hercules was above them. The two larger humans start to chase and jump after Hercules, while the smaller human seems to be eating food or animal. Hercules starts running so he can pick up speed to fly and narrowly evades the humans who are swiping their claws and fists. Hercules flies above their heads and tries to enter but they start to jump and claw and bite at the flying Hercules.

Hercules finally gets in and starts to notice THE HUMAN IS EATING AN .... An ..... An ..... an? He doesn't seem to know what that insect or other animal is but decides to try to swoop in anyway and distracts the human so the other insect can escape. After a while of dodging the little human, who is jumping at him. He swoops in and picks up the bug. He looks down and notices that he was holding a small grasshopper looking insect. "Buzz zzzz" (Very ROUGH translation: Hello). The small insect seems to be unconscious, So Hercules flies into a grassy field far, far away from the humans. After a while the small grasshopper wakes up and introduces themselves as Hopper. He asks Hercules to help him heal his wing and give him some things for his wing, like moss. Hercules goes to get some soft bark and moss to cover his wing. After a while, Hopper's wing fully heals and now he can jump and fly! They go to find some food and find some more rotting fruit and Hercules remembers before all the things that happened and reflects on what he has done during these short few hours of his life. He realized that he loved adventuring, and he wants to tell Hopper so they can go on more and more and EVEN MORE ADVENTURES! Hopper agrees and they both think they should start a new adventure, a new life together as adventure partners and teammates.

Him and all the friends he'll meet on the way.





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