



Of Beetles and Angels: A Boy's Remarkable Journey from a Refugee Camp to Harvard

By Mawi Asgedom



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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In 1983, at age seven, the author and his family arrived in this country, having fled the Eritrean and Ethiopian conflict. "This earnest account of Asgedom's life up to his graduation from Harvard is peppered with powerful moments," wrote PW. Ages 10-up.

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From [Booklist](#)

When he was four years old, Asgedom's family left their war-ravaged home in Ethiopia. They spent three years in a Sudanese refugee camp before coming to the U.S. in 1983, where they were settled by World Relief in a wealthy white suburb near Chicago. He later earned a full scholarship to Harvard, where in 1999 he delivered the commencement address. His simple lyrical narrative, both wry and tender, stays true to the child's viewpoint as he grows up, taunted at school, but pretty bad and rough himself. His coming-of-age story is both darkened and enriched by the stories he hears about his parents' lives back home and by the pieces he remembers. At the center of the book is his father, a fierce family disciplinarian, once an all-powerful medical assistant at home, now reduced to a "beetle," unemployed, half-blind, raging at his dependency. Only at the very end, when Asgedom spells out the metaphor of the title, does the message overwhelm the story. What stays with you is the quiet, honest drama of a family's heartrending journey.

Hazel Rochman

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Review

I read this book in one sitting and then left my chair convinced that the world was a better place than when I had sat down. --Allison Morris, New England Children's Bookselling Advisory Council

In 39 Years of teaching, I have never assigned a book the kids like so well. --Judith Pond, 8th grade teacher, Richmond Middle School, Hanover (NH)

Our students have read Of Beetles and Angels and heard him speak. Mawi is a hero to my students and to me. --Dr. Patricia Harvey, Superintendent, St. Paul MN Public Schools

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jeannine Ricks:

This Of Beetles and Angels: A Boy's Remarkable Journey from a Refugee Camp to Harvard are reliable for you who want to be a successful person, why. The main reason of this Of Beetles and Angels: A Boy's Remarkable Journey from a Refugee Camp to Harvard can be among the great books you must have is actually giving you more than just simple reading food but feed an individual with information that might be will shock your previous knowledge. This book is actually handy, you can bring it everywhere you go and whenever your conditions both in e-book and printed people. Beside that this Of Beetles and Angels: A Boy's Remarkable Journey from a Refugee Camp to Harvard giving you an enormous of experience such as rich vocabulary, giving you tryout of critical thinking that could it useful in your day exercise. So , let's have

it and luxuriate in reading.

Wendy Cort:

Often the book Of Beetles and Angels: A Boy's Remarkable Journey from a Refugee Camp to Harvard has a lot associated with on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of profit. The book was written by the very famous author. This articles author makes some research before write this book. This book very easy to read you may get the point easily after looking over this book.

Elois Montgomery:

In this era globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make someone to understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information better to share. You can find a lot of references to get information example: internet, newspapers, book, and soon. You will see that now, a lot of publisher this print many kinds of book. The book that recommended for your requirements is Of Beetles and Angels: A Boy's Remarkable Journey from a Refugee Camp to Harvard this publication consist a lot of the information of the condition of this world now. That book was represented just how can the world has grown up. The dialect styles that writer value to explain it is easy to understand. The writer made some research when he makes this book. That's why this book ideal all of you.

Monique Hightower:

Is it an individual who having spare time in that case spend it whole day by means of watching television programs or just resting on the bed? Do you need something new? This Of Beetles and Angels: A Boy's Remarkable Journey from a Refugee Camp to Harvard can be the answer, oh how comes? It's a book you know. You are thus out of date, spending your time by reading in this brand-new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these books have than the others?

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