The Ants Written By: Isaac C.

Dennis was on his way to his Middle School when he saw a small, dark hut lying beside a UHAUL truck. Dennis was to tempted to check out it. Dennis cried out for help as a scientist strapped him down to a table. Dennis saw a glowing machine pointing in his direction and then he noticed...THE SCIENTIST WANTED TO SHRINK HIM! Dennis read a sign on the hut wall saying, *Dr. Antic. Strange*, Dennis thought. That was when it all happened. ZOOOOPP!! Dennis had been shrunk! Now the hut was like Mount Everest to him! Dr. Antic tried to snatch him, as Dennis ran around the table that he USED to be strapped to. Dennis spotted a nightstand next to the table and leaped on it. The jump from the nightstand to the floor was only about seven inches, so Dennis leaped off and ran out of the hut.

It was not too long before a nearby anthill interrupted Dennis's escape. Ants trotted over to Dennis and this was the weirdest part, Dennis could ACTUALLY understand what the ants were saying! One tall ant shouted,"HELP! HELP! THE MONSTER IS BACK FOR HIS REVENGE! YOU HAVE TO HELP US! PLEASE VOYAGER"! Dennis had so many thoughts and questions on his mind, he was too stressed to even ask what was going on.

Dennis ran along with the ants and while he was running, he discovered that there was an emergency tunnel that led to the anthill. He entered the long, narrow tunnel and then he saw for the first time; the end of the tunnel led to the center of the anthill and that was the most amazing sight Dennis had ever seen. Crystal like eggs glimmered as the hole let in sunlight, which made the eggs even more noticeable. The loud stomping continued but then a loud hiss sounded and all the ants closed their mouths. A huge, tall ant stood on a pebble and then said," This has been the third attack in a row, but fear not, Goliath just told me that Antic shrunk a Voyager again so no need to worry, hopefully this newly discovered Voyager may be the first one out of 34 that MAY save us". Dennis was guessing Goliath was the tall ant that asked him for help and finally figured out that the announcer was the Queen.

After the announcement, all of the ants turned to Dennis and bowed their

heads as they stepped away to make Dennis a clear pathway to the pebble stage. Dennis slowly walked liking the feeling of loyalty and respect as the Queen handed Dennis a needle as his sword and a checker as his shield. "Thank you Queen...Uhhhhhh....What is your name"? asked Dennis." Queen Anna". replied Queen Anna. Queen Anna also spotted Dennis's Middle School ID and said, "Dennis?" Dennis nodded. Queen Anna shouted, "Tonight we shall host a party for our newest Voyager, DENNIS!!" All of the ants cheered joyfully. After the announcments, Queen Anna called up Dennis and Goliath and told Goliath, "Goliath, I want you to train Dennis after the party tonight since we only have I moon to train him. Accepted?" Goliath nodded as he walked away, without saying a word to Dennis.

* * *

The party was awesome for Dennis but he did not see Goliath anywhere. After the party, he found Goliath sitting on a rock and Dennis asked,"What's wrong"? Goliath just shook his head and said emotionally, "I'm just worried that you might be another Voyager who might die again." "DIE?", Dennis replied. "The other Voyagers that risked their lives to save us died thanks to the Monster." Dennis read his small watch and alerted,"Goliath, its 1:39 AM! If I don't start training now, tomorrow morning when the Monster comes, I will be another lost voyager!" Goliath chnged his emotional face to a ready face and said, "Let's get started!"

* * *

The loud eruption of the Anteater errupted again as Dennis was ready to fight. The Anteater spotted the anthill and destroyed it. The tunnel still stood but the windows were blocked now from the anthill remains. Dennis didn't get distracted one bit, focusing on the tall Anteater. "HWAAAHHHH!!!" Dennis shouted while charging at the Anteater with his needle. The Anteater spotted him and opened his long, narrow mouth. Dennis saw sharp teeth and found the perfect aim; The tounge. Dennis ran up his gums and jumped in the air when PUP! The Anteater's mouth had closed and everything went completely dark. Dennis lost his checker in the darkness and the Anteater's long tounge swinged backwards. Dennis held on to the very tip as he was hanging above the asaphagus that waited for its swallow. Dennis cried, and cried, and cried until his face was completely wet from his salty tears. His

needle fell, and fell, until it completely disappeared. "WHY?!" Dennis shouted. But then the most amazing miracle happened. The Anteater's tounge returned back to its old position over the membrane. The Anteater fell to the side and hit the earth hard. Dennis figured out what happened, whenever his needle fell in the Anteater, it landed on the asaphagus which cut the asaphagus open which killed the Anteater. Dennis ran to the end of the mouth the everything went blurry. Dennis heard "WAKE UP!" Dennis just laughed as he woke up, it was all just a dream.