

blue planet



FINNEGAN GRANHOLM

Hi

Tau

I'm Emmanuel.

My Family and I live in Northern Nigeria  
in a small village - Kiarri Karamri.

Even in a ~~tiny~~ village, there is so much to do.

We have 14 chickens-

Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta, Epsilon, Zeta, Eta,  
Theta, Iota, Kappa, Lambda, Mu, Nu, and Tau.

My Parents

Abaeze and Igawa Jallo.

They are there for me  
when no one else is.

Abaeze is a cattle herder.

Igawa is a mom.

They hide the fact  
that we are rich.

We won the money  
in the lottery.

We have 20 million naira  
which is about

12 thousand US dollars.



# Change Everything

One day

I see something coming,

I run home and yell,

A massive haboob!

"We need to leave!"

I run to our Toyota with my stuffed animal Gabriel.

Childish, but I don't care.

Abaeze and Iyawa are in the front seat  
but

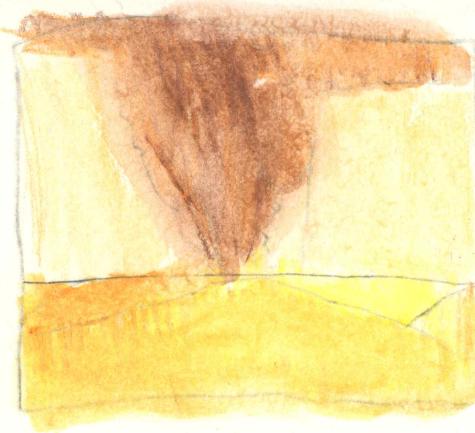
at a crucial time  
our Toyota dies.

I remember our chickens.

I carry my favorites,

Tau and Epsilon

to the car with  
chicken feed.



## Somehow

I cram all 14 chickens in the Toyota  
with food and supplies.

I carry large thermoses of water.

Iyawa, who loves math, estimates  
25 minutes until the storm arrives.

We hurry.

15 minutes later

the Toyota starts.

It is getting windy.

I begin coughing.

We need to get out of the village.

Iyawa says, "We aren't returning."

## Decision

Iyawa decides

we are going to drive to Geidem,  
and from there we can go to Kano  
where we can fly out of Nigeria.

From Geidem to Kano to Accra to Amsterdam to Boston.

The journey is long.



I only get to bring one chicken - Tau.

The rest are sold to a cook who needs them for a recipe.

I think of Epsilon, then rush to the bathroom.

### Jaxon King

Years ago, we met someone named Jaxon King.

He visited our village to see what living in Nigeria was like.

We became friends.

Now we are staying with him in Boston until we can find a house.

We are not rich in America.

### Applause

Everyone claps as I step down from the podium.

My speech about my experience with climate change at Harvard, where I work as a science professor, is finished.

I walk to my Tesla.

I bought it because it is electric and doesn't release greenhouse gasses.

I will always fight to protect our blue planet.

The End

