

SYNOPSIS:

High in the misty Ethiopian highlands, infant baboon prince Negasi cheats death as his father, King Negus, falls to a savage coup led by the cunning Hailu and merciless Mesfin. Fikru, his fiercely protective mother and the troop's highest-ranking female, shatters tradition, snatching Negasi away and vanishing into the wild rather than let him fall to Mesfin's deadly decree.

In the wild heart of the highlands, Fikru raises Negasi with unwavering devotion, teaching him every secret of survival. But when a leopard strikes, she gives her life to protect him, leaving Negasi wounded and alone. Salvation arrives in the form of American immunologist Jeff Mitchell and his twelve-year-old son ERIC, who rescue the battered prince and whisk him away to their vast estate in Elma, Washington.

For two years, Eric and Negasi, now called Jacob, build an unbreakable brotherhood. When bullies push Eric and his new friend Julian into MMA training with classmate Tiffany Chen and her father, Negasi learns every move, every strategy. Together, Eric, Julian, Tiffany, and Negasi become a seamless fighting team. But when the bullies escalate to a violent home invasion, Negasi unleashes his power to save Eric, drawing the eyes of the law and putting his life in jeopardy. With a heavy heart, Jeff decides Negasi must return to his homeland at once.

Their parting in Ethiopia is shattering. Eric leads Negasi to his mother's grave, embraces him for the last time, and turns away, leaving a piece of his heart behind.

Five years pass, and Negasi emerges as a formidable, silver-mantled warrior at just seven years old. He conquers the very leopard that took his mother, wins the trust of the mighty Gelada King Askumite by saving his infant son from an eagle's talons, and gathers a swelling army of Hamadryas exiles and rebels. With the MMA skills learned from Eric, Negasi forges these former foes into a single, disciplined force.

At dawn on the day of Mesfin's son's wedding, Negasi's army sweeps in with flawless precision, crushing the royal guard. Instead of claiming vengeance himself, Negasi lets a Gelada ally finish the treacherous Hailu in single combat. Then, drawing on his mother's courage, his father's legacy, and the lessons of his human family, Negasi faces Mesfin and forces the tyrant to yield.

Thousands of baboons lower themselves in awe before their rightful king. Silence reigns. Then, one after another, they begin to grunt—the ancient call of loyalty, of recognition, of a kingdom reborn.

Negate stands at the edge of the cliff where his father once gazed over their realm, lifting his head to the sky.

He unleashes a thunderous HRAAAH that echoes across the land. The savanna answers. The king has returned.

