

# **My Secret Friend**

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(1182 words)

## **Chapter 1: I had found 'it'**

This was it. This was the thing I was trying to find after a long time of research. I thought I would tell about it to my friends in school. But then I thought twice. I'd rather not.

'It' was an ant growing bigger and bigger by the moment. I quickly took it to my science lab on the terrace. Imagining I was a great scientist, I observed the ant grow till it was exactly my size. And not just that. It was no longer an ant. It was a human kid! Then the ant...kid ant...spoke to me with a smile, "Good evening, Kris. You're the only person who has noticed me."

"I have so many questions to ask you!" I said, confused. "Like, where do you come from? Are you real? What are your parents' names?" The third question was a bit odd but then I was really super stunned.

"Stop asking me questions, Kris, and let's go to Antland!" As soon as he said that, he sprayed some powder on me and I turned into an ANT!!! Then we disappeared.

## **Chapter 2: Antland**

Five seconds later, we appeared again. But not on Earth. This was Antland. Here there were many ants. Thousands of them. Some were so small that you could not even see them, and some were ginormous. There were no buildings. The ants lived in anthills. But the anthills seemed like posh, fully-furnished houses.

The ant, or kid ant, had grabbed my hand and run out of Earth's boundary line to come to this place. It was super easy to come to Antland. All you had to do was run at jet speed out of Earth's boundary line. Don't you know about boundary lines? It's okay, I will tell you some other time.

"Hello! I am Robinhood," said the ant (or kid ant). I had just noticed that this Robinhood was looking very different in Antland. He was wearing stylish clothes and had a fancy haircut that I was not allowed in my school.

“In Antland, all the ants are stylish but not so on Earth. There we have to look normal. I am your secret friend from today. I know you have normal ordinary human being friends in your school but never tell them about me,” he said. “You can tell other ants.”

I smiled. This was an exciting secret.

“Now for the other two questions that you had asked me on Earth.”

“Questions? I didn’t ask you any questions,” I said.

“Oh, we have an excellent memory! Now please don’t interrupt me. This is my mother, Superior, and this is my father, Anaconda. We are pure ants,” said Robinhood.

“Good morning, Kris,” said Superior. “Another human ant or didn’t he realise that he was a pure ant?” She seemed to be asking Robinhood about me!

“He is a human ant, mother. It was my chance to go to Earth this time, and I got the notice at the last moment. So I went without leaving a note for you,” said Robinhood.

“What are you all speaking about? I can’t understand a thing!” I said, totally confused.

### **Chapter 3: A friend in need is a friend indeed**

Robinhood looked at me and said, “I will tell you the story of what happened. Once upon a time when I was a little boy, my uncle, a great scientist, discovered a way to transform humans into ants and then get them back to human shape. There were two options. You could get sprayed by the Temporary Transformation Powder and become a human ant, or you could become a permanent ant by using the Permanent Transformation Powder. That way you would get only three chances of one hour each to go to Earth. Our family was forced by my uncle to buy his more expensive product – the Permanent Transformation Powder. That’s how we became pure ants,” explained Robinhood.

This sounded so strange. “Is your uncle still alive?” I asked him.

“Yes. Ants that have been sprayed with his powder never die,” said Robinhood.

“But why did you choose me to come here and what am I supposed to do?” I asked.

“No more asking and replying to questions please!” said Superior. “We have to fight him,” she declared.

“How can I help?” I asked again. “You got me here for something, right?”

“Robinhood has been watching you,” said Anaconda. “He says you have a science lab on your terrace where you have made a special liquid.”

Yes, I had made a special liquid. I had added talcum powder, liquid soap and tea powder in water and boiled it. Then I had stirred it with a special wand keychain. I had then filled it and kept it in a bottle.

“How can that help?” I asked.

“That is the special liquid we need to destroy the material my uncle uses to make his special powder. My uncle has his shop on Earth. Will you please help me and my family, Kris?” asked Robinhood.

“Of course, I will!” I said. I felt like a superhero. “I want to go back to Earth and turn you and your parents into humans again!”

“It is impossible,” said Anaconda.

“It is possible. We can go back to Earth and destroy the material to make the powder. So this uncle will not be able to make new powder. Then we will also destroy the powder in stock. And you will always remain my secret friend!”

“That is possible!” Robinhood’s parents said.

We immediately got to work. Together we ran out of Antland’s boundary line and reached Earth. We quickly changed to regular human beings when no one was watching and got my bottle of liquid from the science lab on the terrace. Then we rushed to Robinhood’s uncle’s shop. Strangely it was called ‘Ant The Humans’. We went into the store room and thankfully the uncle was not present. We sprinkled the liquid over his material and destroyed it completely. Soon enough we destroyed the powder in stock too. That was the end of it.

As soon as the powder and the material were destroyed, all the ants in Antland were free. There was an exodus of ants from Antland to Earth. They changed back to human beings. Obviously everyone noticed. The next day, every newspaper was filled with this news.

#### **Chapter 4: Secret friend**

Finally there was peace. But I had one last question to ask Robinhood. “Why, of all the children, did you choose me, Robinhood, as your secret friend?”

“You are a scientist, Kris. You had the special liquid. But the most important thing was, I knew that you would help a friend. You are a nice and helpful boy. C’mon now! Let’s play Snakes & Ladders. As an ant, I would never be allowed to play that.”

“Why?” I asked.

“Because the snakes really popped out of the board! Don’t you know about board games coming alive?” asked Robinhood.

“Board games coming alive? You’re just joking!” I said.

Robinhood laughed. “Kris, you have lots to learn!”