

From The Bugs By Don Zolidis

IRIS, a messenger goddess

IRIS has been sent down to the mortal plane to speak to a group of insects who are plotting to take down a human.

IRIS

Shut up. I'm Iris. I am the messenger of the Gods.

She raises her arms into the air and hums angelically.

Or whatever.

Yeah you can all kneel now or whatever. On your various knees. If you have knees. I don't even know. Do it. Okay? Do it.

The bugs reluctantly get to their various knees.

Ugh. All right look. The gods have heard about your like little plans and they have sent me to warn y'all. You are *bugs*. You don't make decisions. You don't get a say. You don't get to like *team up* and accomplish things. All right? Know. Your. Role. Got it? Ugh. Make the honey. Pollinate the flowers. Fertilize the fields. Shut your little mouths.

Like, I have better things to do than sit here and spell everything out for you, okay? Personally, I feel like it's an insult to come down and have to communicate with insects. Ew. But *nobody* else wants to come to talk to y'all because it's beneath their dignity as immortal beings or whatever, so they send me. Fine. This is how the world works. You don't get a say. Do I get a say that I have little butterfly wings and come in on a rainbow? No. Even though rainbows are super cliched and that's not even what I'm into anymore. Do I get a say that basically nobody worships me, and the people who do worship me are total creepers? No. Do you know what it's like to have a whole bunch of randos who live in their basements making little altars to you and sending you like DM prayers all time like "you're so beautiful I worship you Iris Iris"

Iris makes a gagging sound.

Gross. Like, get a life creeper. Find a different goddess to worship with lower standards. And they're all like, 'let me sacrifice a goat for you' and I'm like, *goat*, you want to sacrifice a *goat* for me? What am I gonna do with a goat?

I didn't make the world. You didn't make the world. Suck it up. Deal with it. Go back to work. Ugh. I'm outta here.