

WANADI, THE CREATOR

In the beginning, there was only Sky, the first place, and light, the first shining body. Clouds did not exist. Winds did not exist. And darkness did not exist. There was only light. And so, it was always day.

The first sun set creation in motion. He possessed some *wiriki*, the small quartz crystals that are the power stones of the shaman. And so, he blew on these *wiriki*. And Wanadi, the Creator, came into being. Wanadi lives in Sky. From there he sends forth his light like a sun that never sets. We who live on Earth cannot see him, and we cannot know him. But Wanadi is good, and he is the master of good.

Wanadi, the Creator, then blew on some *wiriki*. And the Sky People came into being. They built many houses and villages, all filled with Wanadi's light. Sky was a good place to live, for there were no demons. And so, there was neither sickness nor death, neither evil nor war. There was only life. No animals existed, but there was always plenty of food. And so, no one needed to work. The Sky People were wise and good, and they were always happy.

With Wanadi's light, the Sky People could see everything on Earth. But in the beginning, Earth was part of Sky. Sky and Earth were not separated, and Sky had no door. Earth, too, had only light, for Earth and Sky were one, And so, daylight was everywhere.

Wanadi I

In the beginning, no one lived on Earth. And so, it came to pass that Sky Wanadi, the Creator, said, "I want Earth to have good people and houses like the good people and houses in Sky." And so, Sky Wanadi blew on some *wiriki*. And Wanadi I, "Wanadi the Wise," came into being. And Sky Wanadi sent forth his first copy of himself, his first spirit double, down to Earth to be Master of Earth.

And so it came to pass that Wanadi the Wise came down to Earth. As soon as he was born, he cut his navel-cord and buried it. He did not know that Earth's worms would crawl into his navel-cord and begin to eat it.

But the worms did eat it. And so, the navel-cord rotted. As it rotted, it gave birth to Odosha. Odosha was ugly, for he was hair-covered, like an animal. Odosha was evil, for he became the master of all evil on Earth. But he lived with his own people, who were also demons, in dark caves in another land.

But Wanadi the Wise had not left Sky empty-handed. He had taken his tobacco. He had taken his gourd rattle, the maraca, so he could perform his magic. And he had taken some *wiriki* crystals to put into his maraca. And so it came to pass that Wanadi sat down to think. He sat silent and still, with his head in his hands and his elbows on his knees. And he thought. And he dreamed. And while he thought and dreamed, he smoked his tobacco. And he sang to the accompaniment of his maraca.

And so it came to pass that the first Earth People came into being. They came forth as Wanadi the Wise quietly blew out the tobacco smoke and dreamed of them. He created them as he dreamed them. And Wanadi the Wise gave these people the gifts of strength and knowledge, for he was the first and greatest of the shamans.

Now Odosha's hard heart flooded with waves of jealousy, resentment, and hatred whenever he thought about Wanadi the Wise. For Odosha knew that Wanadi was Master of Earth, and Odosha wanted to be Earth's master. And so, he spent day after day and night after night on Earth trying to become Master of Earth.

Odosha was clever. He whispered wicked thoughts into the ears of the first Earth People, and he misled them. A man was fishing, and he had caught lots of fish. And so, Odosha whispered to the Earth People, "If you kill that fisherman, you will have lots of fish." The Earth People listened to Odosha's wicked whisperings, and they killed the fisherman. And so, Odosha's hard heart flooded with joy at his success. But Wanadi turned the first Earth People into animals to punish them.

And yet, Odosha's power over the first Earth People was so great that Wanadi the Wise decided that he could not be Master of Earth. And so, he left the first Earth People, in their animal forms, with Odosha, and he went back to Sky to live.

Since the birth of Odosha, we never bury the navel-cord of our infants, for we do not want another Odosha to come forth and kill one of our infants.

Wanadi II

After Wanadi the Wise returned to Sky, it came to pass that Sky Wanadi, the Creator, thought, "The only people who live on earth are animals, and they are not good. I want good people to live on Earth." And with these words, Sky Wanadi blew on some *wiriki*. And Wanadi II came into being. Sky Wanadi sent forth a second copy of himself, his second spirit double, down to Earth. And so it came to pass that Wanadi II took the place of Wanadi the Wise on Earth.

When Wanadi II arrived, he thought, "New Earth People will be born again soon. But unless I do something about it, Odosha will cause them to become sick, and they will die. And so, I must show Odosha that I have the power to make Earth People live again, for Death is not real. It is only one of Odosha's tricks. And so, I must find a way to reveal my power to Odosha."

So it came to pass that Wanadi II sat down to think. He sat silent and still, with his head in his hands and his elbows on his knees. And he thought. And he dreamed. And while he thought and dreamed, he smoked his tobacco. And he sang to the accompaniment of his maraca. And he dreamed that his mother was born.

And so it came to pass that his mother came forth as Wanadi II quietly blew out the tobacco smoke and dreamed of her. And he created her as he dreamed her, in the form of a large, fully-grown woman.

As soon as his mother stood up, Wanadi thought, "Now I must make you die." So he sat silent and still, with his head in his hands and his elbows on his knees. And he thought. And he dreamed. And while he thought and dreamed, he smoked his tobacco. And he sang to the accompaniment of his maraca. And he dreamed that his mother died. And so it came to pass that Wanadi killed his mother as he quietly blew out the tobacco smoke and dreamed of her death. And he killed her as he dreamed of killing her.

Then Wanadi II repeated this process. When he thought and dreamed of his mother's life, she was born again. And when he thought and dreamed of her death, she died.

And so it came to pass that Wanadi II's mother became the symbol of his wisdom and his power. He had proved that Death was not real. It was just a trick.

The Huehanna

Now Wanadi II had brought the *Huehanna* with him from Sky. The *Huehanna* was a very large, hollow egg, and it had a thick, heavy shell that was as hard as a rock. Wanadi had brought it in order to create new Earth People, for the *Huehanna* contained many unborn people. Whoever stood beside it could hear their words, their songs, and their laughter, for all the unborn people were happily singing and dancing inside the *Huehanna*.

Now Wanadi II wanted the *Huehanna* to break open so that his people could emerge and settle Earth. "But I cannot open it now," he thought. "For my Earth People are good, and as long as Odosha wanders on Earth, he will kill my people. As soon as they come forth, he will cause them to become sick. And then they will die, for Odosha does not want good people. But if Odosha kills my Earth People, I will restore them to life, for I have the power and the wisdom to do it."

So Wanadi II thought. And so it came to pass that he killed his mother again. Then he thought, "My mother is dead now, but I will soon restore her to life. And when my Earth People come forth from the *Huehanna* and Odosha kills them, I will restore them to life, just as I have restored my mother."

So Wanadi II thought. And with these words, he called the orange-winged parrot to him. And Wanadi said, "Help me bury my mother here in the ground. Soon I will restore her to life, for she is the symbol of my power. And Odosha must learn of my power, for I am Master of Earth and Master of Life. And so, my people cannot die.

"Now I am going hunting, but I will be back soon. Guard my mother's grave while I am gone, for my mother will return to life here. When she comes forth from her grave and once again she is alive, then the *Huehanna* will break apart. For her return to life will tell my Earth People that it is time for them to come forth to settle Earth.

"Now when you see my mother's body begin to move, you must call me right away. You must screech, shriek, and scream so that I will hear you. And then I will come. But until I return, do not let Odosha near my mother's grave."

So Wanadi II spoke to the orange-winged parrot who served him. And with these words, he then called to his nephew, "Iarakaru, watch over the *Huehanna* while I am away!"

And so it came to pass that Wanadi II left to go hunting. But he forgot to put his *chakara*, his medicine bag, across his shoulder. And so, he left it behind. It contained his magic herbs and plants, his tobacco, and his power stones, the *wiriki*, and it contained the darkness of night. Whenever Wanadi became tired, he would just open his *chakara*, stick his head inside, and go to sleep. As soon as he woke up, he would close the *chakara*. And so, the darkness of night was always confined inside it.

Wanadi II went hunting. It came to pass that Odosha learned that his great enemy had left his mother's grave and the *Huehanna* guarded by others. And Odosha thought, "Wanadi II thinks everything belongs to him. And so, he thinks Earth belongs to him. He thinks the *Huehanna* will break open. And then his own Earth People will come forth to settle Earth.

"Wanadi II is too sure of his power! He thinks he will determine all that will come to be. He thinks he will make that woman in the ground live again. He thinks light will always keep Earth bright. How wrong he is! He even left two guards by the *Huehanna* to warn him when that woman begins to move.

"Wanadi II has power. But Earth is mine, not his. And I, too, have power. I have power over Wanadi's nephew. And I have power over the dead. So that woman will not come forth alive from the ground. She will not return to life. And then, the *Huehanna* will not break apart. And Wanadi's unborn Earth People will not come forth to settle Earth."

So Odosha thought. And so it came to pass that he went forth to find the *Huehanna*, for he knew that there he would find Wanadi's nephew. And when Odosha found Iarakaru, he hid from him. But he whispered to Iarakaru as if Iarakaru were hearing his words in a dream. "Open Wanadi's *chakara*! And then, Iarakaru, you will learn his secret!" he whispered.

So Odosha spoke. And Iarakaru thought he heard Odosha's words in his dream. Wanadi's nephew remembered that Wanadi II had said, "Iarakaru, never play with my *chakara*, for it contains my power. And if you open it, the darkness of night will escape and cover Earth."

So Wanadi II had commanded. But Iarakaru was very curious. "What is really hiding inside Wanadi's *chakara*?" he asked himself. "If it really is darkness, I want to see it. I want to smoke Wanadi's tobacco. And I want to have Wanadi's power."

So Iarakaru thought. And so it came to pass that he opened the *chakara*. And swift as a dart sent forth from a hunter's blowgun, darkness flew out and covered Earth. Night now hid Sky from Earth. And so, Earth no longer had light.

Odosha's heart now flooded with joy. "The night is mine!" he exclaimed. "And now, Earth is mine, as well. For Wanadi's people cannot live in darkness, and so they cannot live on Earth. But to my people, night is day. And so, they can now come forth and settle Earth, for I am Master of Earth."

And so it came to pass that, hidden within the darkness, Odosha created a hairy dwarf. And he said to the dwarf, "Darkness covers Earth, but night is day to you. So watch over this grave, and tell me when the woman begins to come forth."

And so, the dwarf watched the woman's grave. And at last he said to Odosha, "She is coming forth."

So the dwarf spoke. And when Odosha heard the dwarf's words, swift as a dart sent forth from a hunter's blowgun, Odosha urinated into a gourd, for he knew that his urine would destroy the woman in the grave. Then he gave the gourd to a small lizard. And he commanded, "Take this gourd to the woman's grave, and throw my urine on her body."

The orange-winged parrot was still watching the grave, as well. Suddenly—even in the darkness—the parrot saw the ground began to move. First, a hand came forth from the grave. And then an arm came forth. Swift as a rapids overturns a canoe, the parrot began to screech, shriek, and scream for Wanadi II. Wanadi II was far-off, but he heard the parrot. And he came running, for he wanted to see what his new mother looked like. And he wanted to see if the *Huehanna* had broken apart.

Now the ground above the grave opened, and the woman, Wanadi's mother, began to come forth. But swift as a dart sent forth from a hunter's blowgun, the little lizard threw Odosha's urine on her body. So it came to pass that Odosha's urine covered the woman, and its flaming poison scorched her body, roasted her flesh, and ate into her bones. "I have done: what Odosha commanded!" exclaimed the little lizard, and it returned to Odosha.

And the lizard accompanied Odosha as he went forth to break open the *Huehanna*. "I will smash the *Huehanna* to pieces!" exclaimed Odosha. "And then I will kill all the unborn Earth People who are waiting to come forth to settle Earth."

So Odosha spoke. But when he and his lizard began to beat the *Huehanna* with their clubs, they could not crack its thick shell, for it was as hard as a rock. And so, they were forced to leave the *Huehanna* just as it was.

Meanwhile, the darkness that Iaraku had freed now blinded him. He could not see Sky. He could not see Earth. He could see nothing at all. And so, his heart flooded with terror. And swift as a dart sent forth from a hunter's blowgun, he started running in the dark. He did not know where he was running, but he ran.

Meanwhile, the parrot kept screaming, shrieking, and screaming for Wanadi II. And Wanadi II was running toward the *Huehanna* and his mother's grave. But as he ran darkness suddenly covered Earth. "Iaraku disobeyed me. He must have opened the *chakara*!" he exclaimed. But he continued to run through the night that covered him.

At last, Wanadi II arrived at his mother's grave. And through the darkness, he saw that all that remained of her corpse was ashes and scorched bones. His parrot was silent. And his *chakara* was open.

"What can I do now?" Wanadi II asked himself. "My mother's corpse has no flesh. Her bones are useless, and so she cannot return to life. Earth is dark, and my Earth People cannot live in darkness. They would only die here. And so, Odosha has had his way. Earth is no longer mine. It now belongs to him. But what has happened to the *Huehanna*?"

And so it came to pass that Wanadi II now went forth to find the *Huehanna*. And when he arrived, he saw that his nephew had fled, but the stonelike egg was still where he had left it. And so, Wanadi II picked it up. He heard the voices inside, and his heart

flooded with joy, for his unborn Earth People were still inside the *Huehanna*. But now their hearts were flooded with fear, and so they were shrieking and screaming. But the *Huehanna* was still unopened.

"My Earth People are still unborn. And so, they have not died. But they will have to wait now, for this is no time for them to come forth to settle Earth," thought Wanadi II. "But it is still the beginning, and my people can come forth in time still to come. Until then, I must protect them from Odosha. And so, I will hide them."

So Wanadi II spoke. And so he took the *Huehanna* to the mountain called Mount Waruma. And there, he hid the *Huehanna* with all the unborn Earth People inside it.

As for Iarakaru, he had fled from the *chakara* like a white monkey, not like a man. And now Wanadi II punished his nephew for opening his *chakara* and letting the darkness escape. For Wanadi II turned Iarakaru into a white monkey. And so it came to pass that Iarakaru became the grandfather of the white monkey, and he gave all white monkeys his form, his speech, and his name.

Odosha's power on Earth was so great that Wanadi II decided that he could not be Master of Earth. And so, Wanadi II left Earth to Odosha. Like Wanadi the Wise, Wanadi II left the first Earth People, in their animal forms, with Odosha, and he went back to Sky to live. He put his mother's skull and bones into a palm basket and took them with him. And he threw her bones into Lake Akuena, the lake of life-everlasting, in the center of Sky, for its deep blue waters have the power to restore the dead to life. And so it came to pass that Wanadi's mother again returned to life. But she lives in Sky with Wanadi.

Wanadi III

After Wanadi II returned to Sky, it came to pass that Sky Wanadi, the Creator, thought, "The only people who live on Earth are still animals, and they still are not good. And so, I still want good people to live on Earth." And with these words, he blew on some *wiriki*. And Wanadi III, "House Wanadi," came forth. And Sky Wanadi sent forth his third copy of himself, his third spirit double, down to Earth. And so it came to pass that House Wanadi took the place of Wanadi II on Earth.

When House Wanadi arrived, Earth was still covered with darkness. Because of Odosha, light from Sky did not come down any more. And because of Odosha, all Earth People now suffered from hunger, sickness, and war, and they all were condemned to die.

Wanadi the Wise had transformed the old people into animals. And, like animals, they still lived in hiding, for their hearts were flooded with fear. They could not see, so they could not move about in the darkness. And so, they had no water, and they had no food. Hungry and wretched, they lived with Odosha. And Odosha made them sick and killed them.

Now Sky Wanadi, the Creator, sent House Wanadi down to Earth to make his people, for they would be good people. And so House Wanadi said, "I will make a sun, a moon, and stars for Earth. They will belong to Earth, and they will shine in the darkness. And so, once again, Earth will have light."

So House Wanadi spoke. And with these words, he made the sun to shine during the day, and he made the moon and the stars to shine at night. They were like people. And they lit up a new Sky for Earth People to see.

Now Wanadi the Wise had given the old Earth People the bodies of animals, but they could take human form when they wanted. And now, the hearts of the old ones flooded with joy. And one by one, they left their caves and looked at the new sun, for it was a new day. And they knew that, once again, Wanadi was with them.

And the old Earth People gathered around House Wanadi and complained, "You must do something about Odosha. Because of him, we are hungry. We are wretched. We are sick. And we die. Because of Odosha, we have no water. And we have no cassava bread to eat, for we have no yucca plants. Because of Odosha, we have no clothes, no hammocks, and no houses. We have no bows and no arrows. Because of Odosha, our hearts are always flooded with fear. And so, we are like animals."

So the old Earth People spoke to House Wanadi. And then it came to pass that House Wanadi saw Iarakaru, the monkey. Even he was now as thin as a rope. And Wanadi said to his nephew, "Iarakaru, you have caused all this suffering, for you opened my *chakara*. And so, as punishment, you, your children, your grandchildren, and all the

children who come after them will always be thin, for you opened the *chakara* and caused all this suffering on Earth."

And then House Wanadi thought, "I will now make Earth as it was in the beginning. And so, it will be good again."

So House Wanadi spoke. And with these words, he returned to Sky in order to look for food. And he searched until he found the house of Yucca Mistress, the good food-keeper who lived there. And when he asked Yucca Mistress for food, she sent her spirit messenger down to Earth with armfuls of cassava for the old ones. And so the Earth People could eat again.

But Odosha came upon the old ones. And when he saw that, once again, the Earth People were eating, his hard heart flooded with fury. "Wanadi has returned!" he exclaimed. "Once again, he intends to be Master of Earth. But, once again, I will spoil his plans."

And so it came to pass that Odosha dressed up like House Wanadi. He walked among the old Earth People, and he whispered wicked thoughts into their ears. The people listened to him, and they behaved in evil ways. They did not work together, for every person thought only of himself. They refused to have any chiefs, so there was no order, and there was no justice.

Now when it came to pass that House Wanadi saw how the old ones were behaving, he punished them once again. He made them sick. Yucca Mistress sent them no more food, and many of these Earth People died.

Then House Wanadi thought, "The old Earth People are not good people, for they only listen to Odosha's wicked whisperings. They do not want to be my people. And so, I must make new people, and my new people will not be like animals. They will be real people.

And so House Wanadi took the form of the red-headed woodpecker. And by pecking on the wood, he built a house on Mount Wana. It was the first house. He made it for himself, to be his home on Earth. But he also made it to be a sign for the people, for House Wanadi wanted to show Earth People how to make their houses like those of the Sky People and not like the houses of animals. And Wanadi made so many houses for the people that he made villages on Earth.

And it came to pass that Odosha came and saw House Wanadi's house on Mount Wana, and he like it. And so, Odosha built a house just like Wanadi's house, and he built it right in front of Wanadi's house.

Odosha's house caused House Wanadi's heart to flood with waves of fury and fear. "Once again, Odosha is trying to spoil everything! And so, I must work fast!" he exclaimed.

And so it came to pass that House Wanadi sat down to think by his house on Mount Wana. He sat silent and still, with his head in his hands and his elbows on his knees. And he thought. And he dreamed. And while he thought and dreamed, he smoked his tobacco. And he sang to the accompaniment of his maraca.

And so it came to pass that the second group of Wanadi's Earth People, the first human beings, came into being. And they came forth as House Wanadi quietly blew out the tobacco smoke and dreamed of them. And he created them as he dreamed them. And so, next to him on Mount Wana, Wanadi set down twelve men, and he gave these twelve men the gifts of strength and knowledge. But now he also gave his people wisdom.

House Wanadi remained seated after he had created his twelve men. And once again, he sat silent and still, with his head in his hands and his elbows on his knees. And he thought and he dreamed. And while he thought and dreamed, he smoked his tobacco. And he sang to the accompaniment of his maraca. "I am dreaming that my new Earth People have plenty of food," he said.

And then House Wanadi looked up, but no food came. And he saw that Odosha was sitting right in front of him. And Odosha was dreaming too, for he did not want House Wanadi to bring forth food. And so Odosha was dreaming evil dreams.

"I am dreaming that my new Earth People have cassava," said House Wanadi, dreaming.

"But I began to dream my dream first," replied Odosha. "And I am dreaming that all Earth People are hungry."

"I am dreaming that I killed five deer for my new Earth People," Wanadi said, dreaming.

"But I began to dream my dream first," replied Odosha. "And I am dreaming that there is nothing for Earth People to eat. And so, many of them are dying."

"I am dreaming my yucca plant is everywhere, and that there are nine kinds of bitter yucca and a sweet yucca, as well. I am dreaming that my plant is large and bushy and that I am cutting it down. I am dreaming that it makes a great harvest, for my new Earth People will use it to make all their food. And its bitter roots will give them cassava and manioc," said Wanadi, dreaming.

"But I began to dream my dream first," replied Odosha. "And I am dreaming that there are many sick people. And that they are all going to die."

So Wanadi and Odosha spoke. And at last Wanadi's heart flooded with rage. He looked down at his twelve men, and he said, "Because of Odosha's evil dreams, I cannot do anything for you here. And so we will leave my house on Mount Wana, and we will move somewhere else. We will find some place where Odosha cannot bother us."

So House Wanadi spoke to his twelve men. And so it came to pass that, together, they left Wanadi's house on Mount Wana. And they went forth to Wade's cave, at the foot of the tallest mountain, for Wade was House Wanadi's friend and his teacher, and he was good. He was one of the great ancestors, and he was one of the greatest shamans.

"We are running away from Odosha," announced House Wanadi. "And so we have come to live with you."

"You may stay with me," replied Wade.

And so it came to pass that House Wanadi and his twelve men lived with Wade in his cave. Wade was the grandfather of all the sloths, and he would take his sloth form whenever he wanted.

House Wanadi built Wade a house, and there he left his twelve people. And there Wanadi's people, the first human beings, fashioned their first garden. They cut down the forest and burned what remained. The men cleared the land, and they planted and cared for their crops. And so it came to pass that they had yucca, mostly bitter but also sweet. And they also planted some bananas, chili peppers, gourd, squash, sugar cane, and tobacco.

And one day it came to pass that House Wanadi said to Wade and his twelve men, "I am leaving you now in order to go hunting, but I will not be gone long."

And with these words House Wanadi took his poisoned darts and his blowgun, which he had fashioned from a long, straight bamboo stalk, and he went forth to hunt birds. And as he was walking through the forest, he saw a jaguar. Swift as a rapids overturns a canoe, Wanadi ran ahead of the jaguar. But the jaguar saw Wanadi, and it ran after him, for it wanted to eat him. But suddenly, Wanadi turned upon the jaguar. He quickly placed a dart inside his blowgun, and he shot the jaguar.

And it came to pass that the jaguar did not die, For it was a spirit jaguar. And so Wanadi could not kill it. But the jaguar fled.

So it came to pass that Wanadi continued on his way. And as he walked, he dreamed that he was killing birds. And every time he dreamed that he killed a bird, he really killed one. And so he brought many birds back to Wade's house for his twelve men to eat. And the hearts of Wanadi's people flooded with joy as they ate these birds.

Now, while they were eating, Wanadi said to Wade, "While I was walking in the forest, a jaguar jumped out. It wanted to eat me, but I shot it with my blowgun. My dart should have killed it, but it could not, for it was a spirit jaguar. And then the jaguar fled."

So House Wanadi spoke. And to his words, Wade replied, "Are you sure that the jaguar was not Odosha in disguise? He is a trickster, you know. And so, the next time you leave us, you had better take some form of disguise, as well. Then you will be safe."

So Wade spoke. And so it came to pass that, when Wanadi went forth into the forest again, he went in the disguise of a dirty old hunter. And this time, House Wanadi came face to face with the real Odosha.

Odosha stared at the hunter, but he did not know that this hunter was really Wanadi. And so, he asked him, "Have you seen House Wanadi?"

"Who is House Wanadi?" replied the hunter.

"He used to live on Mount Wana," said Odosha. "But he suddenly left, and I am trying to find him."

"I do not know House Wanadi," replied the hunter.

And so it came to pass that House Wanadi tricked Odosha. Wanadi then began to walk home. And as he walked, he dreamed that he was killing birds. And every time

he dreamed that he killed a bird, he really killed one. And so he brought many birds back to Wade's house for his twelve men to eat. And the hearts of Wanadi's people flooded with joy as they ate these birds.

Now, while they were eating, Wanadi said to Wade, "While I was walking in the forest, I met Odosha. He asked me about House Wanadi, for he did not know me in my hunter's disguise. I told him that I had never heard of House Wanadi. And so, he left. He is still looking for me, but he is far away now."

So Wanadi spoke. And to his words, Wade replied, "That is very good. But now you know that you cannot go into the forest as House Wanadi."

And so it came to pass that House Wanadi disguised himself as a dirty old hunter once again. And in this form, he walked all over Earth. And at times, he would sit silent and still, with his head in his hands and his elbows on his knees. And he would think. And he would dream. And while he thought and dreamed, he would smoke his tobacco. And he would sing to the accompaniment of his maraca. And now, he dreamed of new houses and new people.

And it came to pass that new houses and new people came into being. And they came forth as House Wanadi quietly blew out the tobacco smoke and dreamed of them. And he created them as he dreamed them.

As for Odosha, he went away. He was still looking for House Wanadi. And for a long time, he did not return, for Odosha still did not know who the dirty old hunter was.

One day it came to pass that Odosha came looking for House Wanadi at Wade's house. "Have you seen House Wanadi?" he asked.

"Who is House Wanadi?" replied Wanadi's men. "We have never heard of him."

So Wanadi's men spoke. And so it came to pass that Odosha left Wade's house and continued his search, but he did not know where to look. And so he never found House Wanadi.

Now, while House Wanadi was walking all over Earth, he thought, 'The old Earth People know only how to live like monkeys, for they only gather wild fruits. And so, the Food Master must teach my people what they need to know in order to survive and prosper.'

So House Wanadi thought. And with these words, he returned to Sky in order to find Food Master. And when he asked Food Master to teach his Earth People how to raise food, Food Master sent his spirit messenger down to Earth. And his spirit messenger appeared to the people in the form of the chief of the birds. He brought Earth the first rain. And the rain made the soil soft and fertile. And so, tree-filled forests came forth from the soil and smaller plants bloomed. Then Food Master's spirit messenger showed Wanadi's people how to live like brothers. He showed them how to cut down trees, and he showed them how to plant seeds.

And so it came to pass that the chief of the birds taught all of House Wanadi's people what they needed to know in order to survive and prosper. When it had completed this task, it spread its wings and soared back to Sky and Food Master, but it left its bird-form and color behind on Earth for the birds that would follow.

And in time it came to pass that the old Earth People died. Wade left Earth, but he left his form, his speech, and his name on Earth for the sloths that came after him. And he went up to Sky to live as one of the Sky People. And the spirits of all the other animals and the birds returned to their masters, the Sky People, as well.

And so, House Wanadi thought, "The time is coming when I, too, will leave Earth and return to Sky. And I will move the twelve men whom I created—those men who, from the beginning, have lived with Wade—to my new house on Mount Kushamakari. But then there will be no one to care for Wade's garden. The plants will become wild, and the land will become what it used to be.

"And so, before I leave Earth, I must make two human beings, a man and his mate. I must build them a house. And I must give them the gifts of strength, knowledge, and enough wisdom to survive and prosper, for they will remain on Earth and take care of the food that grows here.

And so, once again, House Wanadi sat silent and still, with his head in his hands and his elbows on his knees. And he thought. And he dreamed. And while he thought and dreamed, he smoked his tobacco. And he sang to the accompaniment of his maraca. And now he dreamed of the first grandfather and grandmother of our people. He dreamed of finding clay. He dreamed of beating the clay. And he dreamed of shaping

it into two figures that looked like clay dolls. Then he dreamed of drying them in a fire in order to make them hard. And he dreamed of their house.

And so it came to pass that first grandfather and first grandmother, the grandfather and grandmother of our people, the Yekuhana, came into being. And they came forth as House Wanadi quietly blew out the tobacco smoke and dreamed of them. And he created them as he dreamed them. And they took the gifts that Wanadi gave them, and they went to live in their house. First grandfather cleared away the trees and bushes so that first grandmother could plant the seeds, and they took care of Wade's garden. They taught their children how to make their own gardens and how to take care of them.

And it came to pass that the time came when House Wanadi would leave Earth and return to Sky. So he called our grandfathers together in order to say farewell. For three days, he feasted and drank, and he danced and sang with them. Then he announced, "I am going back to Sky, for Odosha has made himself Master of Earth. And so, there is sickness, every kind of evil, and death.

"But the time will come when Odosha will die. Then evil will disappear, and Earth as you know it will come to an end. The sun, the moon, and the stars will fall out of the sky, and darkness will disappear. For the sky that you see is not the real sky, and so it is not good.

"A new Earth, a good Earth, will take the place of Odosha's Earth. And Earth and Sky will be what they were in the beginning. Earth will be part of Sky, and it will be good, for Sky is good. And all Earth People will see the light that always shines forth from Sky Wanadi, the Creator.

"And it will come to pass that Wanadi, the Creator, once again will blow on some *wiriki*. And Wanadi IV, "Wanadi of the New Earth," will come into being. Sky Wanadi will send forth a fourth copy of himself. his fourth spirit double, down to Earth. And so Wanadi of the New Earth will take my place on Earth and be Master of Earth.

"And Wanadi of the New Earth will go forth to find the *Huehanna* inside Mount Waruma. For within its stonelike shell, unborn people are waiting for Wanadi's spirit to release them so that they can settle Earth.

"But before that time comes, each of you will die. But your death will not be real, for Wanadi, the Creator's, spirit messengers will be tricking Odosha. Know that your real food and your real house is waiting for you in Sky. And Sky Wanadi, the Creator, will be waiting there for you, too.

"The body that your spirit has lived in here on this Earth will die, but your body is only a copy of your real body. Your spirit came down from Sky in your real body. And when you die, your spirit will return to Sky in your real body.

"And in your real body, your spirit will climb a ladder to your Sky house. And when your spirit reaches Sky, the Scissors Master will know whether your spirit has been good, or whether it has been in Odosha's power. And if your spirit has been good, the Scissors Master will permit it to enter Sky in your real body.

"But if your spirit has been in Odosha's power, the Scissors Master will slice your real body into pieces. They will fall back down to Earth. And here, they will remain with Odosha, and they will die with him when this Earth comes to an end.

"In Sky, you will find many houses and villages, all filled with Sky Wanadi's light. Sky is a good place to live, for there are no demons. And so, there is neither sickness nor death, neither evil nor war. There is only life. There is always plenty of food. And so, no one needs to work. All the people who live there are wise and good, and they are always happy.

"Now, until you die, you will live with Odosha. But you have my signs. And so you will know how to live. Let the old ones among you sing about Sky Wanadi, the Creator, and his spirit messengers. Let them sing about the ancient ways. Listen to the songs of the old ones. Repeat them. Remember them. Obey them. Teach them to your children. And have your children teach these songs to their children. In this way, the Yekuhana will always know about Sky Wanadi, the Creator, and his spirit messengers. And the ancient ways will teach your people how to work so that you will always have food."

So House Wanadi spoke to our grandfathers. And then he spoke separately with the twelve men whom he had created, those men who, from the beginning, had lived with Wade.

House Wanadi said to them, "I cannot take you all to Sky with me when I leave. And so, you must stay here on Earth for now. I have moved my house to Mount

Kushamakari, that tall, flat-topped mountain called 'House of Kuchi,' the mountain that holds up Sky. For its beauty floods my heart with joy. I will now take you there to live, for you will not die like all the other Earth People.

"My new cave-house will be a safe house for you, for it is hidden deep within the mountains. Great rapids guard the path to it, and many anacondas lie hidden beneath them. They like to overturn the canoes that would pass over them. And those who, at last, find my cave-house must deal with the great bat that is always on guard.

"Only good people live in my house—the blowgun master, the grandfather of the tapir, and many other powerful people. And Sky's light always shines there.

"Odosha has no power to enter. Nor can his people enter, for they are evil. The anacondas will eat them if they try.

"But good people will come. The shamans of the Yekuhana will come. They will give up meat and women. And they will sing as they come.

"And so, wait in the cave-house that I have made for you, for Wanadi of the New Earth will return to Earth. He will look for Odosha's skull and for the *Huehanna*. And he will come for you."

So House Wanadi spoke to his twelve men. And then he led them forth to their new cave-house. And there, they are waiting for this world, Odosha's world, to come to its end.

We do not see the house of House Wanadi's twelve men. We can only see Mount Kushamakari. But our shamans can see it, for they are the great medicine men who have the power to protect and cure us. They have the power to control our supply of food. They have the power to rescue our body's double when Odosha captures it while we sleep.

Our shamans can see the cave-house of House Wanadi's twelve men. They can go up to the door of the cave, and they can speak with House Wanadi's twelve men through that door. They can tell them about us. They can ask them for food, good health, wisdom, and power. But they cannot enter their cave-house, and they cannot see them.

And so it came to pass that House Wanadi led his twelve men to their new cave-house. And then he returned. He put on a feathered headdress, and he began to sing.

Then Odosha arrived, Like Wanadi, he wore a feathered headdress. Wanadi was still singing when the sun rose. And Odosha's hard heart flooded with joy as he watched Wanadi sing and dance.

And then, it came to pass that House Wanadi went away. He was still singing and dancing as he went toward the river. And Odosha was still singing and dancing, as well. But Odosha was watching House Wanadi as he left, for Odosha was ready to kill him.

Now, House Wanadi knew the ways of Odosha's mind and heart, and that is why he was moving toward the river. And so, swift as a dart sent forth from a hunter's blowgun, he suddenly jumped into a dug-out canoe and paddled away.

Odosha now stopped singing and dancing, and he ran after House Wanadi. He jumped into his own dug-out canoe. And swift as a rapids overturns a canoe, Odosha paddled after Wanadi. "I must catch House Wanadi before he returns to Sky!" he exclaimed. "For in Sky, he will always be safe."

It came to pass that House Wanadi placed fifteen piles of cooked food in the river, like rocks, but Odosha did not stop to eat. He left the meat in the river, and it turned into rocks, and rapids formed around the rocks.

Odosha then sent spirit animals forth to eat House Wanadi. He sent a dog, but the dog turned into a jaguar. And swift as a rapids overturns a canoe, House Wanadi killed the jaguar with his blowgun. Then Wanadi ground the jaguar's bones into a powder, and he blew on it. And mosquitoes and gnats came forth from that dust.

And then it came to pass that House Wanadi made his last people, butterflies. And he said to them, "Odosha is following me. And so, I am going to pretend to die. When Odosha asks you where I am, you must tell him that I went back to Sky. Tell him that I cut my stomach out. And that, swift as a dart sent forth from a hunter's blowgun, my body's double soared high above Earth."

And it came to pass that the butterflies obeyed House Wanadi. When Odosha heard how House Wanadi had died, he, too, cut open his own stomach. And he, too, pulled it out. That is what Odosha did, but his body's double did not soar high above Earth. And Odosha did not go to Sky. And so, he put his stomach back in its place, and he waited to recover.

As for the butterflies, they flew off to Colombia and became Colombians. They are good, and they are wealthy, for they helped Wanadi escape from Odosha.

And it came to pass that Wanadi took a new body. And then, he sat down to think. He sat silent and still, with his head in his hands and his elbows on his knees. And he thought. And he dreamed. And while he thought and dreamed, he smoked his tobacco. And he sang to the accompaniment of his maraca. And he dreamed of clear water.

And so it came to pass that the clear water came forth as Wanadi quietly blew out the tobacco smoke and dreamed it. And he created it as he dreamed it. And on that clear water, Wanadi left Earth, dreaming as he went. And he returned to Sky. And there he lives still, in peace.

As for Odosha, as always, he began to search for House Wanadi as soon as he was well enough. Odosha put on bird wings, and he flew through the clouds. He flew beneath the sun and the moon. He flew everywhere. But he was only flying through Earth's sky.

Odosha did not know that Sky, the real one, was higher, and he could not get there. And so, in the end, Odosha was tricked, for he did not find House Wanadi. But he is still looking for him.

And as for the *Huehanna*, it is still inside Mount Waruma. It has been waiting there, peacefully, since the world began. And it will stay there until this Earth comes to its end. The good people are still inside it, unborn. They are waiting for Odosha to die, for then this Earth will come to its end.

Odosha is Master of Earth, our Earth. But the time will come when Odosha will die. And then evil will disappear, and Earth as we know it will come to an end.

And a new Earth, a good Earth, will take the place of Odosha's Earth. Wanadi of the New Earth will come down from Sky. He will go to Mount Waruma. And he will tell the people inside the *Huehanna* that the time has come for their house to break open. And then, the good, wise people, who could not be born in the beginning, will at last come forth from the *Huehanna*. The light from Sky will shine on Earth again. And everything will be as good as it was in the beginning.