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NEXT UP: SPOTTED HYENA VS. COYOTE! [#2018MMM](#)

This battle was a collaborative effort, with valuable input from [@TCastanea](#) and [@AnneWHilborn](#). [#2018MMM](#)

Both animals arrive in Round 2 unscathed: Hyena after shredding the tiny Belo Horizonte marmoset, and Coyote having scared off an opossum. [#2018MMM](#)

As we learned in Round 1, Harar hyenas are not your average carnivores. They roam the city streets and are not only tolerated by humans, but viewed as neighbors & spiritual guides. The animals get rid of garbage & bad spirits, and locals believe they tell the future. [#2018MMM](#)

"Hyena Whisperers" in the city have a particularly special relationship with the animals, feeding them meat (sometimes directly from their mouths!). [#2018MMM](#)
<https://www.pri.org/stories/2010-07-19/ethiopia-hyena-whisperers>

While these narrators are not aware of any "Coyote Whisperers," many North American Indigenous peoples' traditions portray Coyote as the Trickster, able to kill giants. [#2018MMM](#) indigenouspeople.net/coyokill.htm

Both coyotes and hyenas, in areas where they are in close proximity to humans, sometimes kill livestock as well (including [@TCastanea](#)'s chickens). [#2018MMM](#)



The outskirts of the walled city of Harar, Ethiopia provide the setting for tonight's scene at dusk. [#2018MMM](#)



Coyote, not familiar with the area, has stumbled across a dump along Highway 10. He immediately begins to hunt for one of his favorite types of prey: rodents! [#2018MMM](#)

Although the Harar hyenas are provisioned by the city's residents, they, like hyenas in other areas of Northern Ethiopia, also scavenge at local dumps. [#2018MMM](#)



Tonight, Hyena stops at the dump on her way to visit the city and quickly encounters prowling Coyote. [#2018MMM](#)

Though Coyote (20kg) is substantially smaller than Hyena (60kg), he goes on the offensive and begins to harass Hyena. Like jackals sometimes do, he targets her most vulnerable spot: the rump! [#2018MMM](#) [#babygotback](#)



<https://www.youtube.com/embed/7VJlFiaV20>

(Note: above video is of a Brown Hyena (*Hyaena brunnea*), not a Spotted Hyena like the ones in Harar) [#2018MMM](#)

Hyena tucks her rear under her defensively and "groans" aggressively at Coyote.

[#2018MMM](#)

http://acoustics.org/pressroom/httpdocs/155th/pagehyena_sgrowl.wav

Coyote is no fool & recognizes poor odds when he sees them. He darts away, toward the highway, with Hyena pursuing. [#2018MMM](#)



Coyote crosses the highway safely...[#2018MMM](#)

...but Hyena is rammed by a car! [#2018MMM](#)

Vehicle collisions are a major source of mortality in wildlife including spotted hyena cousin striped hyena [#2018MMM](#)

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ehsan_Moqanaki/publication/235967597_Vulnerability_of_Striped_Hyaenas_Hyaena_hyaena_in_a_human-dominated_landscape_of_Central_Iran/links/00463514f29a129a58000000.pdf

Although Harar hyenas rarely attack local livestock, depredation by hyenas in other

areas of Ethiopia causes conflict with humans & can create negative attitudes toward them. [#2018MMM](#)



Local Tolerance of Hyena Attacks in East Hararge Region, Ethiopia
(2013). Local Tolerance of Hyena Attacks in East Hararge Region, Ethiopia. *Anthrozoös*: Vol. 26, No. 3, pp. 421-433.
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.2752/175303713X13697429464438>

Tonight, Hyena was hit by a motorist from the Kombolcha region, who viewed hyenas as pests, & did not even try to swerve to avoid hitting her. [#2018MMM](#)

As the car's taillights recede into the distance Coyote returns to the dump, promptly catches a rat, & digs into his meal. [#2018MMM](#)



COYOTE OUTMANEUVERS HYENA!!!!!! [#2018MMM](#) [#UpsetCity](#)

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