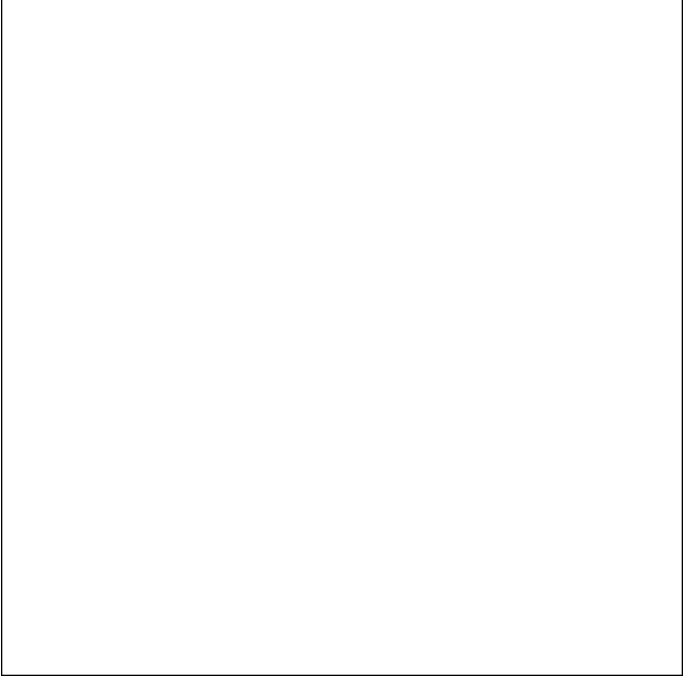


Den dagen eg drog heimtrå for å  
dra til byen

The day I left home for the city



✎ Lesley Koyi, Ursula Nafula

✉ Brian Wambi

✉ Espen Stranger-Johannessen, Martine

Rørstad Sand

|| 3

nyorsk / English / English



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Den dagen eg drog heimtrå for  
å dra til byen / The day I left home

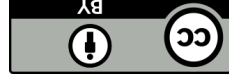
for the city

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Den vesle busstasjonen i landsbyen min var travel og stappfull av bussar. På bakken var det fleire ting som skulle lastast. Medhjelparane ropte namna på stadane dit bussane gjekk.

...

The small bus stop in my village was busy with people and overloaded buses. On the ground were even more things to load. Touts were shouting the names where their buses were going.

«City! City! Going west!» I heard a tout shouting.  
That was the bus I needed to catch.

...

«Byeni Byeni Vestover!» h yrde eg ein  
medhjelpar ropa. Det var bussen eg m tte ta.





Bussen til byen var nesten full, men fleire folk dytta for å koma om bord. Nokre plasserte bagasjen sin i bagasjerommet under bussen. Andre la han på hyllene inne i bussen.

...

The city bus was almost full, but more people were still pushing to get on. Some packed their luggage under the bus. Others put theirs on the racks inside.



Bussen som skulle tilbake, vart fylt opp fort. Det viktigaste for meg no var å byrja å leita etter huset til onkelen min.

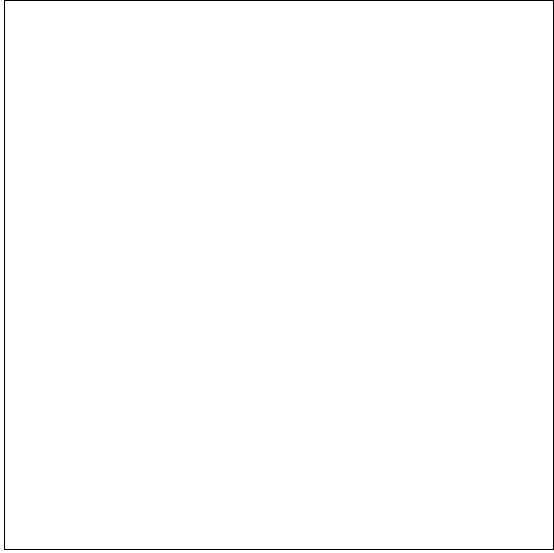
...

The return bus was filling up quickly. Soon it would make its way back east. The most important thing for me now, was to start looking for my uncle's house.

New passengers clutched their tickets as they looked for somewhere to sit in the crowded bus. Women with young children made them comfortable for the long journey.

...

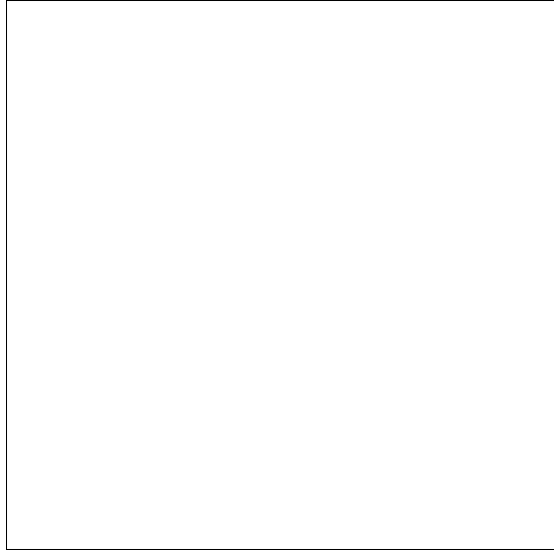
Nye passasjerar klamra seg til billettane sine medan dei såg etter ein stad å sitja sidan det var trengt om plassen. Kvinner med unge born la til rette for dei så dei skulle få det behageleg under den lange reisa.



Nine hours later, I woke up with loud banging and calling for passengers going back to my village. I grabbed my small bag and jumped out of the bus.

...

Ni timar seinare vakna eg av høglydt banking og roping etter passasjerar som skulle tilbake til landsbyen min. Eg greip fatt i den vesle veska mi og hoppa ut av bussen.





Eg pressa meg inn ved sida av eit vindauge.  
Personen som sat ved sida av meg, heldt hardt  
om ein grøn plastpose. Han hadde på seg gamle  
sandalar, ein utsliten frakk, og han såg nervøs  
ut.

...

I squeezed in next to a window. The person  
sitting next to me was holding tightly to a green  
plastic bag. He wore old sandals, a worn out  
coat, and he looked nervous.



På vegen lærte eg meg utanåt namnet på  
staden i den store byen der onkelen min budde.  
Eg mumla enno då eg fall i søvn.

...

On the way, I memorised the name of the place  
where my uncle lived in the big city. I was still  
mumbling it when I fell asleep.



Eg såg ut av bussen og innsåg at eg var i ferd med å forlata landsbyen min, staden der eg hadde vakse opp. Eg skulle dra til den store byen.

...

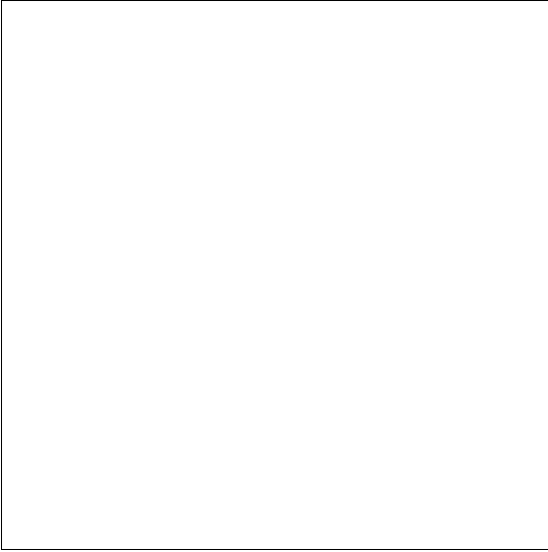
I looked outside the bus and realised that I was leaving my village, the place where I had grown up. I was going to the big city.



Men tankane mine vandra heim. Kjem mor mi til å verta trygg? Kjem kaninane mine til å inbringe noko pengar? Kjem bror min til å hugsa å vatna dei nyutsprungne trea mine?

...

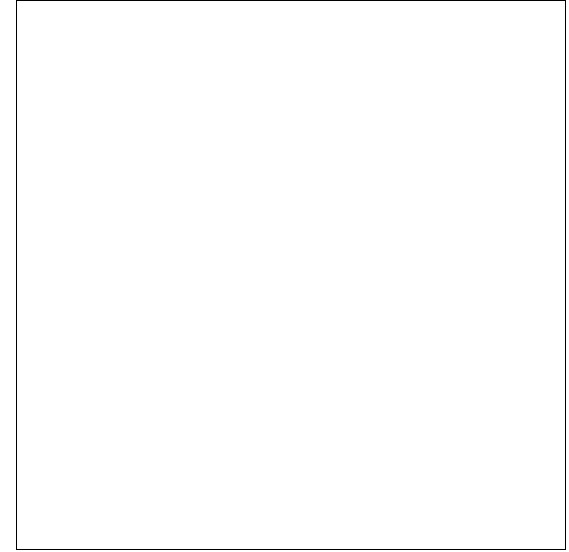
But my mind drifted back home. Will my mother be safe? Will my rabbit's fetch any money? Will my brother remember to water my tree seedlings?



Lastinga av bagasjen var ferdig, og alle passasjerane hadde sett seg. Gateseljarar pressa seg enno inn i bussen for å selja varene sine til passasjerane. Alle ropte namna på det dei hadde til sals. Eg syntest orda høyrdest merkelege ut.

...

The loading was completed and all passengers were seated. Hawkers still pushed their way into the bus to sell their goods to the passengers. Everyone was shouting the names of what was available for sale. The words sounded funny to me.



Etter kvart som reisa heldt fram, vart det veldig varmt i bussen. Eg lukka auga og håpte å få sova.

...

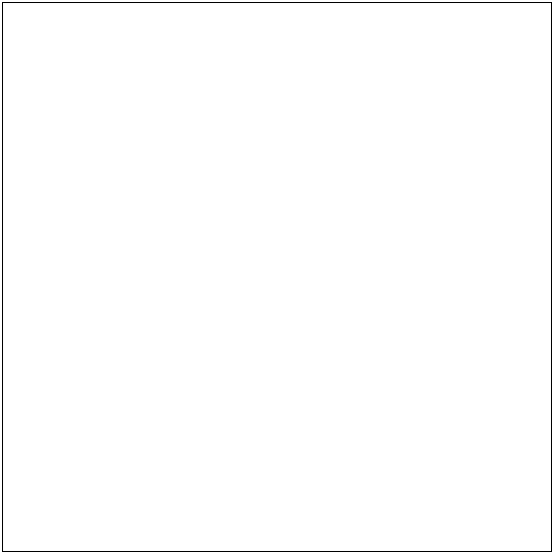
As the journey progressed, the inside of the bus got very hot. I closed my eyes hoping to sleep.



Nokre få passasjerar kjøpte noko å drikka, andre kjøpte små snacks som dei byrja å tygga på. Dei som ikkje hadde noko pengar, som eg, berre såg på.

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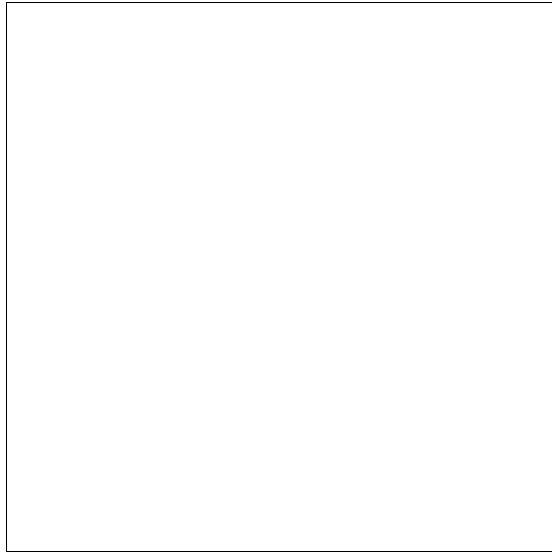
A few passengers bought drinks, others bought small snacks and began to chew. Those who did not have any money, like me, just watched.



I det bussen forlét busstasjonen, stira eg ut av vindauget. Eg lurte på om eg nokosinne skulle koma tilbake til landsbyen min igjen.

...

As the bus left the bus stop, I stared out of the window. I wondered if I would ever go back to my village again.

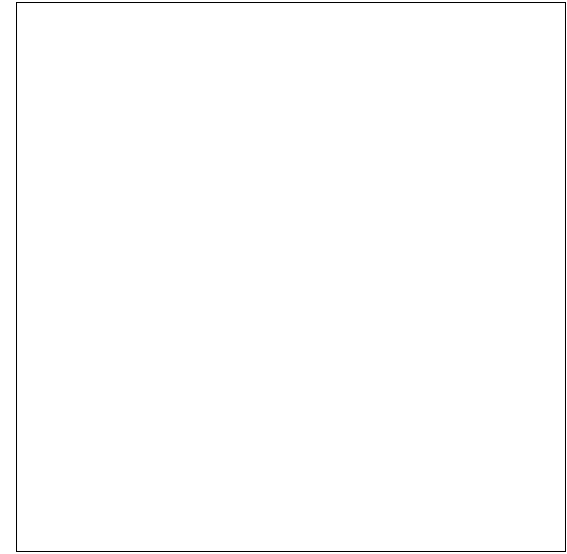




Desse aktivitetane vart avbrotne av tutinga til bussen, eit teikn på at vi var klare til å dra. Ein medhjelpar ropte at gateseljarane måtte koma seg ut.

...

These activities were interrupted by the hooting of the bus, a sign that we were ready to leave. The tout yelled at the hawkers to get out.



Gateseljarar dytta kvarandre for å koma seg ut av bussen. Nokre gav tilbake vekslepengar til dei reisande. Andre freista i siste liten å selja nokre fleire varer.

...

Hawkers pushed each other to make their way out of the bus. Some gave back change to the travellers. Others made last minute attempts to sell more items.