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The day I left home for the city

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The day I left home for the city

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እታ ኣብ ዓድና ዘላ ንእሽቶ መዕረፍ ኣውቶቡሳት ብህዝብን ልዕሊ ዓቕመን ብዝጸዓና ኣውቶቡሳትን ኣዕለቕሊቓ ነበረት። ዋላ ኣብ ባይታ ኻኣ ዝጸዓን ተወሳኺ ንብረት ነበረ። ተመትቲ ኣስማት ናይቲ ኣውቶቡሳቶም ዝኸድኦ ቦታታት ይጭድሩ ነበሩ።

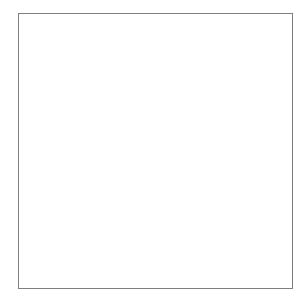
. . .

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.

. . .

።ሰብቶዉጻ ቭለ፯ዠ ዶሰወሰ ቲለ ዪለ ሶና



እታ ኣውቶቡስ ከተማ ዳርጋ መሊኣ እያ ኔራ፡ ግን ጌና ተወሰኽቲ ሰባት ንኽኣትዉ ይደፋፍኡ ነበሩ። ገሊኣቶም ንብረቶም ኣብ ትሕቲ እታ ኣውቶቡስ ጸዓንዎ። ካልኦት ድማ ኣብቲ ኣብ ውሽጢ ዘሎ መጸፍጸፊ ኣእተውዎ።

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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.

እታ ኣውቶቡስ ንኽትምለስ ብቕልጡፍ ትመልእ ነበረት። ብተሎ ናብ ምብራቕ ክትምለስ እያ። ሕጂ እምበኣር እቲ ንዓይ ኣዝዩ ዘገድሰኒ ነገር፡ እንዳ ኣኮይ ሃሰው ክብል ምጅማር እዩ።

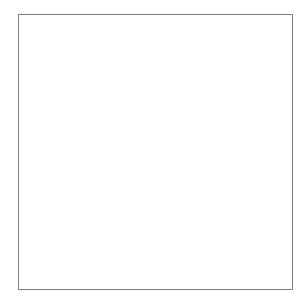
. . .

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.

of the bus.	comfortable for the long journey.	
village. I grabbed my small bag and jumped out	Women with young children made them	
and calling for passengers going back to my	looked for somewhere to sit in the crowded bus.	
Nine hours later, I woke up with loud banging	New passengers clutched their tickets as they	
•••	•••	
።ሓኋጋወ ለ/ህዘ ሰብቶ-መጰ ቲቡሰ ለያልጰ	።ሞሓለሸሾመለ ዛዕኆ ሐምየ ታየ ናተብልቆና ቶቲጴለ	
<u> </u>	ናወጋበተዠ	
ቡን ተያወጾ የማՐ ማՐ ለበዠ ወዖ ታበ ፡ቶቲዖስ ተየሸቶ	ተ ለበዘ ቖ፞፞፞፞፞፞ቖ፞፞፞ቖ፞፟፟፟፟፟	

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ኣነ ኣብ ጥቓ መስኮት ተጨባቢጠ ኮፍ በልኩ። ኣብ ጐነይ ኮፍ ዝበለ ሰብ ሓንቲ ቀጠልያ ሳንጣ ቀጠው ኣቢሉ ሒዙ ነበረ። ብላይ ሳንደል ሳእንን ዝኣረገ ካቦትን'ዩ ወድዩ፡ ዝተጨነቐ ድማ ይመስል ነበረ።

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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.

ኣብ መንገደይ፡ ስም ናይቲ ኣኮይ ዝነብረሉ ኣብቲ ዓቢ ኸተማ ዘሎ ቦታ ሸምደድክዎ። ጌና ደቂሰ ከለኹ ነቲ ስም ብትሕቲ መልሓሰይ ይደጋግሞ ነበርኩ።

. . .

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.

leaving my village, the place where I had grown
I looked outside the bus and realised that I was
•••
።ንጻ
ያለ ምተሰ <u></u> ደቦ የ ቲቡን ። ያለኋ <u>ን</u> ተ <mark></mark> ጳወኦሆም ኋዴሸ <mark>ኋ ዩ</mark> Րዶሖ ቲባ
ለቭበ የ ዠ ቲለ ፡ <u></u>
,,

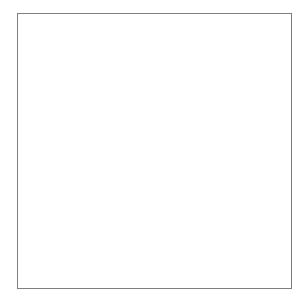
my brother remember to water my tree be safe? Will my rabbits fetch any money? Will But my mind drifted back home. Will my mother

ዳ'የሐጳቡ ሏጷጰ ።ተተወሃ ሳ/አመተ ሏተብ ቡን ንቦ ሏ匀ሚፈጰ

ናናውሸ고 ዳ'ጋለዠ고 2ቲሰሞ 2ሞ

Seedlings?

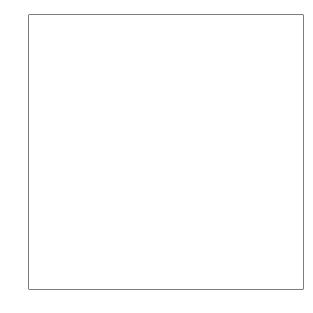
up. I was going to the big city.



እቲ ምጽዓን ተወዲኡ እዩ ኵሉ ተሳፋራይ ድማ ኮፍ በለ። እናዞሩ ኣቕሑ ዝሸጡ ሰባት ንብረቶም ናብ ተሳፈርቲ ንምሻጥ ጌና ናብታ ኣውቶቡስ ተዳፍኡ። ነፍስወከፎም ስም እቲ ንመሸጣ ዝቐረብዎ ንብረት እናጠቐሱ ይጭድሩ ነበሩ። እቲ ቃላት ንዓይ ኣስሒቑኒ።

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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.



ኣብ ጕዕዞና ምስገስገስና፡ እቲ ውሽጢ ኣውቶቡስ ኣዝዩ መቘ። ክድቅስ እናተተስፈኹ ዓይነይ ዓመትኩ።

. . .

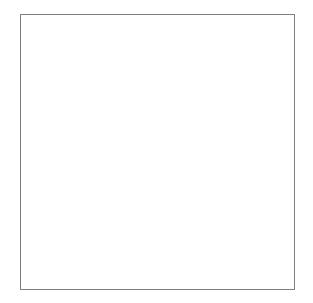
As the journey progressed, the inside of the bus got very hot. I closed my eyes hoping to sleep.

passengers bought drinks, others bought	
።ንቡዘቀተ ን	የ ሂ ቂህ
፡ነጻ ልቀበ ፡ን১በየሏዘ ቡዘናՐ ሞቶለ ።ሞ匀ምጃ ቭ'ዺሐሰ	ማሶአየ
ተ ሞዓጦ ጠናሞመጠናቀ ተ ፈልተ ፡ሚፈዝՐ ተሰዠ ታጋኔሶ	_ነ ተ

not have any money, like me, just watched. θł Α

።ብቐነኳተ ሐልበንለ የወሸዉ ዳ'ሰለሚሰ ሏጷዖ ቡን ሚቦዶ ።ብቶመጠ ሚዶቦና ቶሳሰመ

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



እዚ ንጥፈታት በቲ ክንብገስ ምዃ'ና ዘአንፍት ድምጺ ጥሩምባ ናይታ ኣውቶቡስ ተቛረጸ። እቲ ተማቲ ነቶም ሸያጦ ንኽወጹ ኣዕበርበረሎም።

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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.

ሸያጦ ካብታ ኣውቶቡስ ንምውራድ ንሓድሕዶም ተደፋፍኡ። ገሊኦም ነቶም ተሳፈርቲ ማልስ ሂቦሞም። ካልኦት ድማ ተወሳኺ ነገራት ንምሻጥ ናይ መወዳእታ ፈተነ ኣካየዱ።

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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.