

WE BECAME FRAGMENTS TRANSCRIPT

May 15, 2018

12 mins 37 seconds

TITLE: WE BECAME FRAGMENTS

Ambi: Ibraheem's pen writing

Ambi: Kids playing outside

Ibraheem VO:

I was 11 years old when the events began in Syria.

[Photo of Ibraheem on the wall]

There is nothing left in this world that I haven't seen.

[Syrian missile SFX]

VO: The sky drops missiles like rain.

[Birds flying overhead]

VO: Here, you wait for your turn to die.

Ambi: Call to prayer.

VO: A while ago, I was with them.

VO: A while ago, they were talking to me.

[Flashback with YouTube video]

[00:49:13] *VO: Then, we became fragments waiting for people to rescue us.*

[Transition: Bird overhead to Canadian geese migrating]

INT. WINNIPEG APARTMENT

[Sleiman washing dishes]

Sleman: Ibraheem!

[Ibraheem doing his hair in the bathroom]

Ibraheem VO:

One day, I heard news that Canada was receiving Syrian refugees.

[Ibraheem sitting on the bed | zips up backpack]

Ibraheem VO:

I did not expect that a day would come and they would tell me to travel to Canada. But that is what happened.

I could not do anything except say, "Okay."

[Winnipeg sunrise exteriors]

[GBHS Exteriors]

Radio: We're listening to Information Radio on CBC Radio 1. 89.3FM. 990AM.

Radio: Nice to hear the kids on the first day back. School day two on the cycle in the Winnipeg downtown.

Fade in: O Canada

[Kids standing under flag]

[Scene-setting high school cutaways: panther pride/photos/of/back to queen]

[Kids sit down / Class starts]

Mr. D:

Alright, good morning everyone....EAL and learning how to speak and practice English is a part of why you're here. This is the first day of school, sometimes it's a little challenging...

[Ibraheem at his locker]

00:02:34:22 Ibraheem: Khalil! Khalil! Khalil! Do you know how to open it?

Khalil: Yeah.

Ibraheem: Teach me....

Khalil: Give me the code.

[Mrs. Wynobel: Science Class]

Mrs. Wynobel:

Hi Welcome, come on in. How are you? Come on in.

Well, what I think I'd like to do to get started is to give you a little questionnaire to fill out, and it's asking questions about you. The first question says "do you have brothers or sisters, and if so, how many?"

[Ibraheem starts writing on the paper]

[Music cue #2]

[Ibraheem sitting on the bench outside]

Ibraheem VO:

Whenever I meet someone, they ask me what happened.

[Ibraheem walking down the street // guy looks at him]

But when they ask, they don't know how my heart burns when I tell my story.

FLASHBACK

[Cuts to black]

[SFX Missiles]

Ibraheem VO:

The missiles started above us as usual.

[Back to mini-flashback]

Death

The dust.

The rubble.

[We see the footage of him injured]

I opened my eyes to find the sky instead of a roof above me.

We stayed under the rubble for hours. Nobody knew we were there.

[Ibraheem watching video on his phone]

I find myself in a hospital covered in blood.

[Birds]

The first thing that came to my mind was to ask where my mother was.

Why didn't she come with me?

[Ibraheem walking down the street]

braheem VO:

I began my new life without my siblings and a mother.

[CUT TO PHYSIO IN CANADA]

[Ibraheem lifting his leg in physio]

Corinne [Physiotherapist]: Do you want a break?

Ibraheem: Uh, ok.

Corinne: Let's try again, looks good.

[CUT TO SLEIMAN WATCHING IBRAHEEM]

IBRAHEEM VO:

Fortunately my father was not with us or else what happened to us could have happened to him.

[Ambi, physiotherapy room]

Corinne: So are you going to start stretching more at home?

Ibraheem: I will try.

Corinne: Yeah? It's better if you do it every day, right?

Ibraheem: Mm.

Corinne: Tell me when...

Ibraheem: Ok.

[Ibraheem and Sleiman on the exercise bike]

Sleiman: Is the lesson over?

Ibraheem: Training, training, not a less - stop.

Sleiman: So I can go out and have a smoke until you're done?

Ibraheem: [Nods]

[Sleiman watches Ibraheem]

CUT TO: [Interpreter Scene]

Interpreter: Hello my name is Sarah, my pin is 85002, I'll be your Arabic interpreter.

Corinne: I'm treating Sleiman's son for physiotherapy, and I was wondering if you would be able to interpret a question he has for me.

Interpreter. Ya, sure [switches to Arabic] *Allo, Ahlan?* [No subtitle]

Sleiman [Arabic]: I just want to make sure that the treatment gets some results - the bones were implanted more than 2 years ago in his leg and it's very thin. I don't feel it's settling in the right place. I don't know if the treatment will make it grow back, or stay as is. Because one leg is big and one leg is small.

Corinne [Physio]: What are the chances that leg is going to get longer?

Interpreter: What are the chances for the leg to get longer?

Sleiman: Yes, is there a chance for the leg to grow? 10 percent, 15 percent, 20 percent?

Interpreter: So is there hope that like 10 percent or 15 percent that the leg will get longer?

Corinne: I don't think so, the orthopedic surgeon would be a better person to ask about that.... long term bone growth.

Sleiman [Arabic]: Thank you sister, thanks to you and to her.

Interpreter: Thank you very much to the interpreter and to you.

[Sleiman sits outside smoking cigs]

[ambi: exterior]

[Ibraheem sits on the table in the living room]

[Sleiman washing dishes]

*Before the war, Ibraheem was one person.
But after the war broke out,
And he lost his mother and siblings.
He changed. He changed to someone else.*

[Ibraheem sitting on couch]

Sleiman VO (cont'd):

*He stayed in a state of shock for almost two years.
He was always repeating: "where is my mother?" Where's mama?*

[Ibraheem and Sleiman on the couch]

*After those years, he started....adjusting to the situation he is living in --
That he is without a mother and without siblings.*

[Ambi: Winnipeg Ext. Dusk / Prairies]

[Ext. Apartment | Night | Kids playing soccer]

TRANSITION:

[Ext. Day | Kids playing soccer at Gordon Bell]

[ambi: exterior. School bell]

PA: [beeping] Afternoon, Gordon Bell staff and students! All students should be in their afternoon classes.

[Mr. Banks class]

Mr. Banks: Mostafa Al-Kal - Kalican? Not here yet. Ibraheem?

Ibraheem: Ibraheem.

--

Mr Banks: What is the word we would use to describe big countries?

Ibraheem: Huge or...?

Mr. Banks: Uhhh...how do we measure big?

Khalil:....are you talking about America?

Mr. Banks: There is a word called area. Do you know what area means?

Ibraheem: Area, yeah!

Mr. Banks: So area is a measurement of size..

....so when we talk about Canada being big, there is a lot of area, a lot of space.

Ibraheem [laughing]: But there is no people. Only 30 millions yeah.

Mr. Banks: So we're the second biggest country in the world, shouldn't that mean we are the second most populated?

Ibraheem: [shakes his head no]

[Ibraheem at his locker]

Ibraheem: Ammar, your voice has changed. It's deeper now.

Ammar: Really?

Ibraheem: I swear. How are you, Mr Moses?

Mr Moses: How are you?

Ammar: Ibraheem, you've grown, right?

What happened with your operation?

Ibraheem: They skinned me- they opened me from the top and the bottom.

Ammar: [giggles]

[Ibraheem and Ammar walk down the hallway together. Ammar puts his arm around Ibraheem]

[Mr. D | Last Period]

Mr D:

What words do you know to describe family? You can just raise your hand and tell me. Yes?

Ibraheem: Like a tree.

Mr. D: So like a tree.

[ADD A CUTAWAY]

Mr. D [talking to Ibraheem]: You can work on this already - ten things about your family. Ok? If that's too hard, and I understand that that might be, you can just leave this alone, ok?

[Ibraheem rustling with papers]

[Bell Rings]

[ambi: kitchen, apartment]

[Cutaways: Sleiman phone, sitting on the floor, blinds]

[Sleiman in the apartment]

Sleman [Arabic]:

[00:10:03:06] Ibraheem's mother, 2 months before they died, we were in the war.

[00:10:19:15] Suddenly, just like that, she told me: "If I die, it's your responsibility to take care of the children."

[Ibraheem praying in his room]

Sleman (cont'd): This statement is always on my mind.

[CU: Koran]

[Ibraheem praying]

[Women sitting in the park]

[Kids playing soccer]

Ibraheem VO: Life shows us many stories and from them, surely, we will learn the rules of life.

[Ibraheem sitting on the side of the soccer pitch]

[00:11:27:23] VO: We went out against our will, and we shall return with our hope.

[00:11:33:17] VO: Those were the first words that stuck in my mind when we left Syria.

[Ibraheem & Kids playing soccer]

TITLE CARD:

[END CREDITS]

Directed by Luisa Conlon, Hanna Miller, Lacy Jane Roberts

Producer Luisa Conlon

Camera Luisa Conlon, Hanna Miller

Sound Recording Lacy Jane Roberts

Editor *Kaija Siirala*

Consulting Editor *Iva Radivojevic*

Composer *Ari Balouzian*

Associate Producer *Sawsan Morrar*

Translation *Lubna Takruri, Reem Morsi, Sawsan Morrar*

Color Correction *Natacha Ikoli*

Sound Mix *One Thousand Birds*

Sound Design and Mix *Calvin Pia, Andres Velasquez*

Assistant Sound Designer *Allen Bickle*

Audio Post Producer *Kira MacKnight, Shelby Sandlin*

Archival Audio *Local Council Daraya via Storyful*

Thank you:

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Arlene Skull

Radean Carter/ Winnipeg School Division

Hani Al-Ubeady

Souriyat Across Borders

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Blue Table Post

UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism

FOR OP-DOCS

Executive Producer: Kathleen Lingo

Coordinating Producer: Lindsay Crouse

Supervising Editor: Andrew Blackwell