

E: ...og så avsluttet vi med å snakke om du hadde et spørsmål som du sa "Hva er grunnen til at jeg lever?"

A: Ja

E: Det var et viktig spørsmål for deg

A: Det er veldig viktig

E: Det er veldig viktig for deg...så...jeg vet ikke...vi...vi kunne fortsette nå, Azizi, og snakke om...jeg er litt nysgjerrig på dette spørsmålet..."hva er grunnen til at jeg lever" – det er jo et veldig utbredt spørsmål...it is a very common question...many people in the world have been asking this question

A: Yeah...

E: Philosophers, right, have been asking this question...trying to find a proper answer. You know about that? Philosophers...

A: Yeah yeah yeah

E: So...a question that I would like to ask is...the relationship that you have with this question...I am curious about that

A: Mmm

E: So for instance...how long have you had a relationship to this question? Can you remember...first time you...

A: Yeah I remember it... when my mom and my dad was...died...both of them..I was...when I got to know it...like for example...just everyone have a father and mother and everyone one has someone to talk with them...and someone to give them...what is that...kjærlighet?

E: Love

A: Love

E: Yes

A:... gonna give some love... for example for me...another one... for example when I was 8 years old...

E: Yes...

A: ...and...I didn't have nothing like...when I was... so many people... and see many people...in the...in the town... like ...and... in the see centre ...everywhere...

E: Yes

A: ...is going like... with their mom and with dad and...

E: So what you did was you saw...

A: Yeah

E: ...children...

A: Yeah children...

E: ...with their mom and dad...

A: ...going with their mom and dad... fathers...going and they're talking with their mom like...the children saying mom and dad "mom and dad mom and dad" ...you know

E: Yes and you were 8 years old and you saw this everywhere

A: Everywhere...

E: You saw this...

A: And it was the worst was that everyone was asking me like... when I have been in Pakistan everyone was asking me: "Where is your mom and where is your dad?" – "how you are living?" and "how you can live without mom and dad?" And that kind of question was...

E: ok...

A: ...was hurting me

E: So I can...there was a lot of pain...

A: Mmm

E: ...in this...?

A: Is it...?

E: I can picture...

A: Mmm

E: It is...? Yes. So I am wondering...I am trying to picture Azizi 8 years old... feeling this pain...and he sees all these people with their mom and dad...so I am trying to...I am trying to picture this 8 years old boy and his pain and I am wondering how Azizi *dealt* with this pain and this longing for love from his mom and dad. Can you remember how you dealt with this pain?

A: I don't remember it but...I just can say that it was too painful for me...like...

E: Yes

A: When I had a mom and dad when I was coming from outside and were just saying "mom and dad where are you?" ...like that...

E: yes

A: When my mom and my ...(tears swelling) my mom and my dad was dying and I was coming home and nobody was there to answer my questions...

E: Nobody was there to answer your questions...

A: ...just coming home and walk again...

E: ok

A: where was my dad? Where was...

E: Right...Azizi, can you remember if you were alone...yes, please (offering handkerchief) Were you alone or...who...was...how long...can you remember any person at this time who could see your pain?

A: Nobody

E: Nobody

A: Nobody

E: Nobody

A: But...because it was... in Afghanistan...for too many people it is like that...not just me...I am not alone like that. In Afghanistan for many children it is like that.

E: So that means there were no adults that could comfort you at this time - am I right?

A: Yeah

E: Ok. So I am trying to picture this 8 years old boy... Can you remember if you found some means to deal with this pain? Because there was no other grownups there... How can an 8 years old boy deal with such a grief, such a pain? Can you remember how you did that? How you got through?

A: I don't remember many things... I remember I was saying things like... saying my pain to everyone and...so everyone knows

E: Did you - tell everybody?

A: Yeah. Not everybody...

E: A lot of people

A: A lot of people

E: A lot of people. What did you tell them?

A: They were just saying like...like "You're crazy" and they wouldn't think about it and...

E: That was their response?

A: Yeah...and many people were saying like "You're too young" like... "You're just a child" - "Why you are thinking about this kind of question?". I was just saying "Yeah that's why I am asking other people because I'm a child now... like... just 8 years old... I cannot do

nothing... what should I do?" ...and everyone was saying "You have to stay in your...like...you have to be strong...you have to be strong"

E: Mmm

A: "The happened can be happened" ... "If it's happened... if some happens gonna coming...you cannot take...you cannot stop the happened...you cannot going in the ...saying that "ah, I have to stop you" ...

E: Ok

A: It's...happened you cannot stop it

E: So what they would say is... "Done is done"

A: Done is done

E: ... "You have to move on"

A: Yeah

E: Ok. And did you agree with those responses? That you should go on and...done is done...? "Go on with your life" ... is that what they said?

A: Yeah it means like that

E: "Go on with your life"

A: Go on with your life

E: Stop...

A: Stop think about your mom like...about your dad and...stop think about...like...bad things...

E: Ok. Do you think that was good advices for you or bad advices for you?

A: They can be good for me and they can be bad for me

E: Ok. Do you know if...

A: The good one is like...they was true...and they were saying yeah like that...you have to...I was saying yeah...I have to...I have to...I have to be strong...I have to stay in my legs like...going to work like that like that...I don't want to have some people to *give me* money

E: Yes

A: Give me money I need money...because I saw many people in the street like that...beggars...like here in Oslo...like Romanian people like...it was like that...and...I saw many people going like that to everyone...'Give me money', 'Do you have food?' and...

E: Yes

A: I was just thinking and...I cannot do that one...

E: Mmm

A: I cannot do that one...to go to everyone...to ask and...'I don't have money'...

E: Do you know why?

A: Yeah I know why...because I was...just 8 years old I was thinking 'I can...I can work now'

E: 'I can work?'

A: Yeah - 'I can work now'

E: So that's what you thought? Wao ok...

A: I was just thinking that I have to go and find a job for me

E: 'I don't want to beg' ... 'I want to work' ... That was very clear to you?

A: Mmm. I was searching for job...for...many sted (places) like...I went to like *Bitten*, this carpenter like...this bilmekaniker...like that kind of things... and they were saying 'You're too small, you cannot work here' ...that kind of things...

E: They said...

A: 'You're too small'

E: 'You're too small' oh yeah

A: 'You're too small, you cannot work it here'

E: Were they right?

A: They were not right...

E: Ah...

A: ...because...if they were saying that 'You cannot work' ...they were not true...everyone can work!

E: They didn't know

A: They didn't know it

E: So they didn't know what you were capable of?

A: Yeah

E: They didn't know how skilful you were?

A: Yeah

E: Ok

A: And that...I was searching many sted (places) to find a job

E: You went many places

A: I went many places to find a job...

E: Ok

A: ...they were saying 'no' ... 'no no no no'. One day I was...I was just sitting in front of the door at my houses, outside the...

E: Yes

A: ...just sitting and...I was thinking like...thinking...thinking...it was one...it's not neighbour from...how can I say...near my house like...

E: In the neighbourhood?

A: In the neighbourhood like that

E: Yes

A: It was one man and he was just coming and he was asking me 'Why are you sitting here?' ...there was...he was... know of my situation

E: He didn't?

A: He was know

E: He knew it?

A: Yes

E: He knew about your situation...

A: And he was just coming and sitting and...'Why you are thinking too much?' ...'I know about your situation' ...like that...like that... I was just saying like and this and this and...'I am going and find a job...but I cannot so...how can I live?' And he was saying 'Are you sure you wanna work?' I say 'Yeah I'm sure...like 100%...I have to find a job...I have to work'

E: Yes

A: And he was saying...'You can come and work with me' ...like...'in my house' ...

E: He said?

A: Yeah...like...was...teppe...lage teppe....

E: Carpets?

A: Yeah carpets

E: Teppe...ok...

A:... make the carpet...and he was saying 'You can work like 2 weeks free and after that if you're gonna learn like this (knipser) and then 2 days... I'm gonna give you money after 2 days... you're gonna start with them'

E: Ok...'I'm gonna give you a chance'

A: Yeah a chance

E: That's what he said

A: And he was saying 'You have to...first you have to learn...you have to learn how you gonna do it...' ...like that...'If you're gonna...if your gonna learn it in 1 year I am not going to pay for you' ...and like...'I'm not gonna pay you...first you have to learn...after that I'm gonna pay you'

E: Do you remember this day and this situation very well, Azizi?

A: Yeah

E: Can you describe it for me...can you take me back to that day?

A: Like...

E: You were sitting outside...

A: ...outside in the door...

E:...leaning to a wall or...?

A: ...to the wall... like that...sitting...

E: ...on the floor or...

A: ...on the floor...

E: ...and it's outside...and he is coming...

A: ...he was coming and...he was...yeah... he was smoking...

E: He was smoking...

A: Yeah...

E: How was he dressed, do you remember?

A: It's like Afghan clothes...

E: Ok, Afghan clothes...

A: Afghan clothes...and he was saying...and...he was just coming and sitting and...(illustrating patting)

E: He sat down?

A: Yeah...

E: And he was patting your shoulder?

A: Yeah and he was doing like this (illustrating patting)... 'Don't think too much, why are you thinking too much?'

E: Can you remember his face?

A: Yeah oh you know...

E: You know him?

A: Yeah

E: Do you remember the expression in his face? When he was sitting with you...what did you see...what could you read in his face?

A: He was saying like...at first...when he was coming...doing like this (illustrating patting)... saying to me 'Why do you think too much?' ...just...(illustrating looking up) looking up and he was just...he was...like...looking...like...like sad...

E: He was looking sad?

A: Yeah

E: Do you think he felt sorry for you?

A: Yeah

E: Did he feel compassion...

A: Yeah

E: ...do you think?

A: Yeah...and he was sitting and...just saying 'Don't think too much' ...and...'Of course you're gonna find some way to live'... When I told him I am going to...I have to go to find a job...like that...and he was saying... as...like... 'Every door is gonna be closed one door is gonna open' ...like...'Everywhere gonna be closed, one way is open'

E: Who said this?
A: That man
E: That man, he told you this?
A: Yeah, and...for example...he was saying...'Everyone is gonna be closed...every doors...it's one sted (place)...it's one...like hole...is one door...is open for you'
E: Why do you think he was saying this to you?
A: I don't know
E: Can I have a guess?
A: I guess like...I think he was saying like...like he was thinking...'Believe in God'
E: That's what he was thinking...
A: Yeah
E: Why would he tell you, you should believe in God?
A: Because...they are saying that if you're gonna miss your hope...like that...you don't have any way to find a job, you don't have any way...you're just thinking and...what should I do...just...'talk with your God'
E: So if you could picture this man...can I ask you...do you remember his name, you know his name?
A: Yeah
E: Of course, you've been working with him...
A: Of course...
E: I want to hear more...the rest of the story...can I ask you his name?
A: Yeah his name is Jawed
E: Jawed...can you write it for me?
A: Jawed (takes the pen and paper). Here? (wondering where to write)
E: Where ever...yes...
A: Jawed
E: Jawed...that's how you pronounce it?
A: Jawed
E: Jawed...and...and...and you're seeing Jawed is telling you this...about the doors...and that there will always be a door that is open...and you think...when you think about it now, you think he said it because he wanted you to believe in...
A: I think...I guess...
E: You cannot know...
A: No...
E: ...and now...you might have been asking yourself this question yourselves but...why would he believe that you as an 8 year old boy...and he knew about your situation...why do you think it was important for him that you should have hope, that you should believe in God?
A: I don't know...
E: You don't know...no....ok...do you think it 's an interesting question?
A: Yeah...it's...
E: You think...?
A: Yeah...
E: Can I ask you why you think it's interesting?
A: Because...it's like...like...all the time I'm thinking it's...like...nobody is...like...we don't have any God...it's just the people is saying that God...for example is from...many, many, many years ago and they were saying this one, this one, this one that... it's coming in my head and my...from my head it's going to another head like that...like that...and everyone's gonna to believe it...

E: Yes...

A: ...everyone is gonna believe it...that it's a God, it's a God, it's a God...but I am not... but I do not believe in this kind of things...

E: Ok...

A: And...

E: And when you were 8 years old, you didn't believe it?

A: No

E: At this particular time...when...

A: Because they were saying that...God's gonna help you...

E: Yes...

A: I was crying and...many days...like...

E: You didn't feel it was...

A: I didn't feel it...like...

E: Right...

A: ...I was saying...I was just sitting and...was talking and...'which God...which God they are talking about?' ...and they were saying that God see everything down...that God sees what the people is doing...

E: Ok...

A: ...they are saying...that God is seeing and...seeing what the people is doing...everyone...He can see it...I was just thinking...it's not any God...we don't have any God...

E: Yes...

A: ...we don't have it... because if we have it...if we have a God...that times...that God was going to help me...that God was helping me...

E: Yes...

A: I was just thinking...I didn't have food...and didn't have nothing...I had missed like...my hope...I was just thinking...'what should I do now?' ...I was just thinking about my brothers...not so much about myself...

E: Oh, you were thinking about your brothers....?

A: Mmm...I was thinking to...going to find food...for my brothers...not for me...because they were too small...

E: So you were 8 years old...and you were thinking about your younger brothers...

A: Yeah...and...get result...

E: Can you...can you...if you go back to when you were 8 years old and you're looking into Jawed's face and his eyes and you see that he's a man that cares about you...and he talks about God and he wants you...and he talks about doors...and hope...and...can you recall what went through your mind as you were looking into Jawed's face?

A: No, I just...now for example when I am looking in his face...he...I was just thinking that he was saving my life...

E: Really?

A: He was saving my life...I'm thinking...I believe it...

E: Yeah...

A: He was saving my life...it was not any doubt...he was saving my life...

E: Ok...and...do you think Jawed had...do you think he could even imagine that that is what he maybe did that particular day...saved your life? When he approached you...do you think he could even have guessed that maybe that's what he was doing as he sat down with you, put his hand on your shoulder?

A: Yeah but...yeah...I was thinking like...at that time it was too many people in Afghanistan was taking children and take them to Pakistan and...kill them...and open their stomach and put it a...like...

E: ...their insides...?

A: No, putting Marihuana like that kind of things inside...

E: Oh yeah...

A: ...and put it back and...

E: ...and sow it up...

A: ...and sow it up and send it to another country...

E: Yes...

A: ...and...that time I was thinking that...that man...maybe he gonna do like that with me

E: Yeah...you were not sure if you could trust him?

A: Mmm

E: You were...

A: Yeah...I was saying...'Ok, I'll walk with you, no problem'

E: Yes...

A: ...and he told me 'You have to come to my home' ...so I said 'ok, I can come tomorrow morning...I can come'

E: Ok...

A: I was just...I was saying...I will just come home and I was thinking... 'No, I don't have to go...because maybe he gonna kill me'...I was just looking at my brothers and they were small and they didn't have food...like that...

E: Ok...

A: We had food but not...like...and...I was just thinking...'No problem if he's gonna kill me...if he's gonna do something...I just...in the morning I would wake up...and just...go to...I just went to his house...I just knocked on the door and he opened the door and he was saying that... come and sit...

E: In what way did he say it - in a friendly way or in an unfriendly way?

A: Like...friendly...

E: He said it like...friendly...

A: Yeah...he was smiling...

E: He was...he was what...he smell...?

A: Yeah...not smell - *smile*...

E: He smiled! He was smiling...

A: He was smiling

E: He was smiling to you

A: Yeah...

E: ...said 'come in'...

A: 'Come in'

E: Do you think...did he know that you would trust him and come back or do you think he was a bit unsure if you would show up?

A: No - he was...I don't know actually...I think he was sure...

E: Would he have guessed that you might be a bit afraid?

A: Yeah...because it's...I was too small...like...

E: You were very small, you were 8 years old...you were very vulnerable...

A: I had my picture...

E: You had your picture...?

A: ...but I don't have it on my mobile...when I had it on my mobile...but my mobile was...

E: You have a picture on your cell phone...when you were 8 years old?

A: (smiling) Yes...

E: Did you?!

A: Mmm...

E: Did you?!

A: Henning (his teacher) has...

E: Henning has seen it?

A: Yeah...

E: Is it gone now?

A: Yeah...

E: Oh, I'd love to see it...

A: I was too small...like...

E: And...what was...how was it for you to see yourself as 8 years old...what did you feel when you were watching...

A: I was like...it was like...like my friend was...sending from Afghanistan to me...

E: Really?

A: Yeah...it was sent from Afghanistan...

E: Yes...

A: He was saying like...'Do you know that guy?' ...I was just thinking...'It's me...no, it was not me'...'No - I don't know him' ...he was saying 'You're crazy - it's you!' ...I said 'Are you sure?' ...he was saying 'Yeah, it's you - when we ...they was in Mas al Sharif, I was in Kabul...I was taking the picture and I sent it to him...

E: Really?

A: Yeah...because we were like...mmm...we were not like a family...but we were like...

E: ...close friends...?

A: Yeah...close friends...

E: Really...

A: ...like...and...at that time I was taking the picture and send it to him...

E: Ok...

A: ...and...that guy who was sending...he...now he is married here...like...two kids...like...children...and he was sending it to me...'Do you know this kid?' ...I said 'No' ...

E: Ok...

A: ...'Listen, crazy - it's you!' ...'No - it's not me...are you sure?!' And he was saying 'Yeah, of course I am sure! It's you, its that picture you sent to me...'

E: Ok...

A: ...'the one I was sending to you' ...I had it on my mobile...one day I was...Henning was asking me about...'How you came to Norway?' ...

E: Yes...

A: I was...I was just...I told him...'I will show you when I...'...like... he heard my story...listened to my story...he would say 'Yeah...' ...and when he was like...I was telling him everything...like that...

E: Yes...

A: ...and...he was sad...like...he was like...crying...like that...

E: Why?

A: Hm?

E: Why? You said he was crying...do you know why?

A: Yeah, I know...because...he is a nice man...he is just...he feel everyone...he feel it...

E: Yes...

A: How it's going...like...

E: Yeah, yeah...

A: ...when it's like...bad situation...like...Henning is like...maybe...I don't know...like...28 years old I don't know...when he was...I think...when he was thinking at that bad situation...if he had it like...if he had it like now...he was just...I think...he was just thinking that...like...I am just 28 years old...if I am gonna have that situation...coming in the way like...out of many...out of possible...from Iran to come here...how is it possible...and how it is hard...I think...because...that Henning was thinking...like...and just guess...

E: Yes...

A: ...and he was crying...

E: Oh yeah...he's a compassionate man as well isn't he, Henning?

A: Mmm

E: And...I know because I know him...

A: Mmm...I don't know him too much but...Henning...like...I just know him a little bit...

E: Yes...

A: ...he is a good man...

E: Yes...and you...you've met some good people in your life, Azizi...

A: Yeah...

E: ...and you've met Jawed...

A: Yeah...

E: ...I would like to ask you something more about him...is that ok?

A: Yeah...that's ok...

E: ...because...I am thinking about this man...and...I am trying to understand what is going on inside Jawed as he sees this 8 years old boy sitting...and...and he wants to help him, is that correct?

A: Yeah...

E: That's fair to say? He wants to help him...now...you got to know Jawed better as you...how long did you work with him?

A: Mmm...for 5 years

E: For 5 years...ok...so it's fair to say that you got to know him pretty well?

A: Yeah...

E: Ok...now...what...why, that's the question...why would it...the way you know Jawed...the way you learned to know him...why would he be so interested in helping this 8 year old boy that he didn't know but he knew about his situation...why would he do that?

A: Because...I think...I was...I was just crying and saying to him 'I have to work'...

E: Oh yeah...

A: ...and he was... he was asking me again 'Are you sure?'...I said 'Yeah, I'm sure'...and...he didn't need to help me but...

E: No, absolutely not...

A: Yeah...he was a rich man...

E: Ok...so he was rich...

A: ...he had...many...like...how can you say...students...?

E: Yes...

A: ...like that...to work in the...

E: Ok...

A: ...like that...

E: Yes...

A: ...because he was a chef, the boss...

E: So he had many workers?

A: Yeah...many workers...
E: Yes...
A: ...he didn't need to help me...
E: No...
A: ...he didn't get any money from me...
E: Exactly...
A: ...and you...I think that he was thinking...'I have to give him a chance'...like...'I have to...'
E: ...trust him?
A: ...trust him...
E: Yes...
A: 'He's like 8 years old...' like...'saying that he's got no work...'
E: Mmm...
A: ...'he wanna work, he wants a job...' ...and...why...I think he was thinking...'Why...he's like 8 years old...why is he thinking that he has to work?'
E: Yes...
A: ...and when I went the first day...
E: Yes...
A: ...the first day...
E: Yes...
A: ...the other people was lying like...to do...I don't know what that is in English...taking a...(illustrating)
E: ...knitting...
A: ...yeah...knitting...like that...
E:...sowing...?
A: ...yeah...I was just sitting...like...10 minutes...and after that I told him 'I have to work'...and he was looking at me...'You're not allowed to work today'...I was saying 'Why...I'm not allowed?'...he told me 'Because you have to wait...and the first day you have to see everyone...how they're working...'...like that, like that...
E: Yes...
A: ...I was just saying 'No, I have to work now...I have to start now'...
E: You were insisting...
A: Yeah...he was saying...he was just laughing...saying 'Your crazy, believe me'...I said 'Yeah I'm crazy, I have to start today, not tomorrow, I can not wait for tomorrow'...
E: You were thinking about your brothers when you...
A: Yeah...
E: ...were so eager to start working immediately...is that why?
A: Yeah
E: You wanted to get money for them...
A: Yeah...
E: ...as soon as possible?
A: (nodding)
E: So you weren't crazy, you just cared about your brothers?
A: Yeah...
E: Ok...
A: ...and...I learned to make a...what's that...teppe...carpet?
E: Yes...
A: ...24 hours...after 24 hours I had learned to sit alone and work it...
E: You learned it really quickly...

A: Mmm...very quickly...
E: How long would it normally take to learn...
A: Like 1 month...like that...
E: Like 1 month...but you learned it in 24 hours...
A: 24 hours...
E: What does that say about you, Azizi?
A: Because...when I was...my mind just...my mind was thinking about how can I learn this one...
E: It was too important to you...
A: It was too important for me...it was my life that...
E: You were very motivated...
A: Yeah...
E: It was your life who were at stake?
A: Mmm...I was thinking...'I have to think about just this one...not about the other things'...
E: Yes...
A: 'This one's gonna help me...this one's gonna save my life'...
E: So you saw that this was your chance...
A: Yeah...it was my big chance...like that...
E: 'I have to take it and you had to succeed...
A: Mmm...
E: So I believe...I'm trying to picture you as 8 years old...you must have been very focused...very much in concentration...
A: Mmm...
E: ...during these 24 hours...
A: Mmm...
E: ...am I right?
A: Yeah
E: Yes...
A: ...and...when I became 9 years old I had just worked with him one year...
E: Ok...
A: ...I was working...I worked with him 5 years...but after 1 year...and that is...like...from...for example...in Gurunat...
E: Yes...
A: ...nobody was working faster than me... nobody...after 1 year...
E: Really...
A: Really...
E: People who had been working there for many years...
A: Yeah...for 10 years, 12 years...
E: You were still working faster...
A: Yeah...I had just worked 1 year...after that...I was working so fast...that when they had like a game...like that...they were saying... like the chef was saying for example...it's not like...they're saying...'If he's gonna win, I'm gonna give 10,000...if your group's gonna win I'm gonna give 10,000...like that...
E: Ok...
A: ...and every sted (place) he was saying to me: 'You're gonna go, you have to go'...'You have to go'...they're going for...to make a tip...not make a tip...it's like a...from...like...twelve meters carpet...
E: ...twelve...

A: ...twelve, yeah
E: Wow, that's pretty long...
A: Yeah...one is starting from the middle...
E: Yes...
A: ...to that side...(illustrating one direction) ...and the other one is starting from this side (illustrating opposite direction)...
E: Yes...
A: ...and they're...like...working fast...
E: Yes...
A: ...who's gonna finish...
E: Ah...
A: ...faster...and I was working...and everywhere...everywhere...
E: (laughing)
A: ...I was just like this (Illustrating number 1)
E: You would win...
A: Yeah...
E: So why would he pick you...because he knew you were the fastest?
A: Yeah...because...it was...I had like...one...carpet... everyone...they were gonna...a student like... gonna learn everything...like that...everyone had one chef and one carpet...another one there and another one there...everyone was like...it was like...3 meter, 6 meter, 12 meter...
E: Mmm...
A: ...9 meter and 12 meter...I had like...9 meter...and...another one also had 9 meter...
E: Yes...
A: ...it was 3...one was here, there, there...was 3 and 9 meter...1, 2, 3, 4...6 meter...and one 12 meter...was another side...like that...there...and...I was working with 12...yeah...with two students...like...gonna land there...
E: Yes...
A: ...and another was working with 5-5...I was finished faster than them...
E: Right...fantastic...!
A: ...mmm...
E: Now...I'm trying to...I'm trying to picture Jawed here...now...his watching this eight years old boy...9 years old boy...been working there for a year...and he sees how fast you work...can you imagine what he must have thought watching you...and seeing...you know...the travel that you've made from he met you there that day...and till you are...he sees how skilful you are...how fast you work...how do you think that must have been for him to watch you...?
A: I was talking to him one day...
E: Yeah...
A: ... when I was 9 years old...I remember...like...he was telling me that...yeah...he was...like...telling me...'The first day...the first day when you told me you're gonna work...I was just...take you to...to show my...' ...what you're gonna say...' ...to my...show my humanity...'
E: Oh, he wanted to show you his humanity?
A: Yeah...I'm not a bad...
E: ...his friendliness...
A: Yeah...I am not a bad guy...he was saying that he was not a bad man, a bad guy...
E: He wanted you to gain his trust?
A: Yeah...

E: Yes...

A: He was saying that I was just giving you a chance...if...that time...if I could help you...and...one day if you're gonna...for example gonna die...or if one day you were gonna be rich...you're gonna think about that day also...about that day also...the man was there and asking you if you wanna work...while he was sitting and he didn't ask me...he was rich...he was gonna ask me if I wanted work or no...but now...if you're gonna grow, grow up, grow up, your gonna say your story to your family...your children or your daughter...

E: So he wanted you to tell this story?

A: Mmm...

E: Why - do you think?

A: Because...the good stories...if...someone...the good story and bad story...they're gonna happen in your life...of course you're gonna say them to your friends, your close friends, your family...

E: He wanted you to tell the story...?

A: No, he didn't want it...he just told me...'Maybe you're gonna say this story' ...

E: Do you think he would...if he had known that you would be telling this story to me now...several years later...would that give him any pleasure or joy...if he had known that? That after all these years you'd still be talking about this?

A: Yeah...of course if he's gonna hear that story...he'd be proud of it...

E: He'd be proud...ok...

A: He'd be proud of me...

E: He'd be proud of you as well...

A: Yeah...

E: Yes...

A: ...because...he was trying to help me...he was trying to show me the way...how my life...how I'd make my life...

E: Yes...and he wanted also to show you maybe humanity...

A: Yeah...

E: ...he wanted to show you that there is good people in the world...and maybe...do you think...I don't know if you've thought about this, Azizi, but do you think he wanted you to pass on this humanity to maybe others as well...do you think that?

A: Yeah...he was like...how can I say...like my father...was...like old as my father...

E: Same age...

A: Same age

E: Ah...

A: ...and he was saying all the time like...you have to help the people...

E: Your father said that?

A: No...that man...

E: Jawed...

A: Jawed...you have to help the people now...if you have...for example...2 kroner...for example...if someone need 1 krone...you have to give 1 krone to him...if you don't...if you have 1 krone for example...that someone need...just give him 50 cent to him...if 50 cents is gonna help him...give it...give it to him...if someone is coming to...to you...saying...'I need help'...never say I cannot help you...never say I cannot help you...just say 'I can help you'...'I can help you...but first you have to tell me...' ...like...how can they...how can they...what...how can I even say...'Hva slags hjelp trenger du?' ...sånn...

E: Yeah...what kind of help do you need?

A: Yeah...do you need?

E: Yes...

A: Like...if you can help him...just tell him 'yeah I'm gonna help you'. If you cannot help him..just say 'I cannot help you because I don't have this, I don't have these things 'Help me, that's why I cannot help you'

E: Mmm

A: If someone is coming... first time...'Help me' ...don't say to him 'I cannot help you' ...

E: Yes

A: First listen to him...what kind of help he need...after that you can say to him you can help him or no...

E: Now you seem to me as a man who has...you have listened to Jawad...taken on his philosophy of life...is that fair to say?

A: Mmm

E: Do you think Jawad noticed that you received it and you wanted to implement this in your own life? Or do you think he didn't?

A: No he didn't

E: He didn't?

A: I *think* he didn't

E: You think he didn't

A: No

E: Ok

A: Because in my age at that time there was no thinking about these kinds of things...

E: Of course...

A: ...to help the people...

E: ...exactly...

A: ...help the people... to give food to people...like...in that time I was just thinking about my life...to...how I was gonna save my brothers lives...

E: Right...

A: ...how I have to work to find good many.... to fix my life as better than now...I was thinking just about this kind of...that kind of things...not about how I can help the people...

E: Exactly...but if...do you know...do you know... is Jawad is still alive?

A: Yeah

E: He is?

A: He is

E: Where does he live?

A: He live in Kabul

E: In Kabul?

A: Yeah

E: Is it a long time since you've been in contact with him?

A: Mmm...two years ago

E: Two years ago

A: When I have been in Afghanistan

E: Can I ask you about that meeting?

A: Yeah

E: What was it like? Did you go to his factory? His...

A: House, you mean...?

E: His house?

A: Yeah...first I was just asking about him...from my friends...from neighbours...where he was living...like that...and he was selling the house and he bought a new house...

E: Oh so he had moved?
A: Yeah he moved from this sted (place) to another sted (place)...like that...and I was asking 'Is he alive or no?' They were saying 'He is alive...he is too old now' ...like...
E: How old?
A: Like...
E: ...60... 70...?
A: Between 60 or...
E: 65 maybe...?
A: like that...
E: Ok something like that
A: I'm not sure how old is he...
E: What did you think when you heard that he was still alive?
A: I was happy
E: You were happy...yes
A: He had been staying here...but...like...11-12 children...like that...
E: He had that many children?
A: Mmm
E: Wao
A: I was just saying 'Look I have to go and meet him'
E: Yes
A: I was just asking 'Is he working or no?' ...they said 'No he's at home' ...like that...
E: Ok
A: One day I was...just went to the...his house and knocked on the door...it was one girl coming from...that house...I was just asking: 'Can I talk with your father?' ...she was small...
E: How old might she have been?
A: Seven years old
E: Seven?
A: Seven...like that she was...
E: Ok pretty small...
A: I was asking 'Can I talk with your dad?' ...
E: Yes
A: ...and she was saying 'My dad is not home but my grandfather is at home'. I said 'Grandfather?' ...I said 'Ok, can I talk with your grandfather?' ...I was...the door was opened and I was just looking and...he was coming, Jawad was coming...I said 'Oh you've become a grandfather?' ...I said 'He's become a grandfather?'
E: Yes
A: When he come and just...I was talking with him and...
E: Did he recognize you?
A: Nei
E: Did he recognize you? He recognized you...he knew who you were...?
A: No no
E: No. You talked to him...what did you say?
A: I was just talking with him and just laughing and...he was saying 'Why are you laughing?' I said...I was just saying that...just like that...He was saying...'Ok, but who are you?' ...'Where do you come from?' ...like....'From which sted (place)?' ...'Why did you come here?' ...'For what you want?' ...
E: What did *he* think?

A: Yeah...he was saying... like...he was saying...I was just saying 'I've just come to eat some food' ...like that...'I don't have job...I have to work with you' ...like that...and he was saying...'Sorry, we don't have for you job here in my house' ...like that... I was just saying 'But when I was 8 years old you had it' ...just...he was just...thinking and said: '8 years old...ok' ...he was saying 'Ok' ...I was saying 'Do you remember me?' ...he was saying 'I think I remember you...I'm not sure...if you are *that* guy or no...' ...I was just...I was saying 'Yeah...if you are gonna think about *that* guy - I'm that guy' ...and he was saying 'Are you Ali?' and I said 'Yeah I'm Ali' ...he was hugging me...he was crying with me...

E: He was crying?

A: Yeah...

E: Was he crying?

A: Yeah and he told me that...I meet him after...like...after 6 years...

E: It had been 6 years...he hadn't seen you for 6 years?

A: Mmm... 6 or 7 years

E: 6 or 7 years

A: He was crying...

E: Why do you think he was crying?

A: He was happy to see me again

E: He was happy to see you again

A: And he was asking me 'Where are you living?' ...like that...'How is your brothers?' ...like that...

E: He asked you a lot of questions...

A: Yeah...I was just saying that 'Now I am living in Europa...and Norway' ...like that... and he was saying 'But what are you doing *here*?' I was just...I told him I just come to meet you and going to another...to Mas al Sharif to find my...my aunt...because my aunt...I have one aunt in Afghanistan...

E: Ok

A: I was just saying to him 'I have to go and find her'...

E: Mmm

A: ...cause I don't know where is she living...

E: Yes

A: And he was saying 'Ok' ...and we were sitting and talking and talking...like that...

E: He invited you in?

A: Yeah...

E: And you were sitting...

A: Yeah...it was...and...it was....sitting and...it's too much people...like...

E: Oh, there were many people in there...

A: There were many people...

E: It was difficult to talk or...?

A: (shakes his head)

E: No...

A: It was not difficult for me

E: They were curious about you?

A: Yeah!

E: Who is this man? They understood that you had a connection?

A: Yeah...

E: That you knew each other well?

A: Yeah...and the were saying...because...when I...went from Kabul and...like many sted (places)...like that...Dubai to another sted (place)...and the daughter was too small...he

had...like...5 daughters...like that...and that was the smallest one...and the one was like 12 years old...when I was 9 years old...she was 12 years old...when I went from Kabul she had like...2 sons...she was married...like that...and when I went from Kabul to another sted (place) ...to another country...and she was big and when I went there...and they were calling their daughter and they were asking to come here and... 'Ali is here' ...and it was nice...

E: He called you Ali?

A: Yeah...

E: A-l-i?

A: Yeah...and 'Ali is here, you have to come' ...and she was coming also and she was...because I was calling her 'sister'...

E: Oh, yeah...

A: ...and...I was just...and she was coming and...and she was hugging me...

E: She hugged you...

A: Yeah...and she was crying...

E: *She* was crying?

A: Yeah...and...

E: Why was she crying?

A: Because she was happy!

E: She also was happy...

A: She was so happy!

E: She was happy to see you again...

A: Yeah

E: She was happy to see you again...she had missed you?

A: Yeah...she was crying in the phone when she was talking with me...and...because her father was calling her...

E: Yes

A: ...to...'It's a guy who wants to talk with you' ...and when I Took the phone I was saying 'Hallo' and 'How are you?' ...like that...and she was saying 'Who are you?'

E: Yes

A: And I said 'You don't remember me?' ...she was saying 'No' ...and...she was thinking that...I'm just joking with her...

E: Yes

A: 'I'm your brother!' ...she was saying 'Which brother...?' I said 'I'm Ali!' ... 'Oh...' she was crying...she came so fast...

E: What do you think...what did you mean to her do you think? If I asked her 'What did Ali mean to you in your life?' 'What did you appreciate about knowing Ali?' ...What would she say?

A: I don't know...

E: You don't know...but she was happy, she'd missed you?

A: (nods)

E: You have any idea what she had been missing about you? I don't know...what kind of conversations you had....did you have like...did you have good conversations...you and...?

A: Yeah, we had it, yeah...

E: ...what was her name?

A: *My* name...?

E: No, *her* name

A: Sara

E: Sarah?
A: Mmm
E: Sarah
A: Sara
E: With an 'h'?
A: It's Sa-r-a
E: You must write it for me. Wherever you like...
A: (writes) Sara
E: Sara...yes...and...she...she was like a sister to you?
A: Mmm
E: And you were like a brother...?
A: ...to her
E: Was that very...do you think that is strange or not? Natural...?
A: It's natural
E: It's natural?
A: (nods) Because in Afghanistan...like...it's a...one is going like...working...one year, two years at one sted (place)...and...with one family...
E: Yes
A: ...they become like...like a family...
E: Ok
A: They are thinking...I have been...like...working many sted (places)...
E: Yes
A: ...I was just thinking that they were my family...I am not thinking that they are another person I was working...because when I was working in Pakistan with another family... they was from Turkmenistan...
E: Yes
A: ...I was working with them in Pakistan...when I came to Kabul...when I...I was...talking like...Turkmany...like that...
E: Yes
A: ...and everyone was saying that...why are you...like for example...when I came from Bergen...just landed...like...dialect...in Bergen...I come to Oslo and everyone's gonna say 'Where have you been?' and you are talking like this...when I came from Pakistan and Kabul...I was talking like that...everyone was...'Where have you been...?'
E: (laughing)
A: ...and I said 'In Pakistan' ...like that...
E: Ok...
A: But now in all sense...I'm not good to...study...like...to listening to something...to...for example to reading and writing...I'm not too good...I'm too lazy...like...do that...but then to *fix* something...to *fix* something...I just...I was telling to Henning also...if...in the school they're gonna say to me...'Just write one page about something' ...I'll say 'Aaah...I don't want' ...but if someone's gonna say 'Open that car and fix it' ...I'm not gonna say 'no'...I'm not gonna say 'no'...
E: No
A: I'm just gonna open it and fix it again...
E: Yes...so...with your hands...
A: Yeah...with my hands...like...
E: You can do it
A: Mm...
E: Mm...

A: Because I can play with me like...in school in Afghanistan...I just worked with my hands and fixed everything and...doing like...everything with my hands...I never take a pen and write about something...never...I would just take everything with my hands and fix it and doing like...fixing the house and...what's that...*maling*...? The house and...fix the tv and the car for everyone...open it and fix it back...

E: Yes

A: I never had...I never take a pen and write my name on...when I was like...for seven years ago...seven...no...like seven years ago...I couldn't write my name...I couldn't write my name! I just learned...when I came to Tyrkia and...and it was one...one of my friends and...he was saying 'Write your name' ...I said 'Are you crazy - I never took a pen! - how am I gonna write my name?' ...and he was saying that...but he was like...just joking and...'Yeah you're good to open something and fix it...and when I say take a pen you cannot take it' ...I said 'How am I gonna take it - I've never been in school - I've never take a pen and write something - how am I gonna learn it?' ... It was really hard for me...when I first came to Norway...when I was sitting in the one room like...with many students...and they were saying...writing on the blackboard...like that...and the whiteboard...and I was thinking...it was so like...like so boring for me...to sit there and take a pen and write something...

E: Right

A: It was like...to take a pen and like...copy like this...

E: Yeah

A: ...like this...it was very hard for me...

E: If you were to consult Jawad and ask for his advice...and you told him this and how difficult it was for you...and you said to Jawad...'You know, Jawad, this is really hard - what do you think, what should I...how should I...what should I do with this...?' What do you think he would have...what kind of advice would he give to you...what would he have said to you, do you think?

A: I was talking to him about this...

E: You've talked about it! You said how difficult it was for you...?

A: Yeah!

E: So what was his response?

A: No, he was just laughing...

E: He was laughing...

A: He was laughing and he was saying 'Use your hand'

E: 'Use your hand...?'

A: Yeah... 'Use your hand - don't take a pen'

E: 'Don't take a pen...?'

A: 'Because that's not your way...it's not...like...it's not your job'

E: 'It's not your job'

A: Yeah...he was saying 'It's not *your* job'

E: So he said 'Don't worry about it?'

A: 'Don't worry about it'

E: 'Don't worry about the pen...or about the reading?' 'Trust your hands' ...would he say that?

A: Yeah...'Trust your hands and what you can do with your hands and just do it'...'Use them because you never used