


Il giorno che lasciai casa per la città

The day I left home for the city

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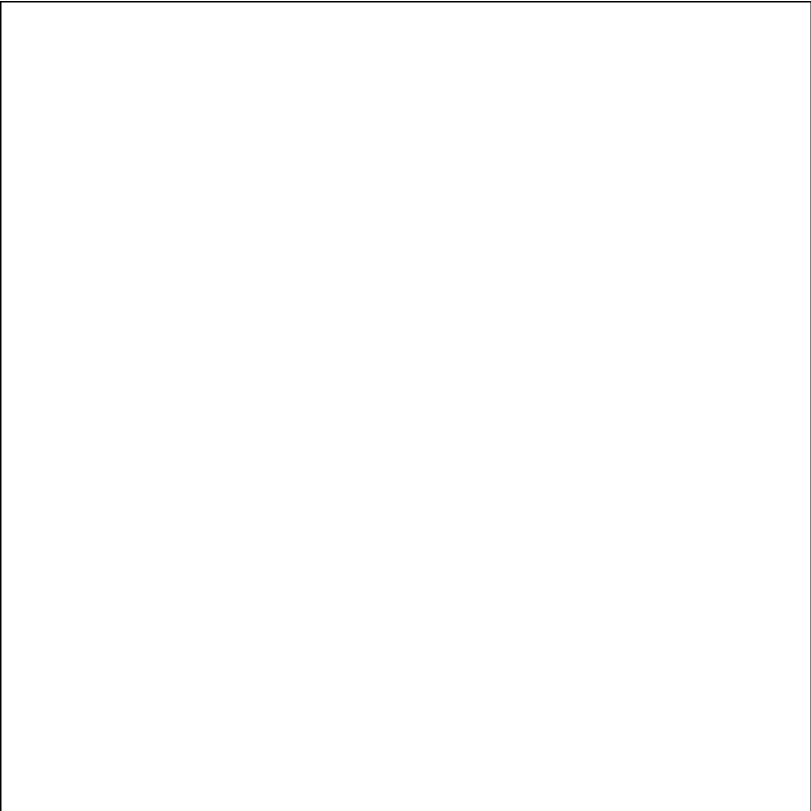
 Laura Pighini

 Italian / English

 Level 3

(imageless edition)

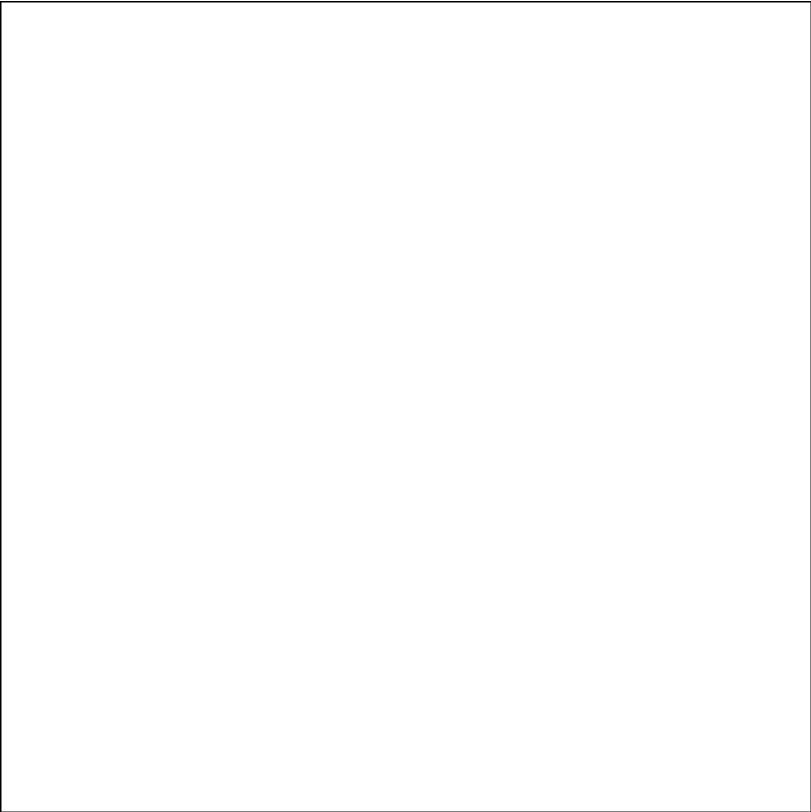




La piccola fermata d'autobus nel mio villaggio era molto movimentata, con tanta gente e autobus stracarichi. Per terra c'erano addirittura altre valigie e bagagli da caricare. I bagarini urlavano le destinazioni degli autobus.

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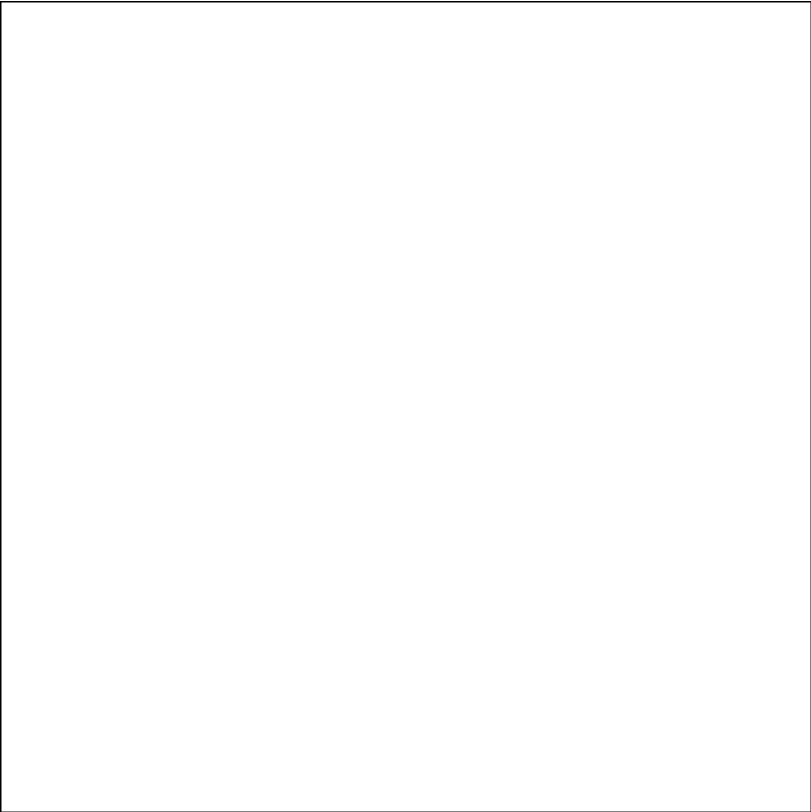
The small bus stop in my village was busy with people and overloaded buses. On the ground were even more things to load. Touts were shouting the names where their buses were going.



“Città! Città! Direzione West!” Udi un bagarino urlare. Quello era l’autobus che dovevo prendere.

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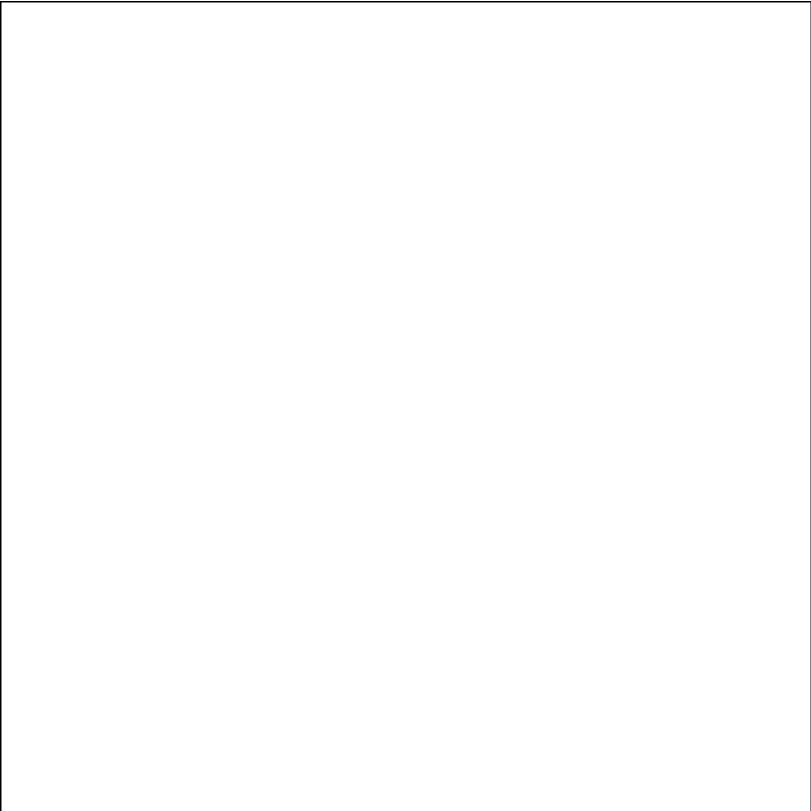
“City! City! Going west!” I heard a tout shouting. That was the bus I needed to catch.



L'autobus per la città era quasi pieno, ma c'era ancora gente che spingeva per salirci. Alcuni avevano messo il bagaglio nel bagagliaio dell'autobus. Altri li mettevano sulle cappelliere dentro.

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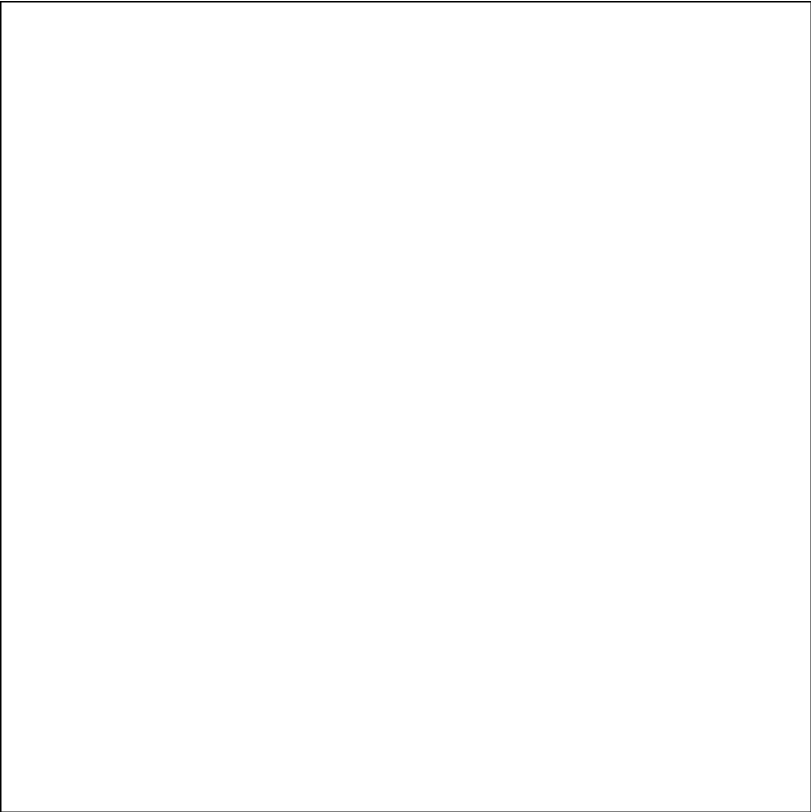
The city bus was almost full, but more people were still pushing to get on. Some packed their luggage under the bus. Others put theirs on the racks inside.



I nuovi passeggeri oblieroarono i loro biglietti mentre cercavano un posto per sedersi sull'autobus sovraffollato. Le donne mettevano comodi i loro giovani bimbi, in preparazione al lungo viaggio.

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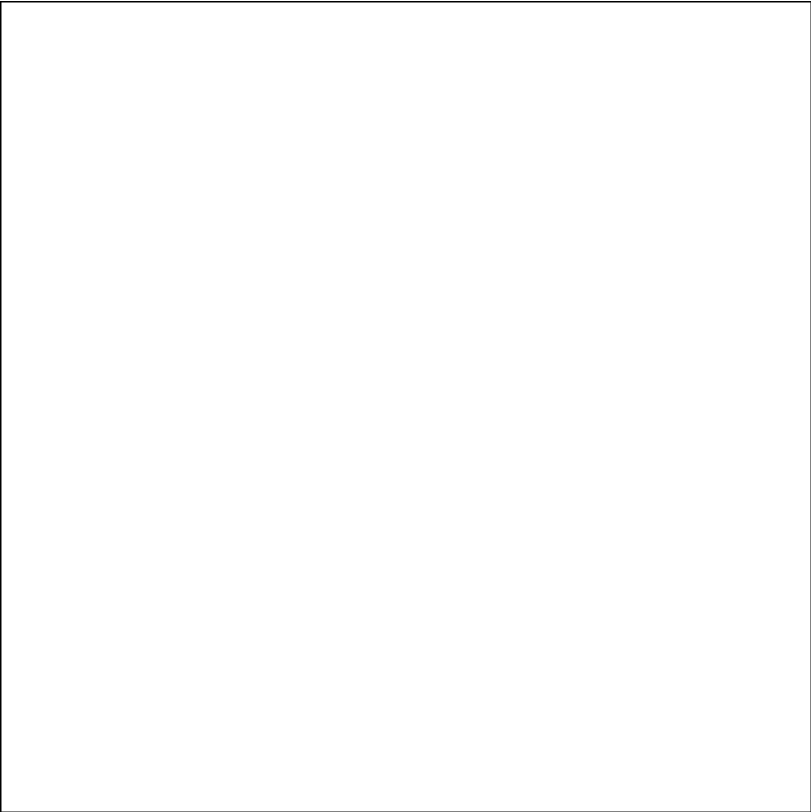
New passengers clutched their tickets as they looked for somewhere to sit in the crowded bus. Women with young children made them comfortable for the long journey.



Mi schiacciai di fianco al finestrino.
L'uomo di fianco a me teneva stretto a sé
un sacchetto verde. Indossava vecchi
sandali, un cappotto usato e pareva molto
nervoso.

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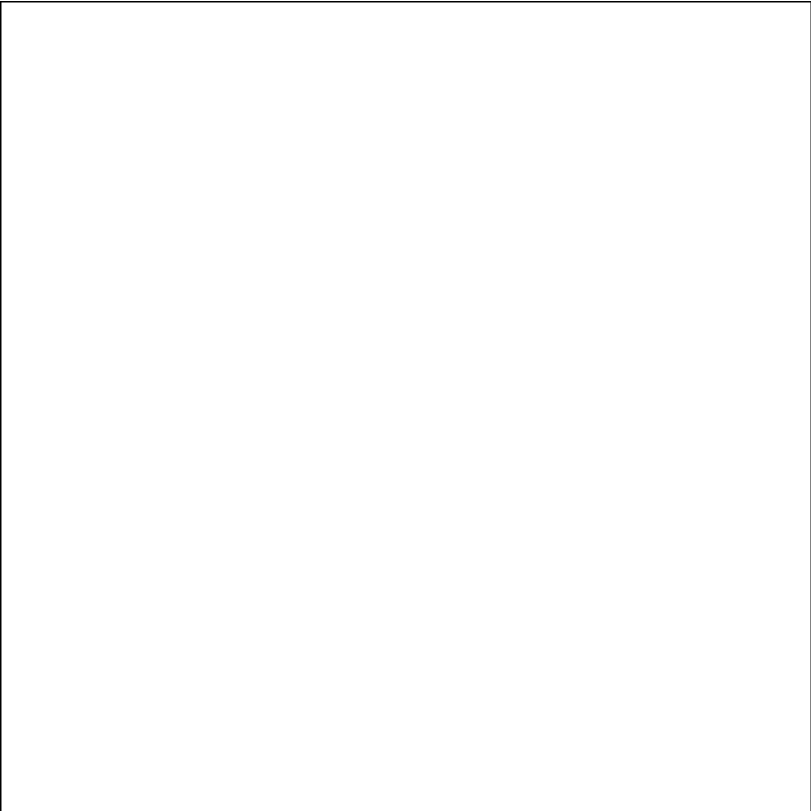
I squeezed in next to a window. The
person sitting next to me was holding
tightly to a green plastic bag. He wore old
sandals, a worn out coat, and he looked
nervous.



Guardai fuori dall'autobus e realizzai che stavo lasciando il mio villaggio, il posto dove ero cresciuto. Stavo andando nella grande città.

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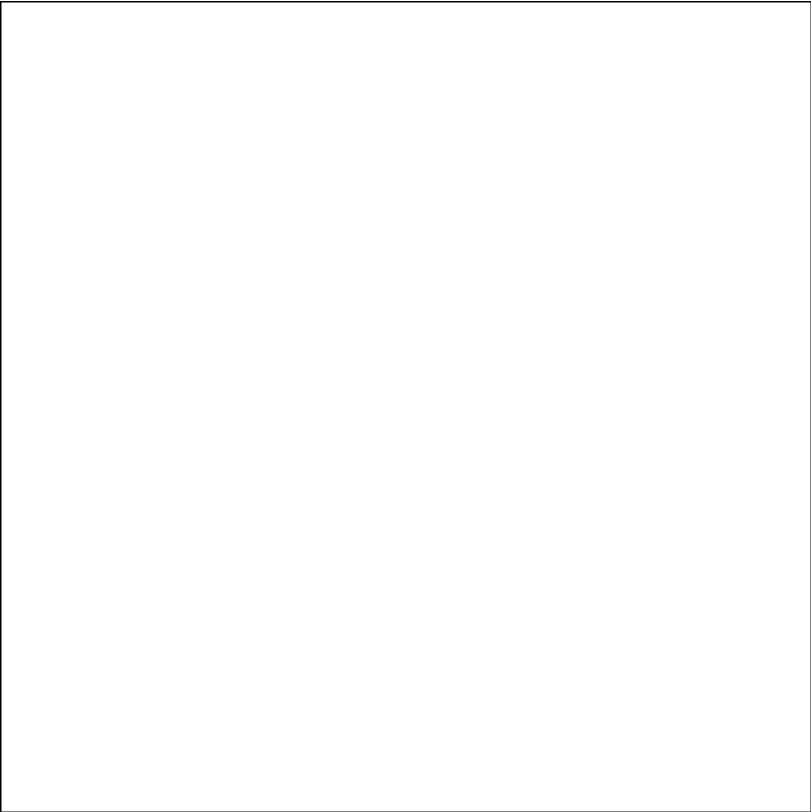
I looked outside the bus and realised that I was leaving my village, the place where I had grown up. I was going to the big city.



La fase di caricamento dell'autobus era completata e tutti i passeggeri erano seduti. I venditori ambulanti continuarono a spingere per salire sull'autobus a vendere i loro prodotti ai passeggeri. Tutti urlavano i nomi dei prodotti che erano disponibili all'acquisto. Le parole suonavano buffe.

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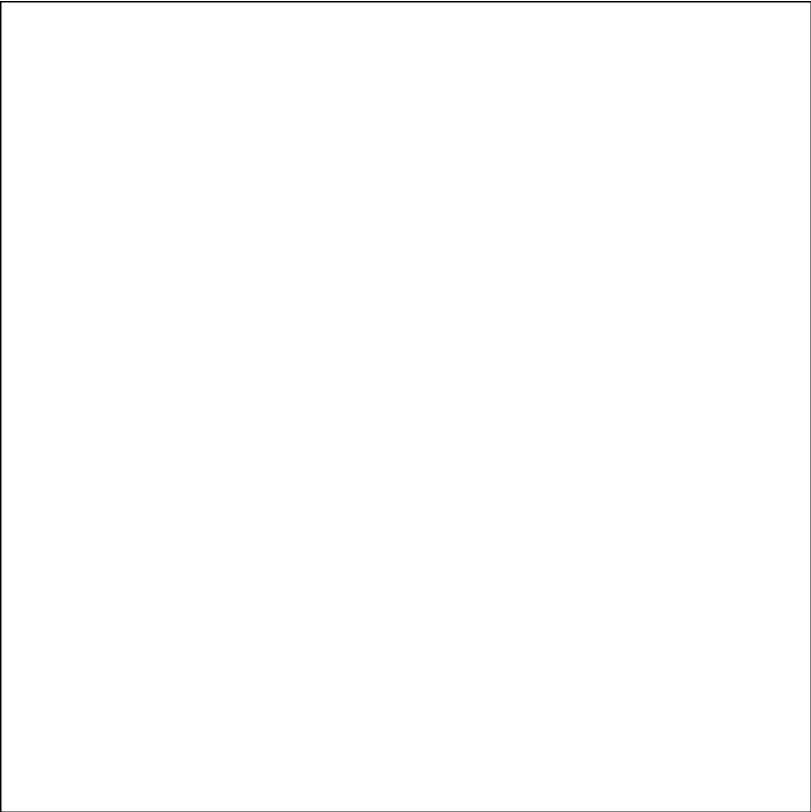
The loading was completed and all passengers were seated. Hawkers still pushed their way into the bus to sell their goods to the passengers. Everyone was shouting the names of what was available for sale. The words sounded funny to me.



Alcuni passeggeri comprarono bevande, altri piccole merendine e cominciarono a masticarle. Quelli che non avevano soldi, come me, guardavano e basta.

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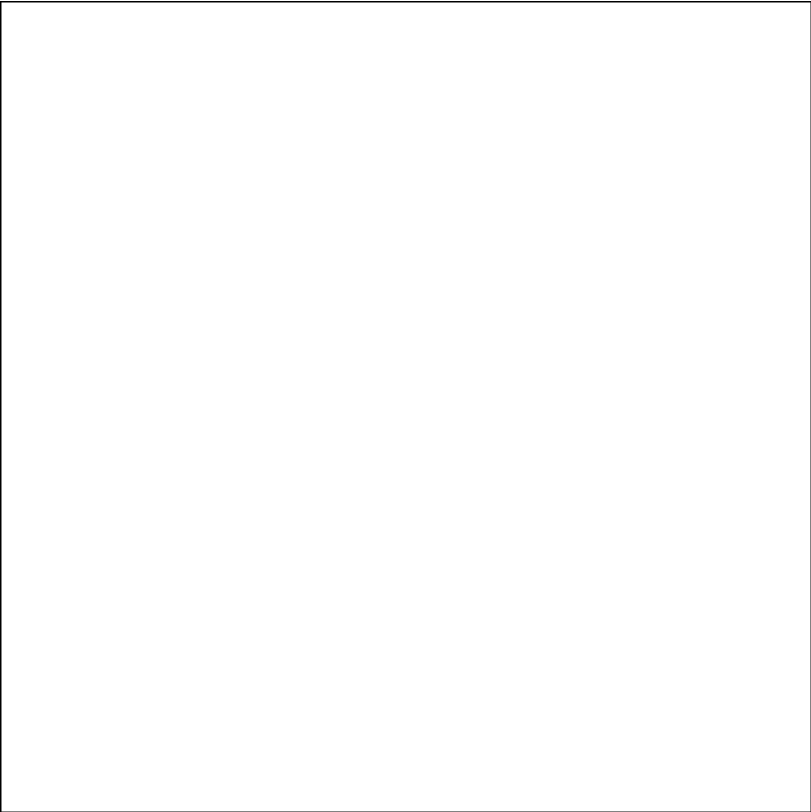
A few passengers bought drinks, others bought small snacks and began to chew. Those who did not have any money, like me, just watched.



Queste azioni vennero interrotte dal fischio dell'autobus, il segno che eravamo pronti a partire. Il bagarino urlò ai venditori ambulanti di scendere.

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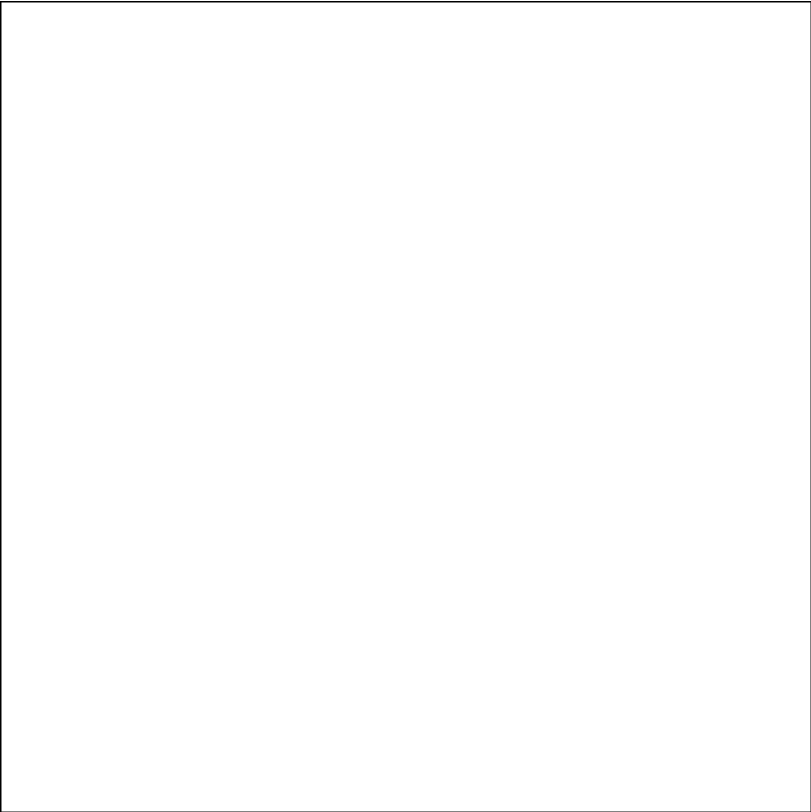
These activities were interrupted by the hooting of the bus, a sign that we were ready to leave. The tout yelled at the hawkers to get out.



I venditori ambulanti si spinsero a vicenda per farsi strada fuori dall'autobus. Alcuni diedero il resto ai viaggiatori. Altri tentarono di vendere altri prodotti all'ultimo minuto.

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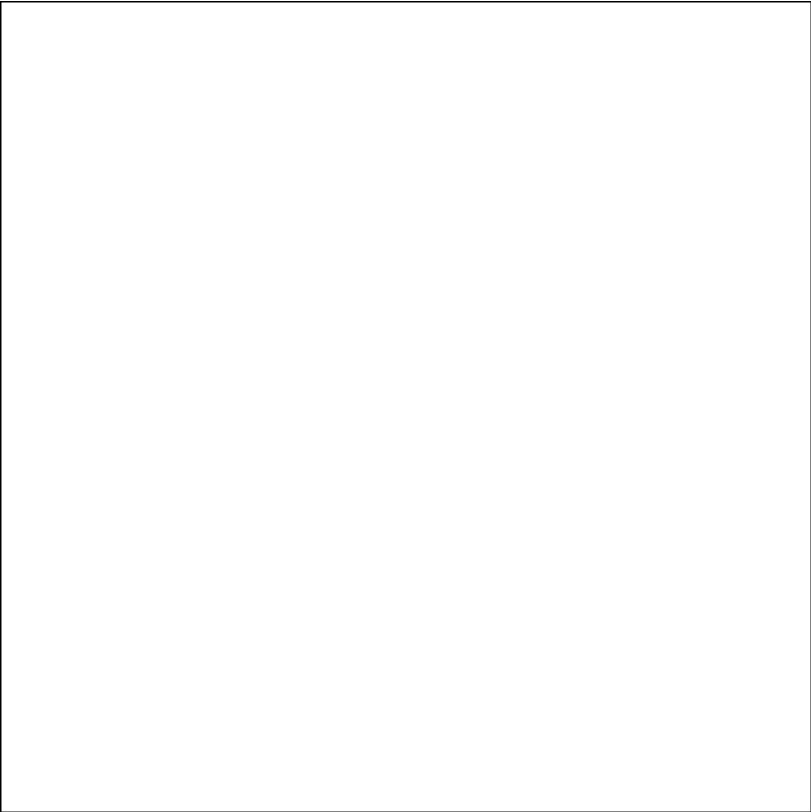
Hawkers pushed each other to make their way out of the bus. Some gave back change to the travellers. Others made last minute attempts to sell more items.



Non appena l'autobus lasciò la fermata, io guardai fuori dal finestrino. Mi chiedevo se sarei mai tornato al mio villaggio.

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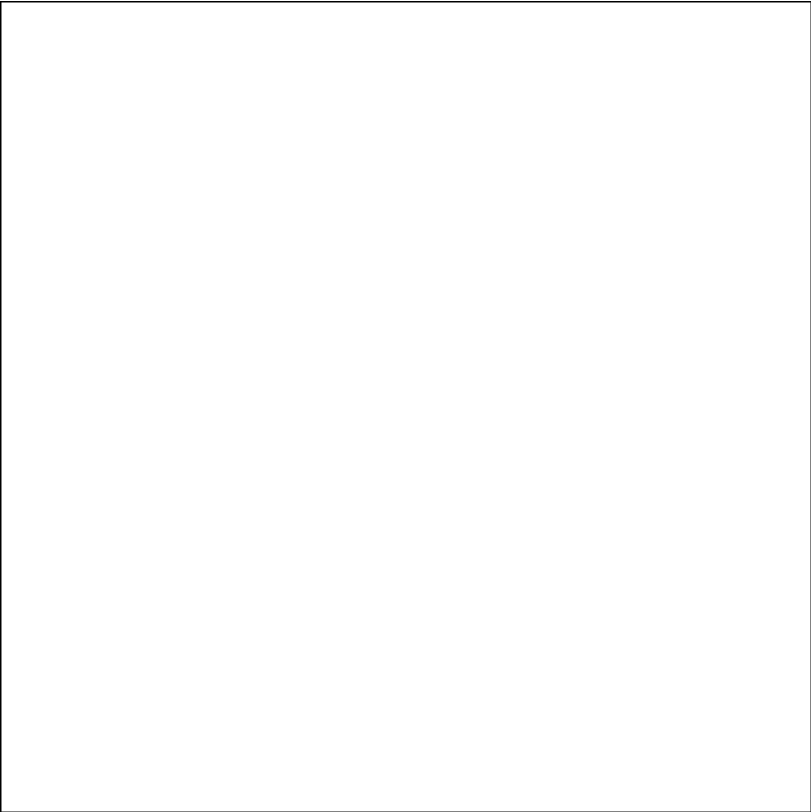
As the bus left the bus stop, I stared out of the window. I wondered if I would ever go back to my village again.



Nel corso del viaggio, l'interno dell'autobus diventò molto caldo. chiusi gli occhi sperando di dormire.

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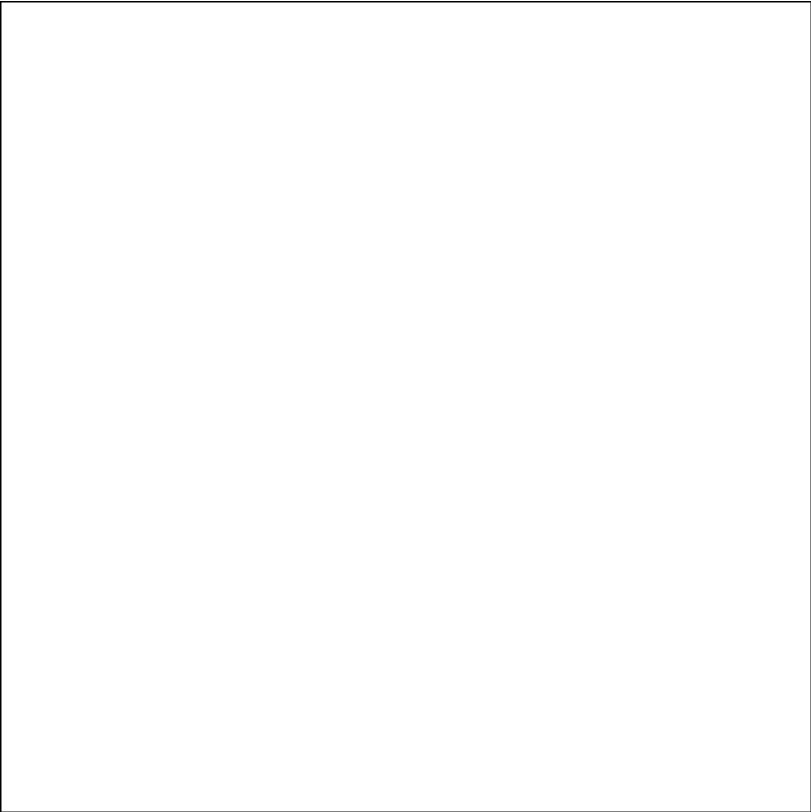
As the journey progressed, the inside of the bus got very hot. I closed my eyes hoping to sleep.



Ma la mia testa si trasportò a casa. Mia madre starà bene? I miei conigli porteranno denaro? Mio fratello si ricorderà di innaffiare le mie piantine?

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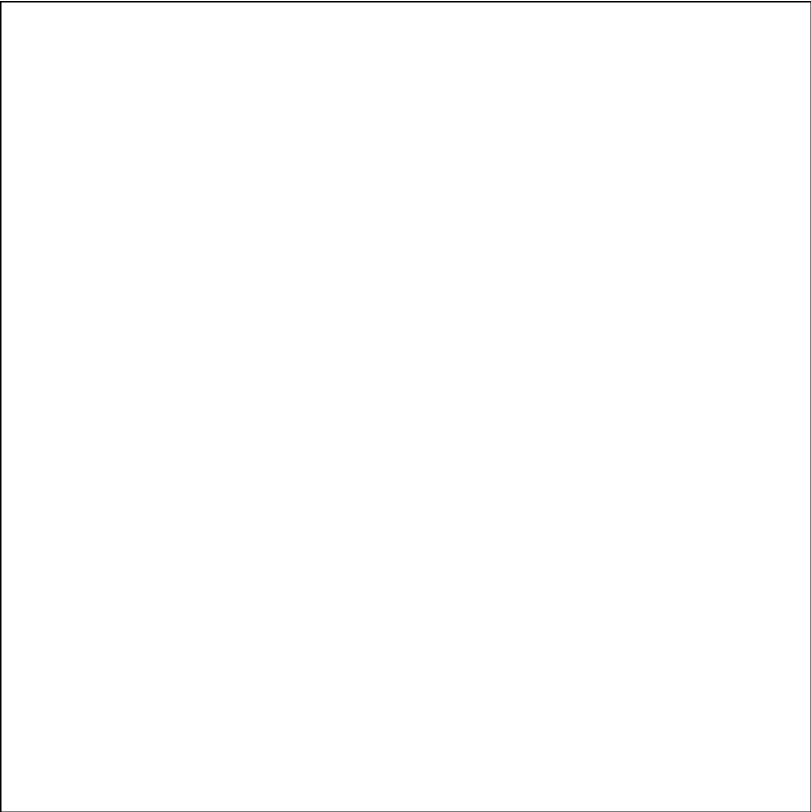
But my mind drifted back home. Will my mother be safe? Will my rabbits fetch any money? Will my brother remember to water my tree seedlings?



Sulla strada, memorizzai il nome del posto in città dove viveva mio zio. Stavo ancora farfugliando quando mi addormentai.

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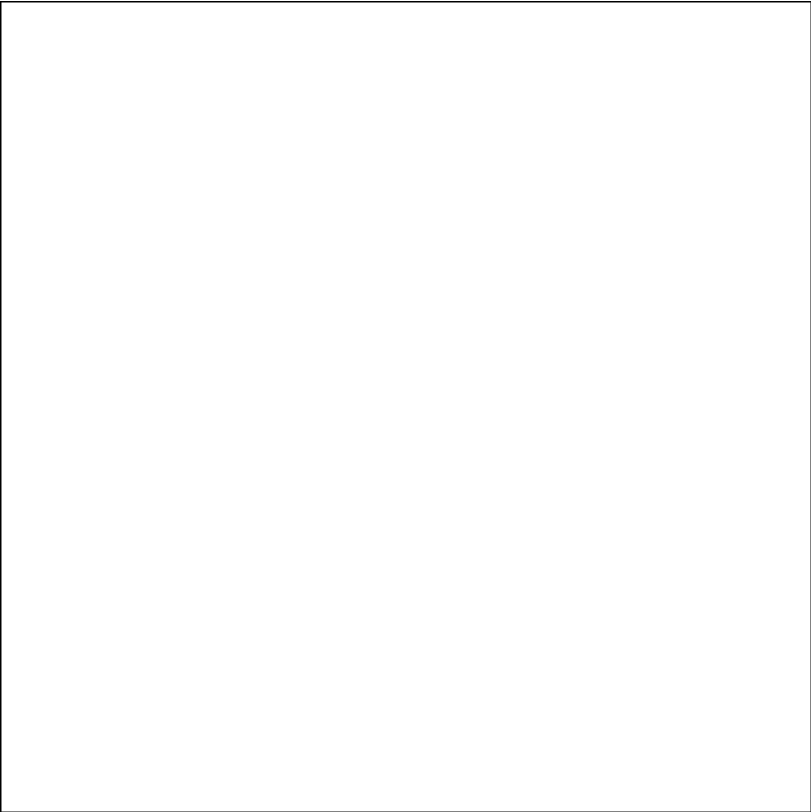
On the way, I memorised the name of the place where my uncle lived in the big city. I was still mumbling it when I fell asleep.



Nove ore più tardi, mi svegliai con dei forti colpi e chiamate per i passeggeri in ritorno al mio villaggio. Afferrai il mio piccolo borsone e saltai giù dall'autobus.

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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.



L'autobus di ritorno si stava riempiendo velocemente. Presto avrebbe fatto ritorno ad est. La cosa più importante per me ora, era cominciare a cercare la casa di mio zio.

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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.



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Translated by: (it) Laura Pighini

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