

Forget not the Sparrows

An African story: Unfinished conversations with my grandmother

By Yene Assegid, PhD

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[AUTHOR Y. ASSEGID ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF NEW BOOK: “Forget not the Sparrows: An African story—Unfinished conversations with my grandmother”

www.forgetnotthesparrows.com or www.anafricanstory.com

[ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA, 4 JULY 2011] Dr. Yene Assegid launches her new book entitled *Forget not the Sparrows: An African story—Unfinished conversations with my grandmother*, available through Amazon and other online bookstores, or on order at local bookstores worldwide. *Forget not the Sparrows* is a heartfelt book based on the author’s relationship with her beloved grandmother, an Ethiopian sage. Through this relationship, the author describes life in Ethiopia before the communist revolution and the subsequent impact of exile, immigration, and the challenges of establishing a new life in a host country. Interwoven with these events is a rich portrayal of her vibrant relationship with her grandmother Almazesha, her family and community, and her difficulty accepting the loss of Almazesha from this world.

When a loved one passes, those left behind often wish for one more minute just to complete their conversation—how many would find healing and closure if that were possible? In *Forget not the Sparrows*, author Yene Assegid creates that extra moment to finish her conversations with her grandmother, expressing all the things she planned to say someday and all her feelings of sorrow, loss, and healing. Through her writing, Assegid inspires readers to create that extra moment with their own departed kin, that moment to talk about the good days and the hardships, to give thanks and show gratitude, to mark history, and to relive the love, laughter, and tears that bond a family together.

Forget not the Sparrows takes readers back in time to childhood days of living freely somewhere in Africa amidst family, friends, and community, in a place where each child is celebrated for her mischievous self. This story of author Yene Assegid and her complicity with her grandmother, Lady Almaz Haile-Mariam, opens with a beautiful picture of life in Ethiopia before the communist revolution and continues to describe a child's memories of war, revolution, and civil unrest.

The letters Assegid writes to her grandmother are heartfelt, inspiring reflection on one's own life. Readers will laugh, cry, and find that at the end of this book, they have experienced a part of the world that is often not spoken about. Ethiopia is an ancient country with a conservative culture—through this book Assegid illuminates many societal taboos and discusses the need to open up Ethiopian society for the sake of the next generation. This book centers around healing and coming full circle, and most of all, describes the love and connection between a grandmother and her granddaughter.

Register at www.forgetnotthesparrows.com or www.anafricanstory.com to be notified of the release date. The author can be contacted through yene.assegid@gmail.com.

Contact Information:

Yene Assegid, PhD

Beijing, China

+86 1561 1065 367 in China

+32 488 875555 in Belgium

+251-9-222900 in Ethiopia

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