**Wayni: Uncle Berhane’s house caretaker**

She worked at Berhane’s house

She worked at Berhane’s house, Lucia’s brother, for 20 years.

Berhane is Lucia’s brother.

Wayni: Mama was kind, I used to bring her **sua** and she would give me money for shoes or a *sweater. She was good to me.* The last time I was there, she asked me to d*o Kidane Mehrate sua (*a kind of homemade brew). And gave she five hundred Nakfa. Berhane used to tell me go and help my sister.

Wayni; Of Resene’s wedding, all the family attended. If my daughter marries here, I would not invite all of the family. Is this good? Ethiopia, Simon’s sister said one should invite all relatives. Because they are related in blood they should be invited as well. The family must be together. What would I do if they all come?

Lina: Ethiopia also said that these people are my ‘s family, my “aunts born of our family, so we will have to invite them. With my aunt they share bone so they have to be invited” we do not have the patience (bones meaning strength). But these people did bad for me.

Ethiopia; Yes, we want you to do good. The relatives are your own.

Lina: Earlier, why did Gezai not come to visit his brother? Gezai was angry with Berhane, I tried so hard and many times to take him visit his brother. Hanisu and Mebrat did not pay condolescenes when Berhane passed away, were they angry?

Ethiopia; They should come for the funeral but they were angry.

Wayni: About Lucia she was always good, no bad thing attached to her. She had many brothers and sisters, maybe that was the cause of her problems. She was kind and even if people felt that she was silly with her multiple generosity and work, she was remembered well.

There are no people like her.

Lina: Now she is gone and many of her *Sidra beit* are *rugomat,* unkind**.** Bad people.

Mulu, a neighbor of Berhane; adds, that Lucia’s family are bad people. There was goodness while she was alive, now only chaos.

Lina; They left us. Abraham is now fixing my grandfather house in Ader ada,

About si*dra beit* what it means? Now *sidra beit is Fahfa,* scattered.

Everyone is in their house.

Ethiopia: This is yours and your brother’s house, people are greedy,

Wayni: Berhane saw the advertisement in the paper and asked Maakele to call Lina

He was really angry. He called Semrate about it. Abraham came here and asked Semrate to help Lucia’s children, Lina and Andrea. Berhane wanted Lina and Andrea to know.

Lina; I came to Eritrea, and sent out a new advertisement; I even asked Elsa, why she did this. I asked her if she had birth certificate. That Berhane is her father, how can you do that???

Mulasho also said the same thing, that Berhane is her father and Lucia her mother. They have no fear, shame on them? One day I told Berhane what I heard regarding him been the parents of Elsa. He had heard about it and said that Elsa is sick in the head.

Lina; All of that is gone now—Semrate stayed and helped me and my brother. Alem always calls me and asks how we are doing.

Wayni; about *seidra beit,* it refers to one family where we are all born from the same origin. We have cousin Alem, who always wanted to talk about her aunt Lucia, we are cousins, and we have good *bahli* culture.

Lina: From my own family, will Zaid invite all of the family for the wedding of her daughter?

Wayni: I am sure she will invite all. She will choose maybe

Lina: From my family I would choose whom to invite maybe Berhane’s family, Simon, and Semate.

Ethiopia: It is not good. You should invite all. Family comes first. It does not look good for the family; some might come others not.

Like we have to go the path of good. We will greet them. Inviting them is the proper way to do, some might come others not. They put Lina through a lot, yet she succeeds and God helped her. Truth was given to her, showed her the truth. They should be embarrassed.

Ethiopia: they did so many bad things to her but she ended getting what she deserved. They lied and paid witnesses but lost in the end. God saved us because of the truth. *Hakahaki* truth is truth. But them they will think about their deeds, their consciousness will affect them.

Maakle: the one who made the mistake must ask for forgiveness.

Maakele: Let them first ask for forgiveness. Let them first ask to forgive, one does not invite the enemy, they need to ask forgiveness.

Mama was upset before but asked to visit him (Mahari) in Masawa. With Gezai she asked for forgiveness from her bother Mahari. The agreed to never fight again

They made peace, cried, and hugged, and then went to the wedding. The same should apply now, the relatives should ask for forgiveness before approaching them.

Lina: I sleep well at night; I do not let the past affect me. I just do not want them in the house. I get angry when I think about it.

Ethiopia: Because of what they did they will regret. *Tasa*(regret) the relatives should regret before Lina goes to see them.

Maakele: Since we are human beings, He refers to Semrate, who is here every day and they do not approach him, why would they approach Lina? Semrate took Berhane’s death bed advice that he should look after Lina and Andrea.  *Lebowa* (Tigrinya meaning advice before death). He spent five years he kept the advice. He comes with us to court and helps us. Poor Lina had to come even for three days. They hurt her through their deeds.

Ethiopia: They bought witnesses even a blind person can be a witness, for the truth.

Wayni: One day Semrate wore uncle Berhane’s cloths, Reshan spoke badly about it.

Reshan, Meberat Hanisu, Goii*, biselet* **(maturity)** (all spoke), Reshan brought someone who was her mother’s relative to witness too.

Maakele: These people make me mad, they ate and had everything they wanted now they betrayed Lucia (betrayed *Khidet*). They eat not Lucia’s money but Lina to whom they are giving her a hard time. Because she has good heart, she distributed the money to them. Now what do you do, to someone who betrays you while eating from your hands? What answer can you give?

They are born out of the same*mobokol, sega is sega*, when you hurt your own family that is the worst thing in the world. This is bad, you should help each other. Why are the other family member not interfering and make peace, they all know the truth. But only Semrate and Uncle Berhane who did not benefit from mother

Now if everything comes easy to her, when things become *focusila* **not** heavy, she might help them. Semrate the only one to help resulting in the family avoiding him except on *wray* **(**occasion).So, Ethiopia, it does not look good on you to insist on making peace with Andrea and Lina, first they should acknowledge for them to make peace with Semrate. Try with Semrate first who lives here, Lina and Andrea come and go. I for one do not care, I am not their family. But Semrate is their family. I already told you the situation is not as you see it. I do not want Lina to hate you but you need to know that the past with the family disturbs her. Best, if you speak with Semrate first not Lina.

Ethiopia: We do not have *zemed* now, who can help us in this case. They are gone, only Semrate, how can we do this idea of getting the family together?

This generation is different, it is the me the me generation.

Maakele:I have nothing and not family, I am close to L&A, but I recall Mama Lucia who trusted me and I try to help. Whatever you have do not get me in, about Mama even Semrate who is her nephew I am still closer to her than her family. I am not lying. It is hard for me to hear what they were saying about me it was *kebid* (Hard)

Retells about the money coming and he deposits not their own relatives who they did not trust.

They have bad eyes towards Semrate. Semrate worked with us in the court, who spoke the truth.

Ethiopia: I went and visited the Aderada, because of *hason,* mourning, but what the relatives did is a mistake. It has to be Semrate who should broker for peace?

Lina: I wonder what the family is thinking about now, for house for money?? Maakel used to say, the person who did bad is for him and so is the one who dose good, for himself. The judgment is in the act of doing, bad or good, it sticks for the doer. The good doer will be helped by their act

Maakle tells the story of how we found Alam Khasy who lives in Tesseni, she was a friend of Lucia. He spent a long time to find her.

Wayni: Lucia knew no differences between religious, nationalities, all welcomed

Alem: everyone was welcomed in her Lucia’s house, no discrimination in the house. She tells the story of the twins, Hassan and Hussein, and how Abshay (my big sister) Lucia, saved them.

Wayni: Husna would tell others that her country is Aderada and they all laughed at her. This is the influence of Lucia, Berhane used to laugh at Husna, Lucia raised all of these people and here is a girl (Husna) who said that she is from Aderada. Lucia raised them to say that they were born in Aderada

Maakele tells the story of how people sent money for the funeral. Husna especially.

Wayni: Aba Berhane children are close, untied and blessed family. Not like the rest. After Berhane’s death, Abraham took all of the responsibility of the house.

Maakele: What you receive from God, is for the good deeds.