

CEUTA, ESPAÑA 01. 11. 21

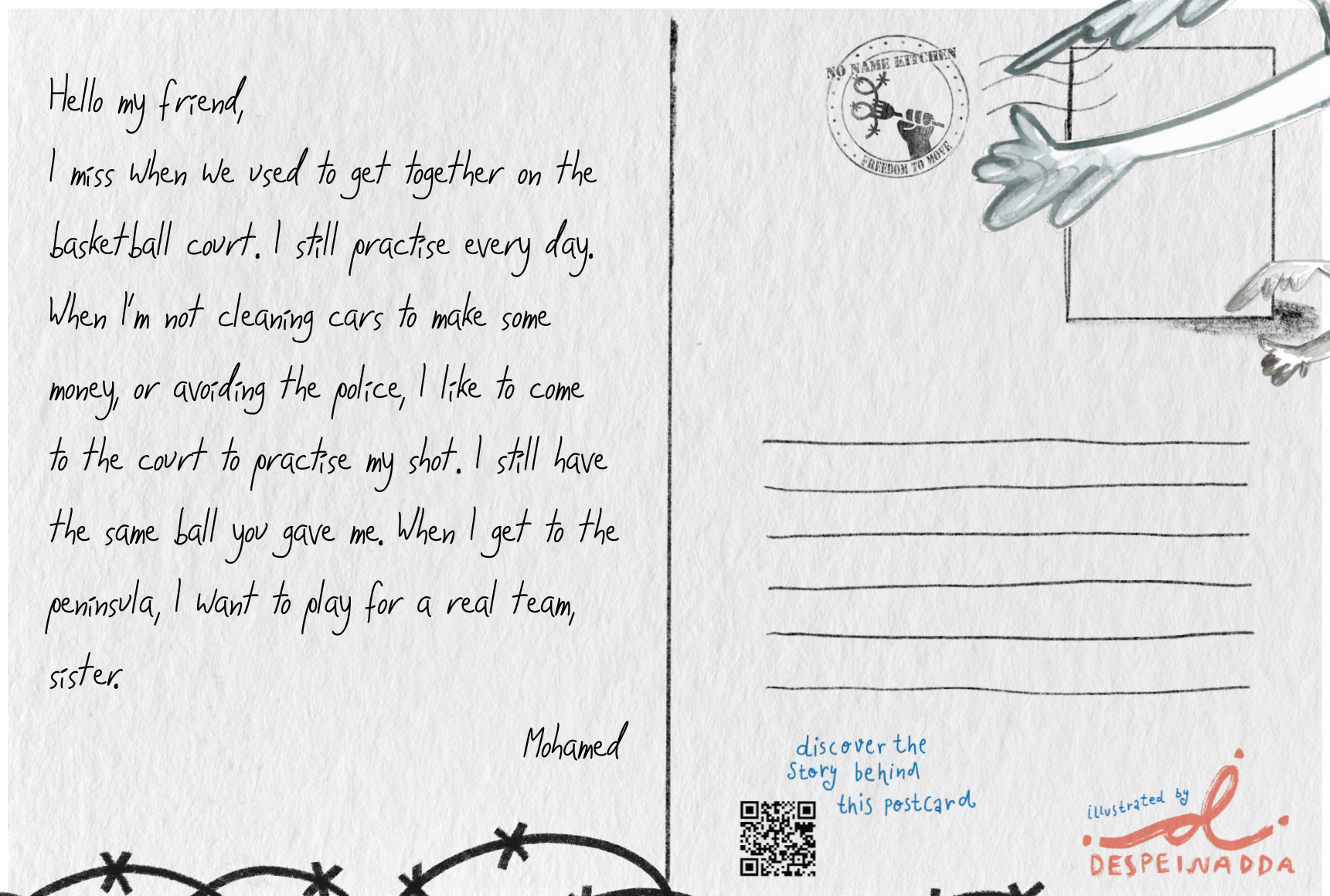


Close your eyes and think about yourself when you were 13 or 14 years old. What do you see? What were your concerns? Personally, my biggest concerns were to improve my shots during basketball training and to read as many fantasy books as possible.

But in Ceuta, minors face other worries. Hundreds of them live on the streets, hiding from the police and making a living in many different ways. Unfortunately, the conditions in the centre for minors are unacceptable. Minors suffer many kinds of violence there, to the point that they end up preferring to live on the street.

Being a minor in Ceuta is not easy. Every day they live in fear, violence, hunger and cold, but they are still full of dreams and hopes for the future.

Mohamed loves playing basketball. Every time we go to the court he is the first to arrive. He gets a little nervous when he gets the ball, but he looks for a teammate and passes it to him. When he shoots and scores, his face lights up. What's unusual about this situation? That he is only 14 years old and has lived the last four years on the street. Last Saturday, while we were playing, he said to me, "Sister, when I get to Spain I want to play basketball on a team and I want to be very tall."



Hello my friend,

I miss when we used to get together on the basketball court. I still practise every day. When I'm not cleaning cars to make some money, or avoiding the police, I like to come to the court to practise my shot. I still have the same ball you gave me. When I get to the peninsula, I want to play for a real team, sister.

Mohamed



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illustrated by
DESPEINADDA

