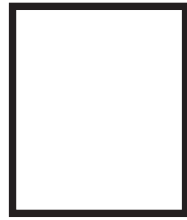
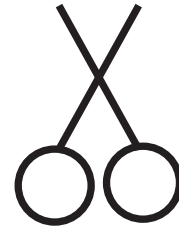


rock.

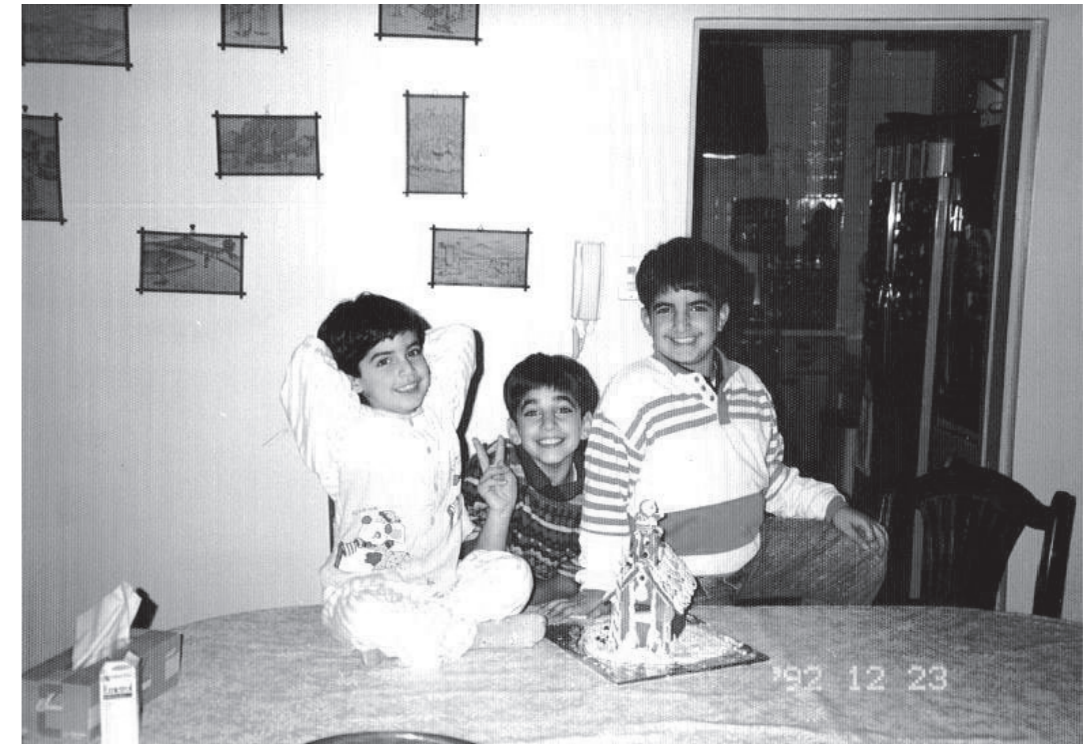


paper.



scissors.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY NURA SHEIDAE



Nima, Nadim and Nasir. Three brothers - born and raised in Japan, before immigrating to Canada - have not had a traditional upbringing. No matter how many countries and houses they have lived in, they have always found home in each other. And, as with all brothers, there have been disagreements, and there has been distance.

At points in their lives, the choices they made led them down different paths. Yet no matter how far apart they drifted, no matter how far one may have fallen, their love for one another kept them afloat.

The eldest and youngest, Nima and Nasir, both reside in Melbourne, Australia, while Nadim volunteers at the Baha'i World Centre in Haifa, Israel, along with his wife Shana. All three brothers are members of the Bahá'í Faith, which has a central belief in the importance of unity in all aspects of life - among family, and the community, as well as the oneness of god, religion and humanity.

Time is of the essence, and it's hard to do it all. This book follows Nima and Nasir and shows how they manage to pursue their different passions to give back to the community. All the while, they find time for each other... to love, and to laugh.



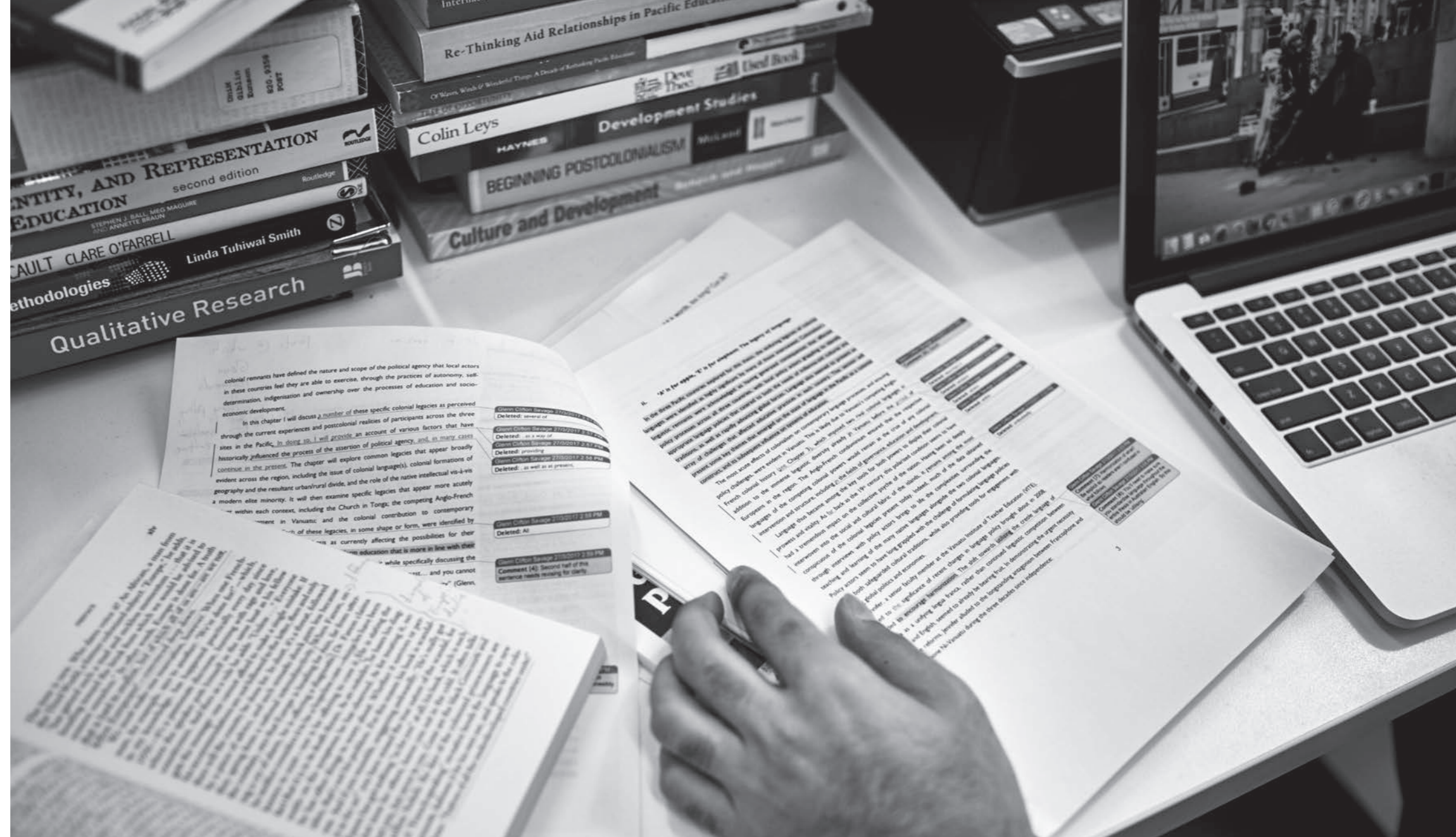
Sunday afternoon.





Nima, a teacher by trade, is in the fourth and final year of his PhD exploring the changing nature of education and development in the Pacific Islands.

He has interviewed local people in Tonga, Samoa and Vanuatu to better understand their perspectives on how shifting global conditions are influencing the local context, and to what extent they can exercise their own agency in having education systems and practices that suit their unique needs and cultures.





Nasir has been a closet artist for most of his life. Initially held back by his own doubts and insecurities about what a respected or meaningful profession looked like, he has only recently decided to follow his passions in barbering. Due to his raw talent and hunger to be the best he can be, within only a few years he now works at one of Australia's top barbershops, Brother Wolf.

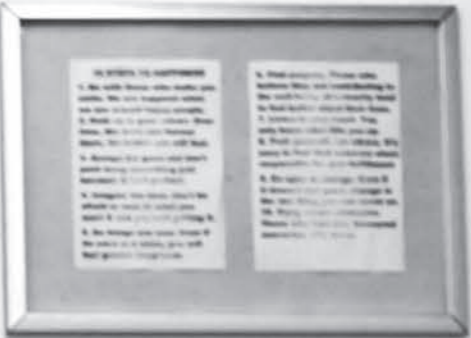
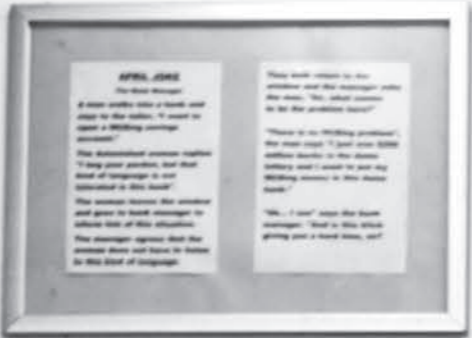




*Kymani. Nasir's
much loved
baby girl.*



Nadim dials in. He hasn't visited his brothers in the ten years since Nima first moved down to Australia. He will be arriving soon with his pregnant wife, Shana, before their baby is born.



Dry Tips:
 \$1 = 6 minutes
 When clothing is hung outside to dry, it is recommended to place clothes in dryer for short period to kill off any small bugs/insects.
 It is cheaper and greener to use our natural gas dryers rather than domestic home dryers.

Filters are cleaned daily to reduce drytime

UNATTENDED ITEMS IN WASHER/DRYER TO BE REMOVED WHEN THE MACHINE IS EMPTY



D1

D3

D7

D4

D8

W2



Nadim's head looks really tiny in the photo.





Helping Hoops is an independent charity in Melbourne that runs basketball programs for underprivileged children of all ages. Nima was recently asked to serve as Head Coach for Helping Hoops Future in Footscray - for youth aged 14-19 years.

Helping Hoops is also a key contributor to the South-Sudanese Australian National Basketball Association. On top of everything, Nima also coaches a team within this association, called the Yarra Wild Beasts - comprised mainly of South-Sudanese Australian youth living in public housing across Collingwood, Fitzroy and Richmond. They compete in two major national tournaments a year.





Nadim and Shana come to one of Nima's first training sessions of the season for Helping Hoops Future. There are a lot of new faces today, so the coaches have to put in more time with the kids to get them up to speed with the regular participants.





Nima reflects on the past season for the Yarra Wild Beasts. They celebrate the start of a new season with a barbeque and an awards ceremony.

A film crew is there filming a documentary on the Yarra Wild Beasts.





The Collingwood Senior Men's team took notice of Nima's accomplishments with Helping Hoops and the Yarra Wild Beasts, so they approached him to be an assistant coach for the 2017 season.



One of the club's most dedicated players' mother unexpectedly passed away just a few days ago. Nima and the team captain attended her funeral that morning. The entire team wore black armbands in her memory.





Nasir started Clean Cut Clean Start while he was still an apprentice barber. As fulfilling as his work had become, he realised that the long hours left him no time for service; to give back to the community. On one of his days off, Nasir saw a homeless man on the street and asked him if he wanted a haircut. Once he said yes, Nasir knew that he had found what was missing in his life - a way to combine his skill and passion to help people.



Nasir preps by disinfecting his tools.



Nasir finds a man in need of a haircut. A woman approaches, high on an unknown substance, and gets irritated about the intrusion of her 'block'. Nasir and the man move around the corner.

'It was all downhill when my father died' he said. His mother was sickened with grief and his relationship with his brother became violent to the point that he feared him. 'I would like to one day go to Alaska.'

Nasir: Why, who are you running away from?

Man: I'm not running away from anyone, I am running to my dad.





They exchange numbers. Nasir tells him to text him anytime he needs another cut.



Nadim and Shana's last night in Melbourne.







Nima volunteering at Soul Food, which takes place on the first Sunday of every month at the State Library. Open to the entire community, it gives people a tranquil environment to sit down and listen to readings from different philosophers, indigenous cultures, religions, and thinkers from all over the globe. The program is accompanied by visual pieces and live music.



Nasir hosts devotionals once a week in his home, open to all his friends, and friends of friends. Similar to Soul Food, they share readings and discussions on different themes - such as love, forgiveness, and service. He loves to end the session by asking each participant to reflect on what they can do tomorrow to enrich their lives for the better.

Nasir usually hosts up to 20 people for devotionals, but since moving homes, it has been a bit of a challenge to get it running again. Today, he only has a few close friends attending.







Today marks a milestone for Nasir.



Nasir takes his lunch break and walks around the corner to a tattoo parlour.





5 years sober.



No matter how hectic their schedules get, they always manage to find time for each other. Nasir often gives his big bro a clean up.





BARBER & SHAVING PARLOR





*Nima: Nas, come on, take off your sunglasses...
it's night time, you look silly.*

Nasir: What are you talking about? I look hella dope.

Nadim laughs.

Thank you.

Sobhani Brothers - as if your schedules weren't busy enough, you let me in. Creating this book was not a simple task, as we realised very early on. I can't believe some of the moments that I was privileged to capture, particularly since a lot of the events happened by chance, like Nadim visiting and Nasir's milestone. Now that we have finished, I value this book so much more as it represents us getting so much closer and hopefully it is something you will cherish as much as I will.

Rob & Jessie - I can be stubborn, pushy and annoying when it comes to my ideas, so I would like to thank you both for your legendary patience. Your advice kept me grounded and helped me focus on what was most important, narrative.

Sidney Shaw - Your attitude and chillness is just as cool as your superhero name. Thank you Sidney Shaw for putting up with my late emails and helping me find the direction of this book. Your fresh pair of eyes helped me lay out the path.

Familia - Leeva, you helped me with the structure and Badi, the integrity of the story. Thanks for always answering my calls and dealing with my constant nagging for advice. Parents, thanks for giving me strength whether it be through your words of wisdom or food, none will be forgotten.

Waterfall Chasers - Bec, Erik, Mads and Pat (alphabetic order so there is no favouritism, even though Bec is definitely my favourite) Thanks for being my 24-7 help desk. I would never on my own consider chasing waterfalls, but with you guys, I could never just stick to the rivers and the lakes that I'm used to, we too cool for that life.

HARRY SUTTON - In the event that I don't end up winning an Oscar, Harry, this is my shout out to you. You have been through a few drafts with me, you've seen the ugly side, thanks for still sticking around.

Roomies - Matt and Michael, there were ups and downs, but to make it short and sweet, thanks for always being there and making me laugh, I needed it.

Honourable Mentions - Ai-ping, Drew, Clare, Sam, Georgia. You never want too many cooks in the kitchen unless you believe they have something of value to add. Thanks for the touch-ups.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

This book has been produced at RMIT University (Vocational Education) in the Diploma of Photography and Photo Imaging program with the collaborative assistance of the Associate Degree in Professional Writing and Editing program.

Each photography student was assigned to produce a narrative photo-essay in the style of the 1950s Life Magazine. Their assignment requires them to work within the discipline of a traditional photojournalist; following their subject, they make images as the unbiased observer and create a story from what they document. This discipline is also required throughout the image processing and all accompanying text.

Across a three-month period, the students produce a self-published book. This includes seeking out their subject and following the story, developing the narrative storyline as it unfolds, and making relevant image selections to best convey that story. In addition, they design their books, along with drafting a written introduction and related captions. Finally, they prepare print-ready files for testing, through to their final book.

This cross-disciplinary collaboration is complemented through the establishment of professional relationships between photographers and editors, with editors supporting the project in varied ways – assisting photographers with narrative development and writing as required, and undertaking copyediting and proofreading.

“The collaborative experience for the photography students gave them insight into both the methodology and approach taken by writers and editors. This complemented and refined the learning that was taking place within the construction and development of their narrative projects. This provides the real-world experience of self-publishing.”

– Jessie DiBlasi, Robert Gale (Diploma of Photography and Photo Imaging teachers)

“Working not only collaboratively but across disciplines, programs, schools and sectors, provided complex challenges for the editing students involved. Creativity, flexibility and patience proved crucial. In responding to, and supporting, each photographer’s vision, the editors deepened their knowledge and understanding of the publishing process and diverse editorial roles.”

– Stephanie Holt (Advanced Editing teacher)

“These exciting and stylish publications are the result of highly successful collaboration between students from the School of Media and Communication and the School of Art. The project mirrors contemporary industry practice, demonstrating the strength of RMIT’s vocational education in the creative arts.”

– Clare Renner (Senior Advisor, Learning and Teaching, College of Design and Social Context)

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