I wonder: When people travel, how do they take their money with them?

How about.. Have you heard of this saying? The one that goes: Let's start over and rebuild from scratch. I like it this way...Sometimes, for examples, it feels like I'm suffocating. I tell myself: erase everything, act as if nothing happened.

It would be nice to erase everything as if nothing had happened, no? We would go to another country, erase everything, as if nothing had happened, and start over.

What do you think?

## No?

I don't think we're too old for this.

Many men have lost it all, their country, their savings. They emigrated and were older than we are now. Also, they became bigger, more important men. Think about it for a couple of minutes, at least five names will come to mind. Big men who immigrated and rebuilt from scratch and became even bigger.

I want to be very big.

What do you think? Do you want to start over?

I also wonder..do you know why the Mouzannar family hold their name? Apparently, during the Armenian massacres and the Typhoid outbreak, they fled, strapping their gold to their belts. And so, they called them Mouzannar ("belted or strapped") When I was younger, I used to always hear my grandma giving advice to neighbors planning their emigration. She would tell them to buy bars of gold with their savings and have men and women alike wear them. Women and men. This was towards the end of the eighties when they used to go by ferry to Larnaca. I mean, imagine yourself waiting in line at the airport behind a family strapped with bars of gold, about to pass through the metal detectors. You would have to be down on your luck to have to wait behind that family. What a pity. It can even be made into a curse: Oh Lord, please have him stuck behind a family trying to smuggle out their gold and make him miss his flight.

By the way, did you hear of those Syrian from five years ago? Remember them? The Syrians? The ones who made it to Hungary or some other Eastern European country, remember? They took all their gold, the security guards.. Did you hear that story?

My friend from East Germany fled with her family to Hungary, and when they crossed the river, they heard of the Berlin wall falling. Turns out they fled for no reason. But they were warmly welcomed at the time. Europeans amongst themselves, I don't know...

Some people, when they fled, would leave some food at home. Bread wrapped in cloth, in case they were to return, unable to cross the border.

It's sad. It would be very sad for someone to leave a refugee, and come back.

Did you that in Palestine, when people fled, they left behind instructions on how to care for the plants in the house, even keeping in touch with the new tenants to make sure the plants .were still ok

How nice would it be if, as they fled crossing Lebanese and Jordanian border, they would be told, "Hey, haven't you heard? It's all over, those people who came and took your home, left. Sleep here tonight and tomorrow you can go back home and ".eat the food you left behind

## .That would be nice

But sometimes, it sucks to have said goodbye to all your friends and your home, and end up coming back because you couldn't .leave

.Your PCR results are wrong, say

Or.. that you have a layover in the UK but only have a Schengen .visa

You get invited to a gig and tell the people inviting you that Heathrow won't work. They still book a ticket through Heathrow. I don't know..you get to the Beirut airport and they tell you you only have a Schengen visa.

It's happened before...not to me though. I never went to the UK. The whole of USA I haven't visited either. Really..But I have been to Chile.

There's a lot of Palestinians in Chile. It's quite simple: they are Palestinians from the same village. One of them, a guy from Beit Jala, got there and told the whole village back home. They all ended up going too! They are not Palestinians, they are the Beit Jala folk.

I'm talking a lot about Palestine, aren't I?

Maybe it's not the trend now. Maybe we should talk about something else. What else is there now? Hm..Afghanistan. Yes Afghanistan is trending now.

Did you hear what Macron said? Apparently he wants to meet with artists, journalists...hmm what else... and activists from the civil society. That's what he said.

## And their translators.

Just those...how about a shoemakers..schoolteachers..doctors?

No, those he doesn't care for. He just wants to see the ones I told you about.

Can you believe those pictures. They came out the same day I got my first Covid symptoms. I thought I was hallucinating from the heat. Turns out it wasn't that.

Listen..is it normal that I don't feel anything when I hear the American national anthem?

I'm tired..you know..I'm really tired.

But If I'm this tired already, how will I be able to start over from scratch? As if nothing happened. I'm really tired. Do YOU want to start over from scratch as if nothing happened?

You know what? Maybe we don't have to start over from scratch. We can just take it from here.

I mean...our lives can only get better right?