

Dear Pagume Publishers:

This is a follow-up email to the estimates provided to Dr. Solomon Ali (see attached PDF).

Let's pick it up from where Dr. Solomon left it, using my address ([aynalema2012@gmail.com](mailto:aynalema2012@gmail.com)). Here are additional details:

***Book Title: Walking Between Worlds: Letters to the Second Generation of the Ethiopian Diaspora***

I'm seeking representation/publication for my narrative nonfiction manuscript, ***Walking Between Worlds: Letters to the Second Generation of the Ethiopian Diaspora*** (approx. **150,000 words**). Spanning fifty years—from age fourteen to sixty-four—the book braids personal history, public-service practice, and short, instructive “Fireside Interludes” addressed to the children of the Ethiopian diaspora. It asks a simple question with large consequences: **What does it take to translate inheritance into action—across languages, borders, and generations?**

**Why this story, and why now?**

I came of age in Ethiopia during political upheaval, then built a career in U.S. public service, designing equity measures, maps, and field-tested programs that connect policy to bread-on-the-table results. The book moves in **two registers**: (1) life and work in the United States, where I helped public agencies bring data and dignity into the same conversation; and (2) a sustained, concrete reflection on what that same work would demand **in Ethiopia and for Ethiopia**. This dual lens is not theoretical. It's the daily reality of millions who live with one foot in a new country's systems and the other in an old country's responsibilities.

The need is generational as well as global. The **second generation**—children who grew up fluent in American institutions but accountable to Ethiopian kin—are being asked to lead. Many are hungry for practical guidance that respects their elders, their professional skills, and the complexity of the country that named them. *Walking Between Worlds* meets them where they live: in the intersection of **story, method, and use**.

**What the book is**

- **A narrative arc** that begins with a lone walk at fourteen, tracks education and migration, and lands in the practice of equity-driven public work.
- **Eleven chapters**, each ending with a **Fireside Interlude**—a two- to three-page letter that distills the chapter into portable tools (e.g., “fix the denominator,” “map the gap,” “co-locate services where people already are”). These interludes are the book's promise to the subtitle: letters that can be used in classrooms, clinics, councils, and living rooms.

- **A family ledger**, especially the twelve-person household of my in-laws, whose names and stories anchor the book's moral center—how ordinary people keep communities intact through discipline, humor, and service.
- **A translation of science into everyday language**: I render the findings of a peer-reviewed framework (index design, legibility, and field implementation) in plain prose so a mayor, a mother, and a math teacher can each act on it.

### Why the length (and how we'll work with it)

The manuscript is long by design. It covers **five decades**, carries a **dual-country lens**, and includes **interludes** that teach as they reflect. That said, I'm practical about format. The aim is a book that **stays generous but reads quick**.

### Audience & comps

Primary readers:

- **Second-generation Ethiopian (and broader African) diaspora** navigating identity, obligation, and leadership.
- **Civic professionals** (public health, social services, education, planning) seeking equity methods they can actually apply.
- **General readers of literary memoir** that crosses borders and turns witness into work.

Positioning/comps (tone and ambition):

- Readers of immigrant memoir and civic argument—books that **teach without preaching** and **feel lived-in**. Think the practical moral clarity and civic focus of titles that blend personal narrative with public stakes, and the epistolary warmth of interludes that read like field notes or letters home.
- In structure, the **chapter + interlude** rhythm will appeal to readers who like narrative intercut with distilled takeaways—portable, quotable, and classroom-ready.

### Author background

- **Public-service practitioner** with years inside U.S. state and county systems—program design, measurement, and field operations (disaster response, food access, enrollment).
- **Translator between worlds**: raised in Ethiopia; professional life in the U.S.; frequent returns to Ethiopia to ground proposals in lived context.
- **Teacher and mentor** for nearly two decades in American classrooms (while awaiting permanent residency), with a persistent commitment to **legibility**—making complex ideas usable for non-specialists.

- **Community connector** with strong ties to Ethiopian diaspora networks, scholars, and faith/community leaders. I am prepared to leverage these networks for early readers, launch events, and sustained word-of-mouth.

### **Status & materials**

- **Full manuscript** complete at ~150,000 words.
- **Proposal packet** available: chapter summaries; market analysis; outreach plan (diaspora organizations, universities, city/Kilil agencies, faith communities); sample interludes for course packets and community discussion guides.
- All excerpts/quotations from public figures are brief and properly cited; I am attentive to permissions where necessary and willing to work with your permissions team.

### **Why this publisher**

Your list champions **global nonfiction with civic stakes** and **memoir that equips**. You publish books that keep faith with both craft and consequence—stories that travel, ideas that serve. This manuscript is a fit for an editor who cares about **clarity, compassion, and practical impact**.

With appreciation,

**Aynalem Adugna, PhD**

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**Enclosures:** Your cost estimate to print 1000 copies of the book