



Brainwashed Transcript

Lee Hark Joon: When I was growing up, I learned about the divide between the South and the North. For my generation, the North means a scary place, an enemy. But we came to realize that they're not that different from us. Nothing has changed, however, in North Korean education. It's brainwashing. They teach that the "Dear Leader" is the best, and that North Korea is the strongest and the most independent country in the world.

Narration: The journalists witness the power of North Korean nationalism firsthand. They meet a woman, Park Gum Sok, who escaped to South Korea two years ago and became a citizen. Now she has come to China to meet her sister, Park Eun Sook, who has recently been smuggled out of the North.

She hopes to convince her sister to try to escape from China to South Korea.

But it's not an easy sell. Eun Sook has a boyfriend in North Korea. And moreover a belief in her "Dear Leader."

Geum Sook (subtitle): I would've died if I hadn't escaped. Do you know how many people have died there? Over three million since the famine.

Eun Sook (subtitle): Did they starve to death?

Geum Sook (subtitle): Of course. Everyone knows that except you guys in North Korea. You're surrounded by a wall.

Eun Sook (subtitle): No, no, no. It's because we're a socialist country. Capitalists criticize us.

Geum Sook (subtitle): The Chinese criticize you, too.

Eun Sook (subtitle): What Chinese?

Geum Sook (subtitle): They call him Kim Jong Il. You guys are the only ones who call him the General.

Eun Sook (subtitle): He's the Dear Leader, he's not the General.

Geum Sook (subtitle): Oh, whatever. That "dear leader" of yours is the one who killed us all and made us starve.

Eun Sook (subtitle): He made us starve? No, it's because people didn't work hard enough.



Geum Sook (subtitle): Don't make me laugh! If he really cared, why would he live so well himself?

Eun Sook (subtitle): He starved with us.

Geum Sook (subtitle): Yeah right. That's why he's so fat!

Eun Sook (subtitle): No. It's not because he overeats. It's lack of sleep. It makes his stomach stick out. I know maybe I should stay. It's like heaven's crashing down. I'd like to, but I can't betray North Korea.

Geum Sook (subtitle): Go on then. Go save your country.

Eun Sook (subtitle): Save socialism, save socialism.

Lee Hark Joon: It was an impossible situation. Geum Sook tried to persuade her sister for ten days, but Eun Sook refused to go.

Narration: Eun Sook decides instead to risk returning to North Korea.