

**Friday 03, 3, 07**

**Junior**

*IN PRISON C.*

*I'm called A. I am 14 and all I know is the month of my birth, based on what my aunt has told me. I used to go to the primary school of the village, but I left in second class and had never met my mother up until then - until the age of 12.*

*She appeared at my grandmother's house at 4 in the morning. She looked at me and kissed me, crying. I had no idea what was going on, so my grandmother, who was also crying said, "Junior, this is your mother". I was more PROUD than I had ever been.*

*I started my new family life but then, three months later, my mother got sick. She was taken to the Central Hospital of Y. Two weeks later she died. Aged 12, I was profoundly unhappy because for the rest of my life, I wouldn't have a mother. It's because of this that I am in prison.*

*I would like the person who reads this letter to understand how difficult life is here. My dream since I was born was to become a footballer. I'd love to come to your country. I ask you, by whatever means, to help me. I want you to understand.*

*My mother died in 2005. After her death, I started being a vandal. I lived on the street and, when you are a street child, you are a bandit. You need to commit crimes.*

*I didn't know my father. I would like to live with an adoptive family and live like one of their own. Now that I am in prison, I think of my mother and I realise that I have done senseless things. The time has come for me to change. My two big brothers, Y. and S., have wives and families and aren't interested in me. Friends, I may or may not end up on the road, but I would like to be with you. However, I don't know how to make that happen.*

*I'd like to be with you for a marvellous life. I don't get visits from my brothers and I only have God in my life.*

*Thank you*