

MEETING ELA



**After losing her father, her home, and her childhood on October 7, a teenage girl from Kibbutz Be'eri discovers that her voice is the one thing no one can take away. As that voice carries her far beyond the borders of the community where she grew up, she embarks on a journey across continents, navigating grief, memory, and the difficult task of choosing who she wants to become in a world that has fallen apart.**



On October 7, 2023, fourteen-year-old Ela Shani Kozin spent endless hours trapped inside the safe room of her home in Kibbutz Be'eri as the world she knew collapsed around her. In the days that followed, she learned that her father had been murdered and that her sixteen-year-old cousin, Amit Shani, had been kidnapped to Gaza. Determined to bring him home, Ela joined the fight for his release. What began as a deeply personal mission soon carried her across the United States, where she became an unexpected voice for those still held in captivity. But after Amit's release and as the world slowly moved on, Ela's journey entered a new chapter. Now seventeen, she finds herself suspended between childhood and adulthood, memory and reinvention. As she embarks on a new journey, the questions that once seemed simple become increasingly complex. Filmed over several years, Meeting Ela follows one young woman's search for identity and belonging as she struggles to decide who she wants to become in a world forever changed.



*"MY NAME IS ELA SHANI KOZIN. I WAS  
JUST A GIRL FROM KIBBUTZ BE'ERI.*

*I HAD NEVER SPOKEN IN PUBLIC  
BEFORE.*

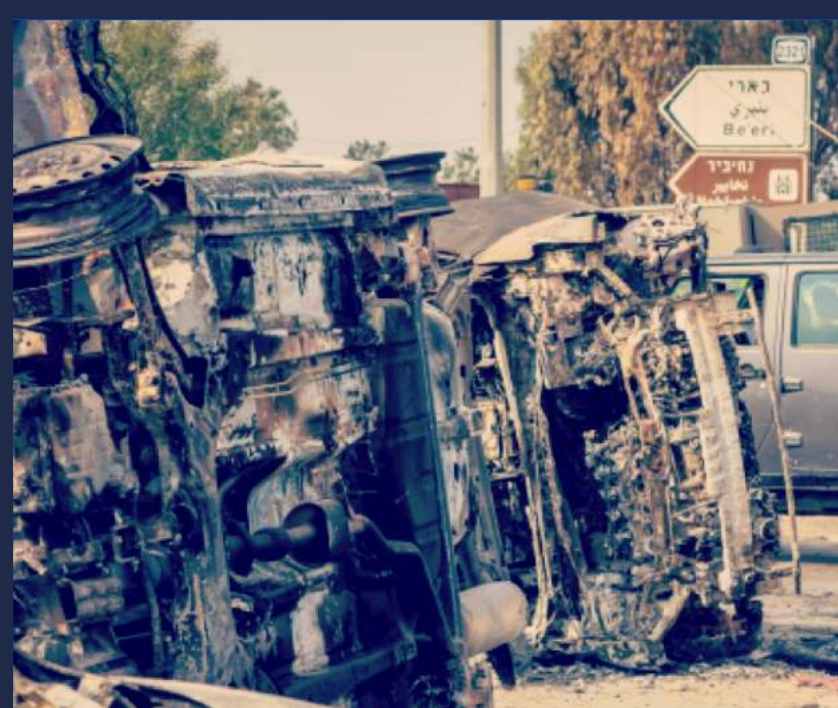
*BUT AFTER OCTOBER 7TH,  
SILENCE NO LONGER FELT POSSIBLE.*

*SO I PRESSED RECORD.*

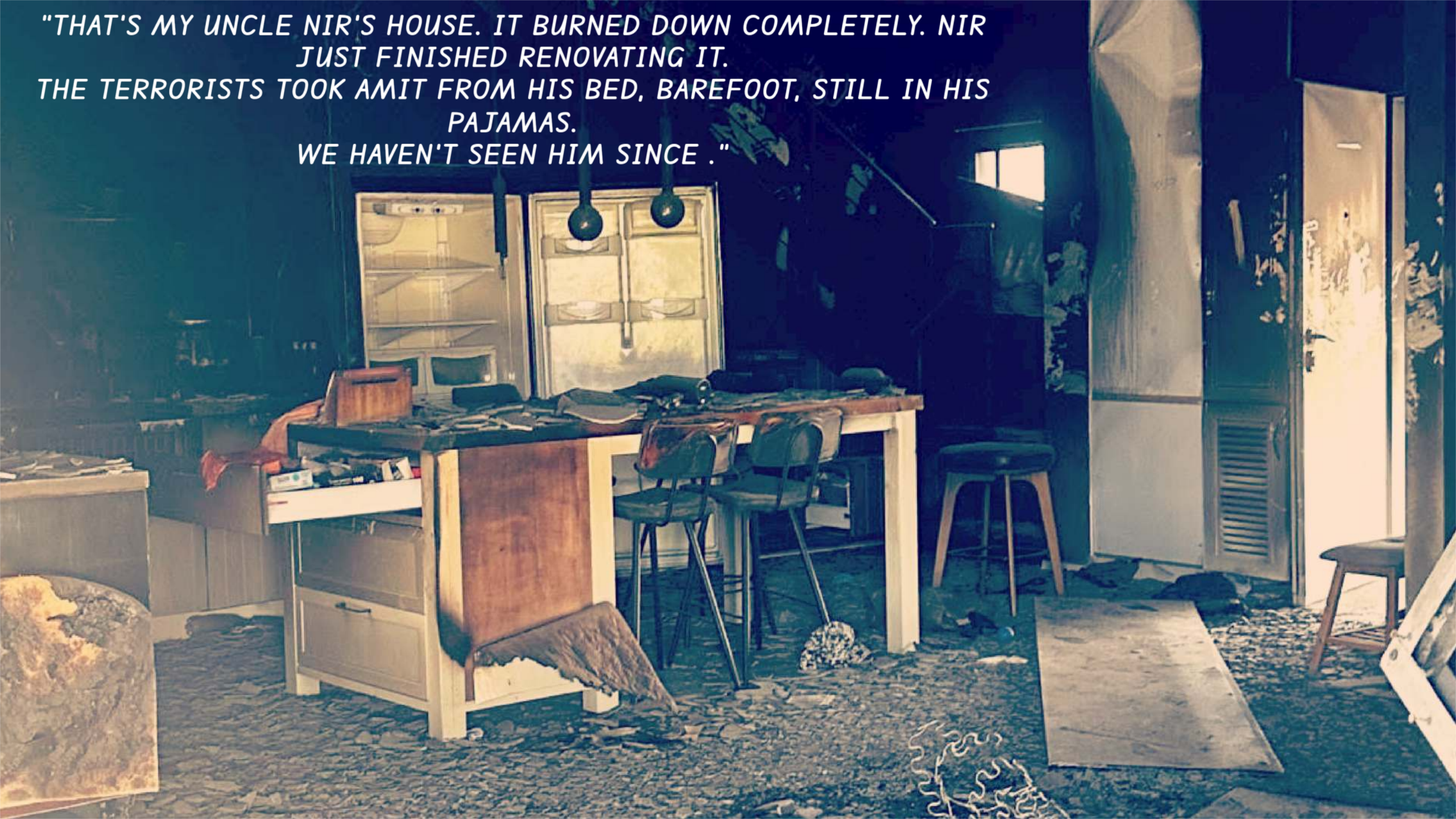
*I DIDN'T KNOW IT THEN,*

*BUT THAT MOMENT WOULD TAKE ME FAR  
AWAY FROM HOME.*





**"THAT'S MY UNCLE NIR'S HOUSE. IT BURNED DOWN COMPLETELY. NIR  
JUST FINISHED RENOVATING IT.  
THE TERRORISTS TOOK AMIT FROM HIS BED, BAREFOOT, STILL IN HIS  
PAJAMAS.  
WE HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE ."**



"MY DAD IS NOT COMING BACK.  
AND MY FRIENDS ARE NOT  
COMING BACK. BUT AMIT CAN  
COME BACK."

TLV → LA → NY



"I WAS FOURTEEN.  
AND SUDDENLY, PEOPLE  
WERE LISTENING."







"After Fifty-four days in captivity,

Amit came home.

It was a huge relief.

And for the first time in weeks,

we could finally breathe."



“Two years have passed.

The war drags on.

I am seventeen now,

And everything is different.



**"I NEVER CALLED HIM  
"DAD" OR TOLD HIM  
THAT I LOVE HIM.  
NOW IT'S TOO LATE".**



**Before**

**Itzik Kozin**



**After**



בבית זה התגורר איציק קוזין שנרצח  
במתקפת הטרור האכזרית ב-7.10  
IN THIS HOUSE LIVED **ITZIK KUZIN** WHO  
WAS BRUTALLY MURDERED IN THE HAMAS  
TERROR ATTACK ON OCTOBER 7TH

יזכור | 7.10

"His name is Itzik Kozin.  
He was my father.  
And this was our home."

“AS I CONTINUE SHARING MY STORY, I DISCOVER PARTS OF THE WORLD I WASN'T PREPARED FOR.

THE ANGER.

THE CERTAINTY.

THE FEELING THAT PEOPLE HAVE STOPPED LISTENING TO EACH OTHER.

AND SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY, I REALIZE HOW LITTLE I UNDERSTAND.

SO I PACK A SUITCASE.

AGAIN.”



# GRETA THUNBERG CLAIMS 'KIDNAPPING' ON INTL. WATERS

SOUNDBITE

DAWN NEWS  
ENGLISH



TLV



EUROPE

## **EARLY INDUSTRY RESPONSE:**

### ***Rabinovich Foundation-***

"A remarkably original project with an exceptional protagonist. With a compelling true story and confident directorial vision, the film holds significant potential."

"Meeting Ela understands that its greatest subject is not the war, but the girl herself."

### ***Makor Foundation-***

"Ela emerges as a powerful cinematic character, capable of carrying a feature-length film. The emotional and narrative potential of the project is exceptional."

"Ela's story is a unique coming-of-age journey under unimaginable circumstances, revealing extraordinary emotional strength in the face of an impossible reality."



"I can tell you that running away from HAMAS, is easier than walking in these heels."

**Its a personal story of an extraordinary girl from an ordinary rural community, making sense and building hope from a tragic and divisive moment in history through her journey captured by this film..**

