

AASTU NIGHTS - EP 2 - MISSING PROFESSORS

Welcome to AASTU Nights, the podcast that brings you all the latest happenings from the campus of Addis Ababa Science and Technology University. I'm your host, THE HOST, and today we are going to take you on a journey through the mysterious and unsettling events that have been taking place at this university.

Welcome back to AASTU Nights. I'm your host, THE HOST. Last week, we delved into the secrets of our beloved university. We uncovered some unsettling truths about the dark roads just outside of AASTU and the mysterious rules that students have to abide by. But tonight, we have an even more disturbing tale to tell.

Hello listeners, tonight's episode is all about the new ID barcode scanners that have been installed at the campus gates and cafe doors. They seem to be everywhere, yet we know so little about them.

At first, it seemed like a harmless security measure. Students and faculty members were required to scan their ID cards before entering the campus and cafe in order to ensure that only authorized individuals were allowed access. But as time went on, some strange things started happening.

Students began reporting that the scanners weren't just reading their ID cards - they seemed to be scanning something else too. Some even claimed that they felt a strange tingling sensation as the scanner passed over their card. As the rumors began to spread, more and more students started to feel uneasy about the barcode scanners.

As the controversy continued, more and more strange occurrences were reported. It's common knowledge that guards stationed near the scanners were not quite human. Some students claimed that they had seen the eyes of the guards glowing an eerie shade of red as they scanned students. While others claimed that they had experienced strange vivid dreams or visions involving them and the guards.

One particularly vocal critic of the scanners was a fresh student named Leah. She started a petition to have the scanners removed, arguing that they were an invasion of privacy and a health risk. But her efforts were met with resistance from the university administration, who claimed that the scanners were necessary for campus security.

We now have Leah here with us to tell us what she thinks about it all:

[LEAH]: Thank you for having me on the show. I want to start by saying that I never expected to find myself in the middle of a nightmare when I enrolled at this university.

But the more I learn about these scanners, the more I feel like I'm trapped in a waking nightmare.

These scanners emit levels of radiation that could have disastrous effects on our bodies. And the university administration insists on keeping them in place, claiming they're necessary for security. But there's something much darker and more insidious at play here.

Something strange is going on here, and I think it goes deeper than just the scanners. There's a sense of unease in the air, like there's something lurking just beneath the surface. I don't know what it is, but I'm determined to find out. I won't rest until the truth is brought to light and the students of AASTU are free from the shadowy forces that seek to control us. And I hope that others will join me in this fight.

[THE HOST]: Campus security just walked in our studio, and they're dragging Leah out. I don't know why but they are putting on her what seems to be a tattoo of a barcode on her skin and they're scanning it. She is looking at me with the most helpless of eyes and screaming "BURN YOUR ID, BURN IT. DON'T LET THEM SCAN YOUR SOUL!, ESPECIALLY YOU!!" Leah seems to be in a trance-like state now, staring blankly outside the window as they scan her barcode. It's a chilling sight, and I can't help but wonder what kind of horrors the scanners are capable of. And now campus security guards are carrying Leah out of the studio and into the hallway disappearing from view. And as I sit here in the quiet of the studio, I can't shake the feeling that something deeply wrong is happening. It all feels like pieces of a twisted puzzle, one that I'm not sure I want to solve.

AND NOW LISTENERS, THE WEATHER! [MUSIC]

Welcome back dear listeners, I know you might be worried about what happened to Leah but Campus Security affirmed that she's in good hands.

In other news you may have noticed the strange disappearance of several professors at our esteemed university. It started with Professor Felix, who failed to show up to his scheduled lecture two weeks ago. Initially, his colleagues assumed that he had fallen ill or had an emergency, but as days turned into weeks, it became clear that something much more darker was happening.

Professor Felix was nowhere to be found, and none of his colleagues or students had heard from him. And then, more disappearances began to occur. Professor Ben, a beloved and well-respected member of the faculty, vanished without a trace. And then it was Professor Caleb, and Professor Abigail.

As the disappearances kept on happening, a sense of unease began to settle over the campus. Students and faculty members alike found themselves looking over their shoulders, wondering who might be the next to disappear. And even as the university tried to downplay the situation and reassure the community that everything was under control, it was clear that something was very wrong.

If you found Professor Felix, just pick up your phone and scream “I FOUND PROFESSOR FELIX”. You don’t need to dial any number, your phone doesn’t even need to be turned on. But they’ll know where you are and who you are.

They will come for you in the dead of night, their eyes glowing with an otherworldly light as they drag you into the shadows. And once they have you, they’ll ask you questions - questions about the missing professor, about what you saw and heard and felt. And you’ll answer, because you can’t help but answer. Their voices are like nothing you’ve ever heard before, hypnotic and seductive and terrifying all at once. They’ll draw you in with promises of secrets and knowledge beyond imagination, but you’ll soon realize that there’s a price to pay for their twisted gifts.

So be careful, dear listeners. Be very, very careful. For the horrors that lurk in the shadows of AASTU are not to be trifled with. And if you stumble across the whereabouts of a missing professor, be prepared to face the consequences - whatever they may be.

Oh my God. Professor Felix is in our Studio. Omg what should we do? He seems to be frozen and staring at me very intensely. His eyes are wide and unblinking, and his skin is a sickly shade of pale. I can feel his gaze piercing through me, like he’s looking straight into my soul. The producers in the studio also seem to be in a state of shock.

I’m going to try to speak to him, to ask him what’s happened, but my voice catches in my throat. The air in the room feels thick and heavy, like a suffocating fog. Ohw, he looks like he’s going to say something:

[FELIX]: "It's too late for me. But you can still save yourselves. Get out of AASTU while you still can. There are things here that you can't even begin to comprehend. Run, and don't look back."

And then, without warning, Professor Felix starts to move. His body contorts and writhes, like something is trying to claw its way out from inside him. His limbs flail wildly, and his mouth opens in a silent scream. It's a sight straight out of a nightmare, and I can feel my sanity slipping away.

I can hear something moving in the studio, something that's getting closer and closer. It's like a cold hand reaching out to grab me, to drag me down into the darkness. And then I see it - a pair of glowing eyes, staring at me from the darkness. They're like nothing I've ever seen before, like the eyes of some monstrous creature. And they're getting closer, so much closer. I try to scream, to run, to do anything to escape. But my body is frozen, my mind paralyzed with fear. The creature's eyes are the last thing I see before everything goes dark.

And then I wake up, I'm in a place that's not quite AASTU anymore. The sky is a sickly shade of green, the air reeks of sulfur, and there are things moving in the corner of my eyes that I can't quite make out. I don't know where I am or how I got here but It's like I've been here before, like a part of me still lives in this void and I can feel the emptiness in my heart longing for it. Though for most this place looks gruesome and disgusting, it feels like my abandoned home. Like I've lived long enough to live a life worthy of stories here. And just when I was making peace with the void I'm instantly brought back to the studio. And then, just as suddenly as it started, it's over. Professor Felix collapses to the ground, his body still and lifeless. I can't move, I can't breathe, I can't think. All I can do is stare at his lifeless form. Then I can hear a distant voice calling my name, snapping me back into reality.

When I look around I'm just at the gates of AASTU scanning my ID.