## Mystery: Pregnant woman dies after falling inside pits twice in one week

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Tweet

Late blessing

The look on his face said it all, and it was a look with many emotions rolled up in one.

Each of his words was laced with a deep sense of grief, despair, and confusion; he had lost his woman and his first son in one day.



The pit

Buchi Eze, 30, stood awkwardly on the edge of the pit, where his woman, Blessing, had fallen to her death. She was 23 years old and was eight months pregnant.

Perhaps, Eze's confusion overrode other emotions as he told his story because only a day before, Blessing had just returned home from a hospital, where she was on admission for four days after falling inside a pit beside the one in which she had taken her last fall.

"I am confused; I don't understand how my woman fell inside the pits twice in one week," he said with a look that seemed to be seeking for answers in the air.

"Her death was painful and I don't think it was natural. The pits have been there for a long time and she met them here when she moved in with me in January, so how did she fall inside the pits twice in six days? She was not mentally unstable and did not show any suicidal tendencies.

"All the children in the compound pass there always and none of them has fallen inside before, so I am still confused. After she fell inside one of the pits the first time, I dismissed it as a mistake, but after the second one, I concluded that it was not natural."

The couple shared a rented room in an uncompleted building on Akinola Street in Lusada community, Ado-Odo/Ota Local Government Area of Ogun State, until the incident.

Both pits were meant to serve as septic tank and soak away for the adjoining house but because there was no fence separating the buildings, Eze and other occupants of the house only had to walk about two metres from their backyard door to reach the edge of the pits.

Both pits had been overgrown by weeds after being abandoned since 2012.

Eze had not slept in the house since the incident occurred because he was afraid of what memories of Blessing and all they shared would come with. He feared the worst; he was frightened that they would bring nightmares and more tears.

Since Blessing's death, Eze has been having goose pimples every now and then, so he concluded that her spirit still hovered nearby.

Eze's curiosity was also piqued by Blessing's last words to him after he had jumped in the pit to save her.

"I was on my way home when I heard that my woman was in pit the second time," he said. "When I got there, I saw my woman lying face down in the pit again. She was sleeping gently when I left home. She lay on the ground face down. People were holding me but I jumped inside the pit.

"As I raised her head up, she seemed to regain consciousness. I said 'why again? Do you want to kill me? She said she did not know how she got there, and that she just realised where she was as we were talking."

## First fall

The first incident occurred at around 6pm on Monday, July 25, 2016, while Eze was away at a mill in Agbara, an industrial estate, where he used to hustle for casual labour for N850 a day.

"Around the time the first incident occurred, I was at the flour mill and I started having a strange feeling that something bad was happening," he said.

"I was getting angry for no reason at all and about 30 minutes later, my neighbour called me on the phone to say that I should return home immediately.

"When I got home, I saw my woman lying down beside one of the pits. She had been brought out. I was told that she fell inside the pit. I asked one of my neighbours to take her to the hospital while I tried to withdraw money from the Automated Teller Machine. The woman helped me take her to the hospital. The doctor rejected her and said he could not handle the case. Then she was taken to another hospital, where she was accepted and treated well. Some pastors also prayed for her and she was okay. We were in the hospital for four days and then the doctor said she needed blood and that it would cost me N20, 000.

"I did not have the money, and I told the doctor I was expecting some money- N30,000, so he said I should take her home and

bring her back anytime I had the money. I planned to buy her blood tonic and fruits pending when I would be able to take her back to the hospital.

"We returned home on Friday, July 29, and ate and played together. She bathed and said she felt okay. We prayed and slept. We did a scan and the baby was said to be fine- a bouncing baby boy.

## Second fall

"On Saturday morning, I boiled some water for her and after she bathed, she said she wanted to eat and I gave her food. It was Lusada market day. So I left to buy her some fruits so that she could use that to replenish till when the money I was expecting would come.

"Then, I had an ominous feeling again. I said what kind of sign is this? So I started going home. By the time I approached the house, I heard people shouting. When I got home, I saw my woman lying down in the pit again."

Blessing was taken to the hospital again but before midnight, she and her baby were confirmed dead.

"The doctor said he would remove the baby to try to save her and I said no problem, let my woman just be okay," Eze continued.

"After the doctor removed the baby, we saw that he was dead. I think the problem was serious because she hit her tummy on ground when she fell. Then my woman went into a coma and started vomiting blood from her mouth and nose. Everyone was shouting, even the doctor said he had never seen anything like it.

"He tried and tried to save her but couldn't. We called her name, she didn't answer but her eyes remained open. She was not talking but blood was coming out of her mouth. I was calling her people to tell them what was happening. By 11.30, the generator went out and by the time they put it back on, she took her last breath. I touched her, but she did not move again, she did not talk to me. I was just confused. I looked at the baby; I looked at her. Both of them were dead."

When Blessing was alive, Eze said the two of them had had a playful argument over which sex they wanted their baby to be and he was glad when a scan confirmed his wish to have a boy.

So he named the baby Austin while Blessing said she would keep her child's name to herself till she was delivered of the baby.

Eze's parents in Imo State had also been expectant that finally one of their sons would give them a grandson, even though one of their daughters already had a son.