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Refugee's Return

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and Vietnamese
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Refugee's Return

by
Anna Nguyen

	<i>motor rumbles louder than</i>
multiple dialect conversations about	<i>grumbling stomachs and shrieking babies</i>
	<i>what lies beyond the</i>
mountains consumed in trees?	<i>Dark waters the boat parts?</i>
I drink in vision of	<i>my mother with</i>
cloudy forest backdrop and	<i>a child cradled in</i>
gnarled branches that I see as	<i>her arms</i>
	<i>she sings the sun into its afternoon slumber</i>
behind sunglasses	<i>her eyes close and</i>
her mind lulls her to peaceful past.	<i>She imagines sun</i>
smiling, she points at	<i>glimmering upon</i>
womyn washing	<i>tattered clothing</i>
	<i>they hope</i>
river cleanses	<i>despair from</i>
mud-ridden clothes and	<i>war-trodden homeland,</i>
their land of the unmindful	<i>foreigners</i>
whose presence grows, like ripples that	<i>roll to shore,</i>
	<i>will return no more</i>

About the Author

Minh-Giang (Anna) Nguyễn is lecturing at Huế University: College of Foreign Languages under the Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship. She graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in Sociology and Mass Communications, then she taught fifth grade for three years in East San Jose.

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