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Refugee's Return

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by
Anna Nguyen

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

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.