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Refugee's Return

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Journal of Southeast Asian American Education & Advancement

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Refugee's Return

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 roll to shore,

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.

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