

## Poetry

### I Am a Refugee And

*by Mohamed Ali Aissaoui*

I am a refugee and  
I am a prisoner in your country,  
I am a student,  
I am political,  
I am opposed to any military dictatorship,  
I am the grandfather of two girls,  
I am the father of four children—one girl and three boys,  
I am a Muslim,  
I am a good practitioner,  
I am very happy with my teacher,  
I am friendly, honest and serious.

### The Sweetness of Being a Refugee

*by Agustin Nsanzineza Gus*

I would be the king of the world  
I would go wherever I want to  
I would fearlessly knock at every door  
I would be assisted by whosoever  
I would be cared for by everybody  
I would inspire compassion in people's hearts

...a refugee is a citizenshipless citizen  
A heartless human being  
A consciousnessless conscience  
An unbearable burden  
A society dirty and toy  
A spier and a spoiler  
And what not...

We all belong to the family of Humans  
Did I say humans?  
No, sorry  
The world of potential refugees  
Or better than that  
The world of refugees to be

Reprinted in Nyers, Peter. *Rethinking Refugees: Beyond States of Emergency*.