

WHERE THE CHILDREN SLEEP**SHORT TEXT FOR EIGHT VOICES****BASED ON A PHOTO REPORT IN AFTONBLADET 2015**

<http://darbarnenover.aftonbladet.se/>

Voice 1

Where the children sleep

Voice 2

under a bush

behind a hedge

Voice 1

Where the children sleep

Voice 2

in a forest

in a park

Voice 1

Where the children sleep

Voice 2

On a bench

on a lawn

Voice 1

- darkness tucks them in
as it tries to cover them
the bush
the bench
their sleep
Stretching along the railwaytracks
somewhere at the boarder between Serbia and Hungary

Short pause

Voice 3

Where the children sleep

Voice 4

by the railroadtracks

Voice 3

Where the children sleep

Voice 4

deep in the woods

Voice 3

in a run down bus station

in the open

sleeps and awakes and sleep again

sits up

Voice 1

Stops

Voice 2

crouches down

Voice 3

Waits /

Voice 4

as they are getting carried
away into the night

short pause

Voice 1

Where the children sleep

Voice 2

on a bench
under a bush

Voice 3

Where the children sleep

Voice 4

on a square
in a park

Voice 3

Where the children sleep\

Voice 2

covered by a sheet, a green cloth, a frock

Voice 1

under a bridge

Voice 4

In a roundabout /

Voice 1

a father tries to cover his son with his jacket

There, a kilt is a cushion

a rucksack a headrest

Soon this night will tell the day to hurry

afraid maybe

for the autumn that awaits

The first child

I remember our house

it had the same colour as shugar

The second child

We left in the night

They told me we were going to Turkey, but

I did not know what Turkey was

The third child 3

It was cold

we walked covered in blankets

The fourth child

Today we've walked twenty kilometers

They say that it is three months since we left
Last month had thirty days
This one has thirty one
They tell me not to count the days, but I keep on counting them
Each day has 24 hours
They tell me not to count the hours, but I keep on counting them
I count the hours we spend walking
I count the hours we spend sleeping

The first child

I remember my house and the garden and the grandmother living next door
All my toys

Our house had the same colour as sugar
Her's was grey
like smoke
When I push my hands into my pockets
I can feel the lining
a red car that I have
and a picture of my brother

Some nights, - all I can dream is colour

Pause

Voice 1

Where the children sleep

Voice 2

the grass keeps on growing
the bushes keeps on burning

Voice 3

Darknes falls

The parks are empty

Voice 4

the boarder closed

Where the children sleep

Voice 3

Is a shirt a duvey

an arm a pillow

is the dark a friend that can carry the day in its arms

like a brother maybe

afraid maybe

that this one too might get lost

that this one too might not find its way home

Voice 3

Don't give up

Voice1

the trees

are whispering

I am whispering

This way/

Voice 2

This way

The third child 3

This way

The fourth child

This way

Voice 1/ Voice 2/ The first child / The second child / The third child / The fourth child

We are here

Short pause

The first child

I'm asleep

The second child

I can't

The first child

The city I lived in

is gone

The second child

The house I lived in

The first child

/ is gone

The second child

My brother is gone

The third child

My uncle - gone

The first child

The ocean took him

The fourth child

The ocean is so big

You can't see where it ends

At daytime

I could see the sky

then the night came

That's what nights do – they steal the skies

They eat them and keep them inside themselves until

we can no longer see each other

I saw nothing

The third child

We waited all night long

Short pause

The first child

I do not like this day

I do not like this ocean

The fourth child

There are children here

The first child

Some of them aren't alive anymore

The second child

What happens then?

The first child

When one aren't alive anymore?

The third child

They say the ocean took them

The first child

They say the war took them

The second child

We are running and running away those who are not alive anymore

The first child

from the ocean

Along the railwaytracks

We are going to Turkey

We are going to the other side of the boarder

We are going to a place were the houses
have the same colour as sugar

Short pause

The first child

I think about the colour grey – like smoke

The second child

I can not find my shoe

The third child

I can not find my borther

Short pause

Voice 1

And the children are running now

Voice 2

And the railwaytrack goes on forever

Voice 3

and the woods goes on forever

Voice 4

and the boarders are blocked with barbed wire

Voice 1

And they climb the barbed wire

and they come to another barbed wire

and they are met by another boarder

a new station

Voice 3

And one of them

a little girl with yellow plastick slippers stops and says:

The first child

I can't find my brother

Have you seen him?

The picture of him

I had it here in my pocket

I must have lost it

I think I lost it that morning we boarded the boat

He was wearing a blue jumper

Some nights I only dream of colours

Short pause / a beat

Voice 2

The children sleep

Voice 3

Don't give up

whispers the forest

Voice 1

and one of them awakes

She can't sleep

She keeps on turning and turning the wheels of a bright red toy car
as to make shure that they are still spinning

She puts it back in her pocket

and takes it out again

looks at it

Puts it towards her cheek

Then she puts it back in her pocket again

Waits for a moment, and then she takes it out again

It is red

That car is the brightest of red in the whole univers

Short pause

Voice 3

The night is green

The way nights are in a forest

Soon autumn will be here

And the trees will turn yellow

Voice 1

Maybe the nights will change colour too, she thinks
as the forest does?

Voice 2

She lies there.

Voice 3

What should we say?

Voice 4

She lies there

Voice 1

What *could* we say?

Voice 2

Don't give up?

Voice 3

To whom should we say it?

To eachother?

Voice 4

Don't give up?

Voice 2

Don't give up

Voice 1

/ we say

Keep the shadows abay

keep the forest bright

the boarders open

the beds ready

the children safe

Voice 3

they are calling for us out there

Voice 4

We are here, we say

We are here \

Voice 2

we say

Don't give up

Soon we'll be there

Soon we'll be there with you

Voice 3

But no one's coming

And the nights are getting colder

Much colder

It is going to be the coldest winter in years