



**2020 REFUGEES & HUMAN RIGHTS  
CHILD & YOUTH POETRY CONTEST  
DIVISION 3 – GRADES 9 TO 12**

**ATHENA MA, GRADE 10  
ST. BROTHER ANDRE  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
FIRST PLACE**



**TWO**

One lives where fireworks shine bright:  
She waits excitedly for the life ahead.  
One survives where bombs soar to great heights:  
He dreads a fate that may render him dead.

Lucky is she, running free as a bird,  
Carefree, and forgetting so many calls for help.  
While he will be discovered if he breathes one word,  
Heart racing as the crashing door makes him yelp.

For her, safe and sound, there are few fatal errors  
For happiness and comfort there is no struggle or fight.  
He holds his mother's hand as they flee in terror  
Out the back door into the dark night.

Why must he leave a home ripped by war's strife  
When these two are equal in every way?  
When all humans have two rights: freedom and life  
But leaving all he knows, he must run away

To someplace safe where his family is wanted.  
So many do not know what they have been through.  
From car to train, smuggled and hidden, fear haunted.  
In dreams he finds her home, the sanctuary he runs to.

But slowly, barbed wire turns to foreign grass.  
She opens the door, and his dream becomes true.  
He's found a place he can live, at last.  
From one and one, they become two.