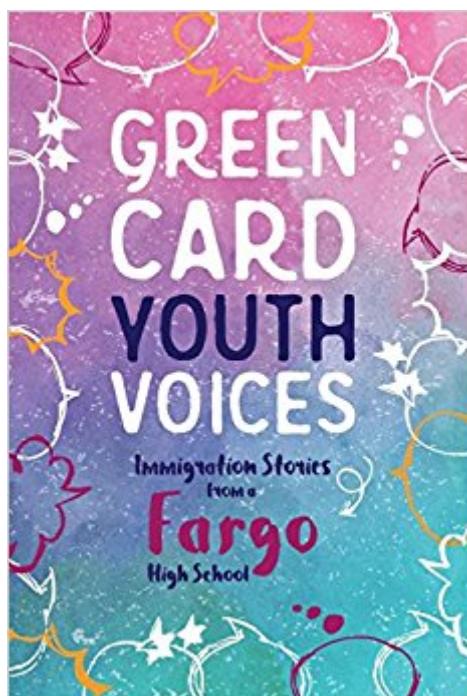


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# Green Card Youth Voices: Immigration Stories From A Fargo High School



## **Synopsis**

"Green Card Youth Voices: Immigration Stories from a Fargo High School" is a collection of thirty personal essays written by students from Fargo South High School in North Dakota. Included with each essay is a first-person video narrative. These are the memories, realities, and hopes of young people from twenty-two different countries, who by the turning of countless events were brought together into one classroom. In their own voices, these students describe their childhoods, reasons for leaving, first impressions of this land and dreams of how they will contribute to it. These digital and written stories highlight the resilience, bravery, and courage that these new Americans have gained as they have overcome tremendous adversity to be a part of this country. From classrooms to bookclubs, from the individual interested in learning more about his immigrant neighbor to the business owner looking to understand her employees and business partners, this book is an important resource for all Americans. The included video links, glossary, and study guide add a multimedia dimension to this already dynamic collection. Includes: Introduction by Betty Gronneberg, 30 color portraits, links to the students' video narratives, glossary, and study guide.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"This book is an important intersection of two great things: high school students writing at a rigorous level for all of us to enjoy and a beautiful elevation of the voices of recent young immigrants from which we all can learn." -Eli Kramer, executive director of Hiawatha Academies "Green Card Youth Voices is one of the most powerful collections of authentic immigrant voices I've ever come across. Within these pages you will find the hopes, dreams, and sheer fortitude of our country's future innovators and teachers. Their words will impress upon you the very fabric of what has made our

country a beacon of hope for so many across the world. I look forward to sharing this anthology with my students and teachers-the stories in Green Card Youth Voices are inspiring and will empower communities nationwide for years to come." -Sylvia Beevas-Smith, high school principal and campus director, Carmen Schools of Science & Technology, Milwaukee "Let no one doubt the bravery and resilience of young new Americans. Green Card Youth Voices introduces readers to Minnesota youth who have made extraordinary journeys and have much to contribute to this state's future. Their stories will promote understanding and assurance about the value of this state's growing diversity." -Lori Sturdevant, editorial writer and columnist at the Star Tribune "Immigration is about so much more than immigration. It is about America's past and our future. Green Card Youth Voices gives young immigrants an opportunity to share their stories and their hopes for the future. These are our neighbors, our classmates, and our friends. Listen to what they have to say." -Trista Harris, Philanthropic Futurist "Green Card Youth Voices helps amplify voices we might otherwise never hear. It gives us a rich human look at who we are as a modern society, and how we can learn to live better with those who have recently arrived in this country." -John Noltner, founder, A Peace of My Mind "This book gives voice to young immigrants navigating high school in Minnesota. Their reflections are harrowing and matter-of-fact; recalling wars and gangs, displacement and refugee camps, hunger and the lack of opportunity. Revealing their hardships and hopes in broken syntax, the reader is reminded of the privilege of non-immigrant status, and of the painful flaws this country is currently revealing to a young population that enthuses the opportunity for an education, and the chance contribute to society and to help their community. There could not be a better time to share these stories." -Dr. Brenda Kayzar, urban geographer at the University of Minnesota-If we are to address the world's greatest need before we can solve other problems, then we must address the need for building empathy between people. We must learn to see, hear, appreciate, and respect others since we are each different. -Green Card Youth Voices- helps us hear the voices of young people who have come from around this world and make up the diverse mosaic that is the USA. These are the voices of innocence and experience, fear and hope, playfulness and purpose. If we listen, we will learn many important lessons from these young people, most of all why we should welcome them. They will bring us more than they ever demand, if we but listen and respond. I can imagine many classrooms that can use this collection of stories from real people to open eyes and minds, making us all better citizens of the USA and the world.- -- Dr. Dawn Duncan, Professor of English, Film & Global Studies, Narrative 4 International Ambassador, Concordia College-Moorhead, MN-A must-read for anyone who wants to go beyond the headlines and really see people for who they are. Youth voices always deserve to be heard. Without a doubt this

collection of stories will leave you wanting to hear more.- -- Jessica Thomasson, CEO, Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota, Lutheran Social Services Housing --Green Card Youth Voices: Immigration Stories from a Fargo High School- gives us heartfelt glimpses into the world that has come to us. It's personal, provocative and empowering. Read it and then share it.- -- John Strand, Fargo City Commissioner -There's something magical that happens when reading through this book. The power of Green Card Voices is its ability to transport you to these other places and to re-experience our own world from a new perspective. Reading about the lives of these young people reminds us of our own humanity, of the struggles they endure for the things we sometimes take for granted. It's a rare opportunity to get the perspective of being an immigrant to the US, but more importantly on what it means to be an American and a citizen of the world. Their bravery and insight is a message that everyone should experience.- -- Raul Gomez, High Plains Reader, Publisher-Whether you are studying the birth of our cities in the 1870s or today, there is no place where the story of the American immigrant is more fascinating than Fargo-Moorhead. These young Fargoans put a human face to topics like immigration and refugee resettlement that are often talked about right now but too seldom really explored. But a century from now, these essays will be important primary sources for future Americans to study the Lhotshampa diaspora from Nepal to North Dakota, childhood in refugee camps, life as a high school kid in 2017, or what it was like for great-grandma when she came to America from Sudan.- -- Markus Krueger, Programming Director, Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County"If we are to address the world's greatest need before we can solve other problems, then we must address the need for building empathy between people. We must learn to see, hear, appreciate, and respect others since we are each different. "Green Card Youth Voices" helps us hear the voices of young people who have come from around this world and make up the diverse mosaic that is the USA. These are the voices of innocence and experience, fear and hope, playfulness and purpose. If we listen, we will learn many important lessons from these young people, most of all why we should welcome them. They will bring us more than they ever demand, if we but listen and respond. I can imagine many classrooms that can use this collection of stories from real people to open eyes and minds, making us all better citizens of the USA and the world." -- Dr. Dawn Duncan, Professor of English, Film & Global Studies, Narrative 4 International Ambassador, Concordia College-Moorhead, MN"A must-read for anyone who wants to go beyond the headlines and really see people for who they are. Youth voices always deserve to be heard. Without a doubt this collection of stories will leave you wanting to hear more." -- Jessica Thomasson, CEO, Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota, Lutheran Social Services Housing  
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A must read for young people and anyone else who needs to learn why refugees come here. We need to cut these folks some slack as they emerge themselves in our culture trying to reassemble a life.

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