

VECIKA KLADUŠA, BOSNIA 20. 09. 21



Not just be alive, but really live.

Hi everyone. I am Nahid, a 15 year-old refugee girl who is still searching for a safe home. There are lots of children here with lots of beautiful dreams, but they always say, "we want to be like other teenagers".

It's very painful when we start asking ourselves "why can't we live like other people; not just be alive, but live?". You know, thinking about being on the road for years without hope for the future, facing lots of inhuman behaviours, being and sleeping in places where normal people can or should not live... But we are living here, and it is very painful and heartbreaking.

And now, please, stop to think why we chose this hard way?

Do you think that we are happy living in tents or spending all our days in "jungles"?

I can't find any explanation as to why we are living here. Maybe, people think that refugees are living in the camps with lots of possibilities. I have been living on the move for 3 years and I can say the opposite. We are living in very hard situations, in a cold and rainy weather without any possibilities, rather than living under tents. There are no toilets or showers here and therefore, we must wash ourselves in a small river, which is especially hard for women and girls. Also, making fire for cooking is hard, and all the people end up feeling nervous because of all the problems.

Unfortunately, everytime we try to reach a place, the Croatian police push us back with a really inhuman behaviour. Nobody knows or can even imagine the way they talk to us. Is it right that they beat people without reason, break their phones, burn all their stuff and sometimes use their guns to make people stop? When they shoot, all the children are scared and become nervous and anxious too.

"We don't want you in our country and these are our country's rules." they say.

So what will happen to us? Our situation is like this: we cannot go back to one place and we cannot move forward to another. Many people ask us, "why didn't you stay in Greece?"

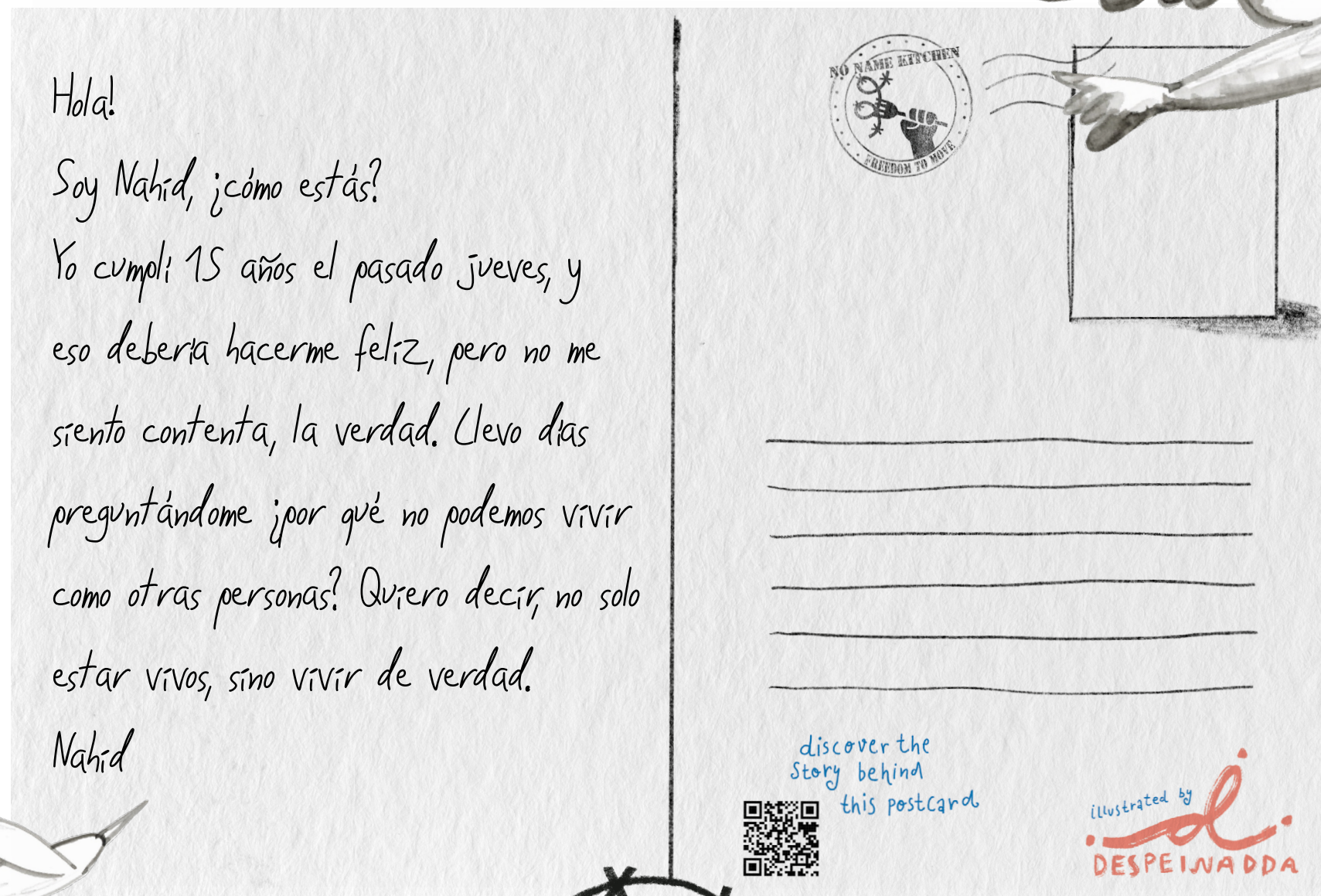
When a country doesn't accept you, when they reject you, how can you stay there? In a place that keeps you far and hidden from social life, from the social space, where they want you to live all your life in a camp...do you need any better reason for not staying in Greece?

All of us have chosen a new and harder way to reach a place where it will be possible to have a calm and peaceful life. Because we are scared to go back to our country. Personally, as a girl, I really don't want to go back to Afghanistan and be married to a Taliban. They would take all my rights away from me.

So, I still keep going and searching for a safe home even when, like other refugees, I am very tired. We are facing such hard problems that they seem to be never ending...

Anyway, since maybe there are lots of people that don't know about our living conditions, I wrote this letter to let people know.

Written by Nahid Akbari



Hola!

Soy Nahid, ¿cómo estás?

Yo cumplí 15 años el pasado jueves, y eso debería hacerme feliz, pero no me siento contenta, la verdad. Llevo días preguntándome ¿por qué no podemos vivir como otras personas? Quiero decir, no solo estar vivos, sino vivir de verdad.

Nahid



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