

## BEYOND WORDS

**This is the story of some Syrian refugees, who experienced the drama of the war, of the famine, of the DAESH attacks and who were the victims of the traffickers until they arrived in an UE member country.**

*The first girl:* This is my story.

*The second girl:* Mine, too....

*The third girl:* Mine, too....

*The fourth girl:* Mine, too....

*The fifth girl:* We are wandering through the world without knowing what is going to happen with us.

*The sixth girl:* We are trying to avoid a war which is not even ours.

*The seventh girl:* Our parents, our brothers, our sisters are dying...

*The eighth girl:* **we** are dying....

*The ninth girl:* Why? (*murmur*)

*All:* Why?, Why? (*loud*) WHY?

*(Theme dance which expresses the condition of the refugees, who have underwent a hard journey to arrive in an UE member country)*

*The police officer:* This is a refugee camp. You are going to stay here until you are relocated and sent in the centers where you will study. You will be safe in the European Union. Everyone is granted the health, education and culture access. You will learn new words, new values: tolerance... justice... equality between men and women! If you notice people who have guns, please announce the officials immediately!

*Yara: (apparition, short dance).....*

*Aylan (dreaming):* Mum, dad, Yara, Yara, my sister! (*He suddenly wakes up. Then takes out Yara's photo*): Excuse me, have you seen this girl? She's my sister. Our parents are gone. She is everything I have in this world. Yes, I have disguised myself. I thought I could find her in this girls' camp. Maybe I can find her in that boat. I'm out of here.

*The smuggler:* Show me the money!

*Aylan:* I don't have any.

*The smuggler:* You're lying! You're lying!

*( The smuggler tries to rob him. The smuggler is immobilised by two border policemen.)*

*The girls board and the curtain falls. Aylan tries to reach the boat, but he does not succeed. He fights with the sea roughness and reaches the land, where a Red Cross volunteer finds him.*

*The Red Cross volunteer:* Hi! Don't be afraid, I'm not here to hurt you. I just want to see if you are all right.

*Aylan:* Wait... why do you want to see me? *(coughing)* I feel strange, I'm hot and cold at the same time.

*The Red Cross volunteer:* Don't panic, just breath slowly. Probably you have an incipient pneumonia. You will have to lay down for a couple of days. Some officers will come to make your report tomorrow.

*Aylan:* Have I done anything wrong?

*The Red Cross volunteer:* You crossed the border illegally.

*Aylan:* But I got lost. I got lost from my sister.

*(The reporter enters the stage, accompanied by the cameraman)*

*Reporter:* Come on, hurry up! Make way! Make way! Come on, hurry up! Are my hair, my make-up ok? All good?

*Cameraman:* You look fine! You look fine!

*Reporter:* You are filming me, not them! Is the microphone working? Europe faces a significant flow of migrants: hundreds of thousands of people fleeing their country, victims of war, poverty, traffickers, for the promise of a better life in Europe. The conflict in Syria is the largest humanitarian disaster in the world after the Second World War. *The European Union respects the human rights.* European Union rules require migrants to apply for asylum in the first member state they arrive. According to FRONTEX, illegal crossings at EU borders reached 1.83 million. Behind the figures there are dramatic stories, illegal trafficking, economic migrants, conflicts nightmare. I have beside me a young refugee who I ask to say a few words.

*Aylan:* Everything I hoped for was the peace, which I've never experienced, a family and to go to school and study.

*(The end).*

