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POEMS, EPIGRAMS, BOOKS AND APHORISMS ABOUT MIGRATION

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1. What is migration?

- **Concept:** mass movement of some tribes or of some populations from one territory to another.
- The factors that determine migration are:
 - social,
 - economic,
 - political or even natural.
- **Risks:**
 - Production of some crises, at local, zonal, continental or international level.
 - Triggering of some disorder of the ethnic and religious balances.

2. Migration in Romania

- ❖ There are over 3,4 million Romanians that go to work abroad or settle there with families, which places Romania on the second position in a world top of migration- source: UN, whose representatives say that we are outnumbered only by Syria, state struck by civil war.
- ❖ According to the last UN report referring to migration, which dates back in 2015, Romania registers the second largest Diaspora of a country: 7,3% a year, while on the first place is Syria with 13,1% , and on the third position is Poland, with 5,1%.
- ❖ In their turn, Romanians think they are forced to leave the country because they lost their jobs or their income has been significantly diminished, and their real chances of living decently would only exist abroad.

3.1 Poems and epigrams in Romanian about migration

Moștenire

De la străbunii ce luptară
Și viața și-au jertfit,
cândva,
Am moștenit această țară,
S-avem de unde... emigra!

epigramă de Vali Petronela
Slavu

Perspectivă

Câți n-au fost
școlarizați
Și-și plâng generația;
Ei se văd realizați
Apucând migrația.

Emigrare

Am să vă spun acum cinstit
De ce din țară-am emigrat:
N-aveam o sursă de venit
Și-am prins o sursă de plecat.

epigramă de Sorin Olariu

Emigranții

Se duc care-încotro
Unde-i viața mai mișto;
Pleacă de la noi țigani
Și se-ntorc americani.

epigramă de Florea Ștefănescu

Românul emigrat în Germania

Aici e obligat
De a vorbi nemțește,
El însă de-njurat
Înjură românește.

epigramă de Florea
Ștefănescu

3.2 Poems in English about migration

You call me a barbarian.
I call you master.

You don't speak my language.
My words

noise in your ears; my poems
meaningless melodies.

Your poems
masterpieces of literature

Alizadeh's YOUR
TERRORIST

I never want to get any
More new things.

I wanna wear out these shoes white
And walk on the rug till it's
perfectly
Colorless

To wear the shoes dark
Walking on an abyss that's been
worn out

The shoes carry me,
I can't help it,
I fly above the desert with no name


Ana Božičević MIGRATION

When Gertie came in
To work today
She was much less weary
And far more gay.
We asked her the reason
Of this delight.
She had been dreaming
Of home all night.

THE IMMIGRANT Lesbia Harford

I came to this country
Missing my own country
Meeting new people
Isn't it hard?
Getting a job
Raising children
Amazing change!
Trying to speak
In different language
Our life is never boring
New challenge
everyday!

Halstow students



"I can't imagine dying in this land.
The neighbours here have doors graffiti-red
'Why are you brown?' another pupil asked
'I think because my folks are brown,' I said

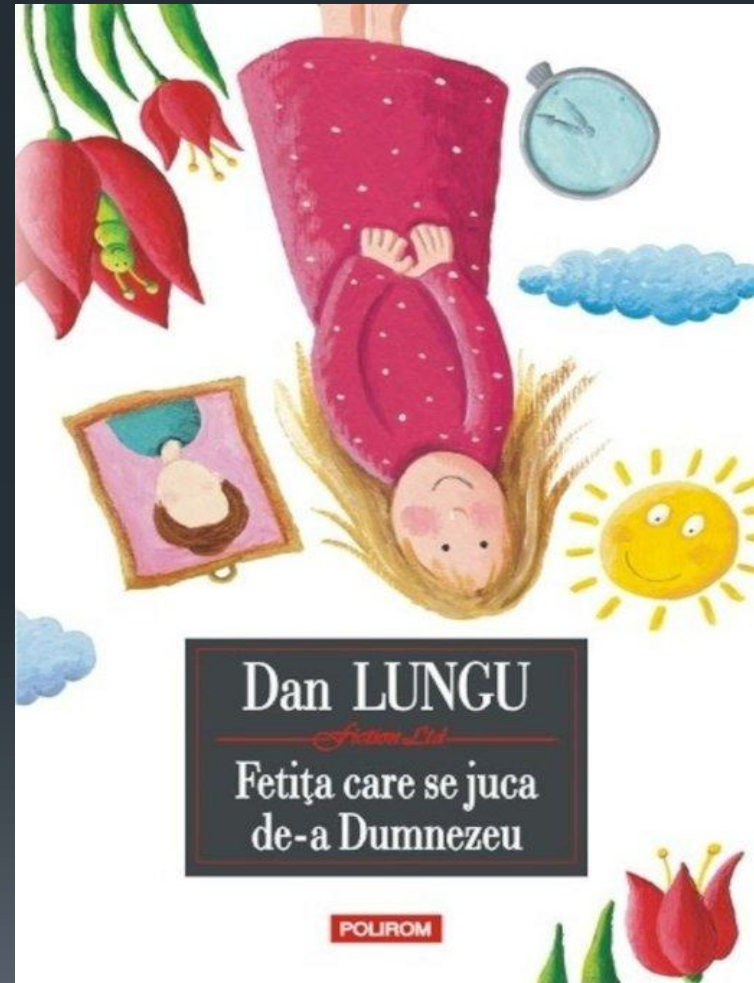
Out on our landing, someone's dumped a bed
I dream in Hindi. I don't understand
The baby words in English in my school book
At games, or dancing, no one takes my hand

I miss the smells of curry, frangipani,
The steaming chai at Delhi's teeming stalls
The cooking fires. I even miss the sewers
The thieving monkeys with their chattering calls"

Sheena Blackhall IMMIGRANT

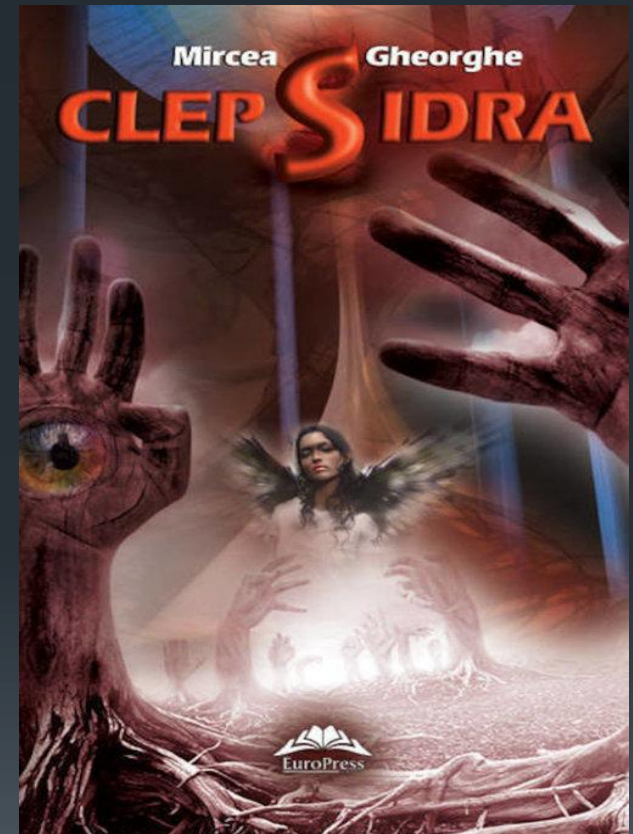
4.1 Books in Romanian about migration

- “The Girl Who Was Playing God”-a touching novel which explores temporary migration through Radita's and her mother's innocent eyes.
 - In order to overpass the family's financial crisis, Letitia decides to go abroad to work for a few months. With an acquaintance's help, she goes to Italy, where she looks after an old lady.
- The initial few months become longer, future plans change, and the side effects of the departure prove unpredictable.



4.1 Books in Romanian about migration

- ✓ “The Hourglass” is a paradoxical novel about identity, written with humour and seriousness, about love, guilt and death. Tens of picturesque characters come in the main characters’s lives, Paul Iulian and Maria, each with their own character and personal history, with their own drama, illusions and peculiarities.
- ✓ They left home in search of a better life, but what they discover in the end is completely different from what they were expecting.



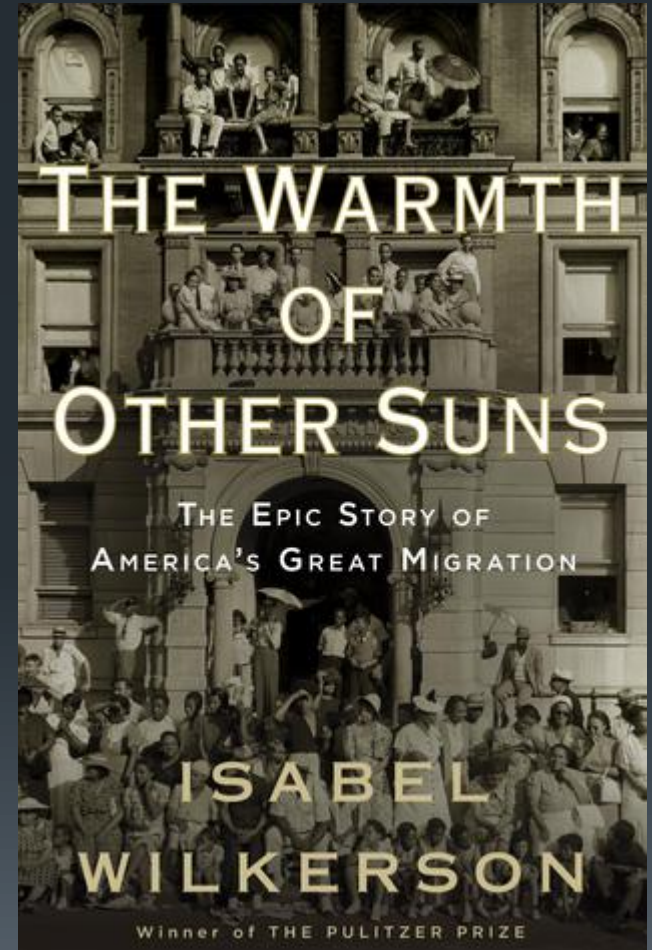
4.1 Books in Romanian about migration

- “The Cronicle of an emigration” compares the solitary emigrant, struggling with doubt and uncertainties on one side, and the family who remained in Bucharest, on the other side.
- What impresses the most is the main character's serenity, which allows her to go on and to overpass 'history' and transform an existential situation into a hymn about love and trust in the future.



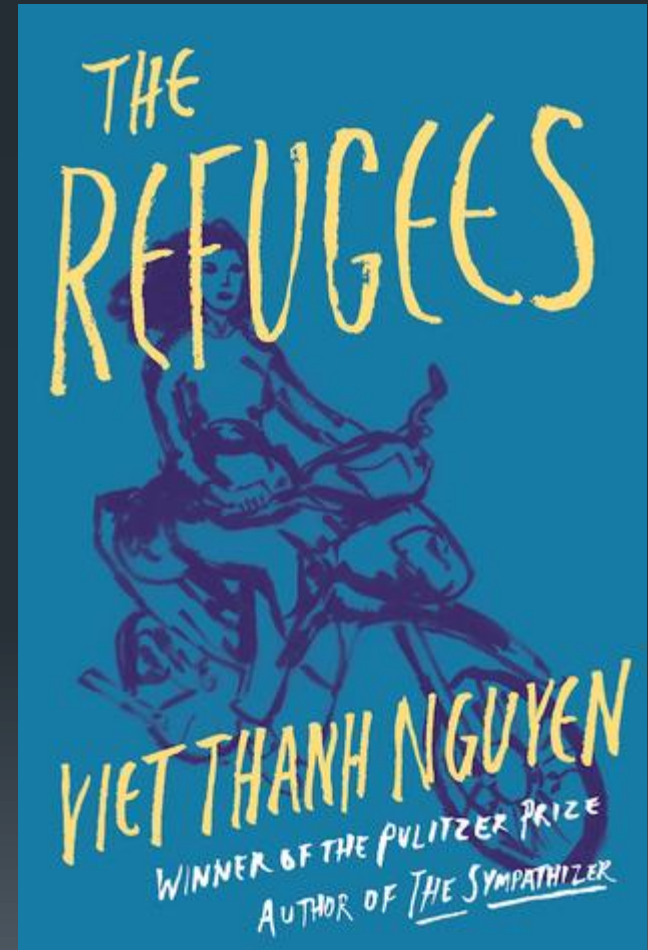
4.2 Books in English about migration

- In this epic, beautifully written masterwork, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Isabel Wilkerson chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life.



4.2 Books in English about migration

- From a young Vietnamese refugee who suffers profound culture shock when he comes to live with two gay men in San Francisco, to a woman whose husband is suffering from dementia and starts to confuse her for a former lover, to a girl living in Ho Chi Minh City whose older half-sister comes back from America having seemingly accomplished everything she never will, the stories are a captivating testament to the dreams and hardships of immigration.



5.1 Aphorisms in Romanian about migration

- ✓ "Suntem călători buni și emigranți proști: nostalgia ne calcă pe urme." Isabel Allende
- ✓ "Culmea patriotismului: să-ți emigreze venitul înaintea ta." aforism de Ionuț Popa
- ✓ "Am emigrat și acum caut cu disperare calea de a mă întoarce la mine însumi." aforism de Aculin Levitzki
- ✓ "Trăiesc într-un oraș muncitoresc, din care au emigrat aproape toți muncitorii." aforism de Valeriu Butulescu
- ✓ "Emigrantul caută raiul în bani, pelerinul-în spirit." aforism de Vasile Ghica

5.2 Aphorisms in English about migration

- ✓ "Migrants and refugees are not pawns on the chessboard of humanity." Pope Francis
- ✓ "Migration is inevitable, necessary and highly desirable." William Lacy Swing
- ✓ "No country can truly develop if half its population is left behind" Justine Greening
- ✓ "Every immigrant who comes here should be required within five years to learn English or leave the country." Theodore Roosevelt
- ✓ "Remember, remember always, that all of us, and you and I especially, are descended from immigrants and revolutionists." Franklin D. Roosevelt
- ✓ "Being an immigrant is not for sissies." Helen Russell
- ✓ "Do you know the difference between an expat and an immigrant? You're an immigrant in a country you look up to, an expat in one you consider beneath you." Rabih Alameddine

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