

Thang Lian

Age: 18, Grade: 12

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Educator: Le Tran

Category: Poetry

The Gates of Freedom

v. T—— Family!

Father and Mother stop,
they look at each other,
and then at me.
For a brief moment,
the air freezes
and the world around
us is in limbo.

T—— Family!

Mother quickly grabs her bag
and Father dusts himself off,
we all think: we've to look our best.

T—— Family!

Mother grabs me by the arm,
her hands shaking.
Father grins at me, but beads of sweat
unmask his usual sturdiness.

The three of us stand,
looking at that huge gate.
Slowly, it begins to open
and with joy singing in our hearts, we walk in.

T—— Family