

Nguyen Viet Thang Quotes

*Thinking, Country, War, Growing Up, United States, Past, Writing, Minorities,
People, Media, Years, New Year, Want, Son, Taken, Titles, Numbers, Demand,
College, Perspective*

Every new refugee to a society, whether it's the United States or some other place, is subjected to fear. They are the new outsider population, the new other.

~Nguyen Viet Thang

In the United States, the immigrant experience occupies a very central place in American mythology. And sometimes, that place wavers between acceptance and rejection.

~Nguyen Viet Thang

Immigrants, as troubling as they are to some people, are an integral part of what the American Dream is supposed to be. They're understandable to a considerable number of Americans.

~Nguyen Viet Thang

People might like to think a war is done when a cease fire is signed, but for most people who lived through a war it goes on for decades.

~Nguyen Viet Thang

Writers from the majority can assume their audiences know what they're talking about - they don't have to explain things, whereas minority writers are expected to.

~Nguyen Viet Thang

My identity is deeply intertwined with being a refugee because that's the first experience that I remember.

~Nguyen Viet Thang

I never called myself a writer because it seemed so pretentious - a writer was what somebody else called you, a title bestowed.

~Nguyen Viet Thang

I think my parents' lives are worthy of writing about. I don't think my life is particularly worthy of writing about.

~Nguyen Viet Thang

In the United States, we want to believe we will never become a country of refugees.

~Nguyen Viet Thang

No one wants for their child to become a refugee. It's an awful experience.

~Nguyen Viet Thang

If you're a so-called minority writer, the temptation is to write for the majority... I refuse to do that.

~Nguyen Viet Thang

Hollywood in many ways serves as the unofficial ministry of propaganda for the United States.

~Nguyen Viet Thang

I've never stopped being a refugee.

~Nguyen Viet Thang

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