Seattle Journal for Social Justice

Volume 10 Issue 1 *Fall/Winter* 2011

Article 27

3-28-2012

A File

Star Angelina Murray University of Washington

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.law.seattleu.edu/sjsj

Recommended Citation

Murray, Star Angelina (2012) "A File," Seattle Journal for Social Justice: Vol. 10: Iss. 1, Article 27. Available at: http://digital commons.law.seattleu.edu/sjsj/vol10/iss1/27

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Publications and Programs at Seattle University School of Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Seattle Journal for Social Justice by an authorized administrator of Seattle University School of Law Digital Commons.

A File

Star Angelina Murray, poet

There are days when things turn single file. March into a room after paying five coyotes. No more relatives, wife, or kids. Here I stand with all of you in a country deskless holding cell, explain my life succinct into foreign languages convince you that my body fits into five boxes. My potential for death threat to my family affiliation membership nationality When my wife last waved goodbye I imagined my country did not birth a state. Earth makes my brown body its image into a bird granules suspended in air sand stoned cliffs bent wheat forests of Douglas Firs Awakened, I cross the blue ocean into new borders convince you I am not inadmissible all I am is a file1

¹ In the summers of 2010 and 2011, I spent time reviewing detainees' I-589 forms at the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, Washington. My experience inspired the writing of this poem.