



# Literacy Volunteers of America

## Essex & Passaic Counties

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### New Jersey Association for Lifelong Learning Adult Learner Writing Contest 2017

**Category:** Fiction  
**Title:** Airam the Fairy  
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#### Airam the Fairy

Between reality and fantasy, between desires and facts there are many possibilities of learning. This is the story about Airam the fairy. She, like everybody else, had a gift. Airam was an expert in healing spirits. The people of the town said that she was born to teach people how to know themselves and to discover their inner treasures. During her life, She had worked really hard to cultivate and improve her gift. She spent many evenings reading and reflecting above different strategies to become a specialist in other people's emotions, because it's paradoxical but it's sometimes easier to dominate the demons of others than one's own.

Airam lived in a small tower that had been given to her and her husband as a wedding gift by an elderly couple of the kingdom. At the beginning, she didn't like the place very much because it was "cold" and she felt they were always being watched by the elders. Little by little the tower was impregnated with laughter, with stories, experiences, love and learning. Finally her tower became a bubble of oxygen, ceasing to be her prison. Maybe you are wondering why it was a prison?. The reason is simple. Some emotions have a tremendous power and they can cover your mind. When these emotions are negative, they can take your energy and can make you close your eyes to opportunities to be happy.

One day, Airam found a letter under her door. It was an invitation from The North kingdom. The invitation for this place could be received once in a lifetime. Not everyone could travel and live in the North kingdom; only those who had received the invitation were allowed to do so. In this way when somebody gets it, it is like a winning the lottery; the invitation is like a key for a door. The northern kingdom was a place full of learning opportunities especially for the fairies that were just beginning their journey.

Airam had two little, brave, and smart daughters who were half fairies and half humans, and she had to make a decision about this opportunity. She decided to give her daughters the opportunity to live in a "better" place. It was a really difficult decision because in the North kingdom the language is different and she had heard that some people there don't believe in fairies, and they don't like fairies.

She had lived in a world where her power could be seen, where her voice could be heard, where her words could be understood, where her emotions had a place to be kept. She was



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generally happy but always felt she was missing something in her life. Occasionally when she looked at everything she didn't have in these moments she became sad and her sadness became anger. It was a real tangle of emotions. She loved what she did, loved her job, loved her family, and the people she had helped.

After fifteen years living in the same tower, there were a lot of things for sale or share, and with each thing a memory that made them take more time to pack, so they left many things behind. It seemed that part of Airam stayed in the tower.

When Airam arrived at the North kingdom, she lost part of her power. She lost her magic and her spells didn't work as before. Airam could speak or write a little in the language of the North but it wasn't enough to be part of the country, wasn't enough to continue helping people and it wasn't enough because she always demanded the best of herself.

In a new place, in a new little home Airam missed her old life. One day, she woke up and she couldn't understand what the people around her were saying. She couldn't shop in a store by herself. She couldn't talk with her neighbors. She felt really bad. She thought it was a nightmare. Suddenly her life had changed. Her strength was gone. What had happened to her? Nobody knew because silence was her best companion.

She was really unhappy, and it was because she was looking only at her fears. After a lot of days praying, asking to be able to discover the mission that she would have in this land she had a dream. In her dream there was a key in her hands and the key had a heart shape. Many hands held the key but when she took the key it was little and light.

The next day she woke up and turned on the television to listen the news of the North kingdom. She tried some spells in the North language and she realized that she made this decision not only for her daughters, but for herself and her family and now she had new challenges and an opportunity to learn. Challenges are what make life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.

This is the way Airam learned that fear is our greatest enemy. Fear limits us and locks us into a cave. Usually we believe we are safe in this cave, but this is where we run into more danger because we are losing the chance to enjoy what the universe is giving us.

Since that day Airam continued living, and discovered many hands around her helping. Since that day she learned to receive help. In that it is also something she learned, usually living in the past is a big mistake because you don't pay attention to the present and the new adventure and learning.