



Literacy Volunteers of America

Essex & Passaic Counties

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90 Broad Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003 | (973) 566-6200 -- 195 Gregory Avenue, Passaic, NJ 07055 | (973) 470-0039

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

Special Mention -Memoir

Title: A Little Star
Student Author: Karima Ejjoulali
Tutor: Jennifer Fidlon-Bugat

I wake up at 1 AM to a terrible silence in the house. I look out my bedroom window and all of the houses' lights are off. I look on my bed and I see my husband, who is sleeping deeply next to me.

Time stops. My head starts spinning with ideas and I have many questions, but no answers. I put my hand on my belly where I feel my little baby. The ideas start flooding again. I am here in a new country, in a new culture, with new people...

I remember my father and my mother. I can't forget their tears when I left them in Morocco. I am alone now, although their hearts are with me. But I can't touch them and feel them close to me. I can't drink a cup of coffee with them as I used to do every evening.

The ideas continue fight for space in my mind. I remember my friends, my college degree and the job that I had back home. I've lost all of this. I must start from the beginning and find a new job, make new friends and learn a new language.

I put my hand on my belly again. I feel a deep and hard pain and I think my baby can feel my sadness. He is with me and tries to tell me, "I am here, Mom. You are not alone." A little smile, mixed with hot tears, appears on my face. I see a little light in the sky - it is a star. I take a moment to watch this little star in the big sky and I realize that although we are alone we can be strong and powerful.

