

JOINING HANDS for a BETTER FUTURE

-WOUNDSCAPES- TENSION WITH NEW GEOGRAPHY

New York, beginning of the XXth century. This European family has just arrived in America leaving behind their country, their family and friends, their language and way of life... possibly for ever.

Can you imagine yourself in the woman's situation? Maybe she is illiterate, but with the help of a friend (you are that friend) she was able to write a letter home telling them of her feelings, hopes and despairs, at the very start of her new life.



Dear diary,

I'm writing this letter because I'm building up to a nervous breakdown... We arrived here last week and I'm still nervous. I need to relax, but it's not easy when you don't have good means to live well.

I've signed up in an immigrants' association, which is making my life a little easier: They bring me food and, while I'm trying to find a job, kids stay there learning and drawing. But there is little to reassure me about our welfare... I need money and it's being difficult to get it.

In addition, I miss my family so much... We are so far away and I feel alone against this. I really miss my sister's hugs and, of course, mum's advice. I hope she's well and healthy...

The kids also miss them a lot. Nico is always asking about his dad; he's too little to understand that his dear father is thousands of miles away, and that probably, we won't see him again in years.

I'm sharing a little house with a new friend I've met. I'm not paying the household expenses; she's so understanding and a really good person, her heart is in the right place.

Now, I have to finish writing my diary because I have to pick the children up from the association.

I have written all my feelings and my situation because I hope that one day

I will read this and I will think: "Hopefully, today everyday is OK".

I really hope that one day, our life will improve and we will come back home. That would be my ultimate joy.

Jayanna ~ 23/09/1921