



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? May be 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 miss my family a lot. Since my sons and I are here, things have changed. First of all, I have to admit that although I was hopeful, I was a little scared too. But anyway I decided to encourage myself.

I went with my son to find a job, so we could earn a good salary to eat and buy a house. It was very difficult because like us, many immigrants were looking for a job.

After two days walking through these unknown streets, a man hired my son as a paperboy. Thanks to him, his wife looked for me, and asked me to work as her personal seamstress. I can remember that moment perfectly. I was delighted.

With the passage of time, Mrs. Holley and I became really good friends, and my family and I managed to adapt to New York's way of life; and I also opened my own sewing workshop!

I hope my husband were here with us... I miss him even more than anyone could imagine, since the famine that devastated Ireland killed him. Life here is much different than in Ireland, but I know that he would have come to terms with people here, as his son has done.

I think that if I had to describe New York's city, I would say that it's not just an American city; it is also the capital of immigrants.