

Salute to the Sun by Jennay M, age 14

It was a rainy, sunless day in the town of Adamidis, after the name of their founder Luis Adamidis. Their town had been so cold all through winter, also spring had reached their town and the weather did not seem to be changing for the better. Places were already starting to flood and vegetation was not growing, that meant no harvest for their small town. Which in their town was a big deal, harvest was always plentiful in their town and everyone always looked forward to it, but the way the weather had been looking it did not seem like their town was getting its way this time. No one would have ever expected that their, always sunny, town could ever be so dreary.

Be that as it may, the town was not as innocent as it seemed to be, before the sudden weather change all the townspeople would always complain about the sun as it was. They would always whine on how the sun would make the weather so muggy, and they would not even go outside and greet the sun, or at least acknowledge its existence. They should have been grateful that they got what they wanted, and they got to have no sun in their town at all. Yet they were not even the least bit happy, what a fickle town! You see the reason this happened was because the sun felt unwanted and did not want to trouble that town anymore, so overnight it hid itself entirely from the town. From then on, the town had not received a single ray of sunlight, just like they wanted. However, they will soon learn that you need to be careful what you wish for. Things were getting worse fast and they needed the sun, without the sun they could not get any vegetation and without vegetation, which supplies a large amount of food, their town would soon be gone.



All the Adamideans were worrying that they would have to leave the town and if they were to stay in the town, how would they survive? They needed answers, so everyone went to the mayor to complain to him. The mayor decided to schedule a town meeting, this way he would have more time to try to figure out what was happening to their town. In spite of this, even with the best scientist they couldn't find out what was occurring in their town, so he had to tell them he did not know how this happened and that if this bad weather wouldn't stop they would all have to leave. This obviously worried all of the townspeople, and immediately they regretted the way they had been when the sun was shining on their town. Everyone wished that they could go back in time to fix the errors of their ways, but that wasn't reality. The weather wasn't changing at all for months, and the town was getting so bad they had to borrow food from nearby towns. They knew what they would have to do, migrate to a different area; their perfect sunny town was now in ruins. This could have all been avoided if only they were not such whiners and would learn to appreciate what they got, but this was a lesson that would have to be learned the hard way.

As they were leaving, all the children were crying because they had to leave their home that they once knew. Now no one can ever live there, all their mournful tears fell from their faces and went straight to the ground. There had to be at least a thousand tears cried for their beloved town that was regretfully taken for granted. Then, the townspeople felt as if they couldn't move, like their feet were connected to the ground and the town was trying to tell them not to leave. Everyone started to cry, and not one of those tears was even the slightest bit fake, everyone knew that only a miracle could keep them from leaving that town. Suddenly, the tears on the ground started to glow and they disappeared. Next, this plant started to grow from where the tears once were, they grew so rapidly, and what appeared to be flowers suddenly started growing as high as 10 feet tall! These flowers looked so vibrant and warm, they directly looked at the sky. Instantly, the clouds disappeared and the sun shined through, it was a marvelous surprise. All the Adamideans were celebrating: neighbors hugging their neighbors, husbands kissing their wives, and children smiling again. All the vegetation grew back and they got their town back, and they got their way and hopefully they would stop being so capricious. They got to have their sacred harvest, and it was definitely rich and abundant. All because of this wonderful flower, it was so treasured to them they renamed their town Aurora, which means sunrise. Luis Adamidis would have wanted it to be this way, he never even liked a town after his own name. They loved this flower and they decided to name it Sunflower, because it was the flower that brought them back their sun, a flower that literally salutes the sun, also it looks a lot like the sun. To this day every building in the town has a vase full of twelve sunflowers, so that they will never forget Luis Adamidis since they were twelve letters in his name. Now the people of Aurora cannot go a day without saluting the sun.