

# The Story of the American Dream

## *Prologue*

After 10 weeks at sea,

“Land ahoy!”

Columbus bumped into America,.

Finding not pearls, spices, nor gold,

But a land of opportunity

Pilgrims came to this land

To establish their own church,

To do things their own way

Brave men came to this land

To seek out their fortunes,

To start a new life

Conflicts with Native Americans,

Struggles against nature,

Left only the hardest fighters

In this land of dreams

Wars ended with debts,

Debts led to heavy taxation,

The Stamp Act, the Intolerable Acts, the Boston Tea Party...

Split the mother from her child

Under General Washington,

Independence was won.

The whole world waited

To see what the baby nation could do

The Founding Fathers,

In an attempt to create a government from scratch,

Argued and debated.

But all of them had one thing in mind,

“Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness” for all.

### *Chapter 1*

Alexander Hamilton,

Born an orphan.

Through hard work, ambition, and intelligence,

Became the first Secretary of Treasury

Finding his place, in American history

Immigrants like him,

Come from all over the world,

Saw America as a stage

A place for their capabilities.

Parents of people,

Like you and me,  
Studying hard to achieve their dreams  
In a strange land speaking  
A strange language

They came,  
Leaving everything behind,  
Not just for money,  
But for a place where opportunities  
Were not based on birth  
America offered Columbus colonization,  
Not pearls nor spices nor gold  
Pilgrims and colonists came to the New World,  
Not for the riches - there were none,  
But for the opportunity of a new life.  
America broke off from Britain,  
Not solely because of taxes,  
But because we believed we could do better

## *Chapter 2*

Today you and me,  
Children of immigrants,  
Born in the land of opportunity,  
Work hard to surpass our precedents,

Work hard to write the next chapter of the American Dream.

We practice the piano, the violin, for hours on end,

We draft, revise, and edit essays until our brains can take no more

We stay up to see the first minute of the next day,

We get up to welcome the first ray of the new sun.

We study, we prepare, we compete,

All to not disappoint our potential

Entrepreneurs, artists, students, scientists,, teachers...

Albert Einstein, Joseph Pulitzer, Sergey Brin...

All immigrants who have sculpted America into the thriving place it is today.

Plot twist.

History discussions in school,

Articles, news reports, and lectures

Teach me about illegal immigrants, terrorism, and drug dealers.

Will America close her doors?

A perfect immigration policy has yet to be developed,

The balance between security, employment, and national character has yet to be found.

But one thing is for sure,

The American Dream was written for

And by

immigrants.

America opens her door to all ambitious hard workers.

Now let us all aim for our goals,

To earn a place

In the next chapter of the American Dream.