The girl sits at her desk, mulling over the statistics problem she has been stuck on for the past 30 minutes. Her face is scrunched together and her brows are furrowed like two angry caterpillars. Irritated by the fact that she’s been stuck on the same problem for so long with no progress, she becomes impatient and lets out a frustrated sigh. She leans back in her chair and starfishes her body out, relaxing her limbs and letting the back of her neck rest on the top of the chair. She begins to daydream and eventually drifts off to sleep, the pencil falls from her loose hand to the floor with a soft tap…

When the girl awakens, she is no longer in her room, but she is in some foreign place that she has never seen before. All around her are white, fluffy clouds, upon which tall, magnificent buildings lay, and the air was filled with big, clear bubbles that floated from somewhere up into the sky. The architecture of these buildings are like nothing she’s ever seen before. She looked down and realized that she was standing on a cloud, and was intrigued by how she was able to stand so solidly on the cloud. Despite the surrealism of her situation, for some reason she had a deep feeling of peace and tranquility that surged with warmness in her chest. As she gazed in amazement at her surroundings, something zoomed in front of her, causing a fast gust of wind to whip her hair around. Startled, she jumped back and looked around her to see what it was.

She heard giggles coming from above her, so she looked up and saw something flying around in the sky above her. She squinted her eyes to try and make the figure clearer, but she could not make out any definite form. The creature suddenly began flying towards her at an alarming speed. The girl could hear the sound of the creature’s wings cutting the wind as it zipped towards her, yet she remained still and calm and simply waited for the creature to arrive. Just before the flying creature looked like it was about to hit the girl head on, it made a quick but gentle stop and floated to the ground in front of the girl, hovering just a few inches above ground-level.

No words were exchanged between the two, and they simply looked into each other’s eyes. The girl felt compelled to look into the creature’s deep, black, all-knowing eyes. After a few moments, the creature reached out and gently touched the girl’s forehead. The girl noticed how warm and comforting the creature’s touch felt. At the moment of that touch, the girl awakened once again, back in her room.

Still in the same starfish position she was in when she first dozed off, the girl gently opened her eyes. She lay still, savoring all the senses she just experienced in that other-world. In her chest she felt something, some sort of a new power within her. This feeling was swelling inside of her and it seemed almost as if it were going to burst right out of her chest then and there. But she remained calm, and there was only one single thought in her mind then. “I can do thi”