

Third place, Fiction

**The Tank Fairy**

by Vicki Clark

(Author disability: Mild Retardation and Pulmonary Veno Occlusive Disease, a rare lung disease requiring use of oxygen 24/7)

Once upon a time, there lived a tank fairy. She came from Tankland. This is where the trees grow in shapes of oxygen tanks and have colorful leaves growing on them. What a splendid sight to see in the fall as the leaves fall to the ground. In Tankland, oxygen tubing, known as cannula grow as grass. Rivers run wild throughout Tankland, with fish jumping up to greet Ms. Tank Fairy.

Someone on earth ran out of oxygen, and needs Ms. Fairy's help today. Ms. Fairy grabs her bag of cannula and magic oxygen wand. Ms. Fairy must stop by the magic trees to refill her wand with oxygen. Ms. Fairy is off to earth.

When Ms. Fairy arrived on earth, she saw no tank trees. No wonder oxygen is needed, thought Ms. Fairy. No one can breathe without tank trees to supply oxygen. She then turned all the trees on earth into tank trees, and turned the grass into cannula, so there would always be supplies. Everyone on earth was so happy. Ms. Fairy was also happy, said good-bye and flew back to Tankland. Everyone on earth lived happily ever after, thanks to Ms. Fairy from Tankland.