Magic Carpet Ride

I have always been jealous of the way birds seem to just float along in the air without even flapping their wings. They look so beautiful and angelic; it is almost mythical. The only time I have seen people look that way is when they are floating in a hot air balloon. More than anything, I would love to experience that for myself. To be able to move in the air like a floating feather while appearing to the people on the ground like you are not moving at all seems magical. I find myself often daydreaming about riding in a hot air balloon, one with blue, red, and yellow stripes, gracefully rising up into the sky and watching the world below pass slowly by me. While this may not appear to be a difficult dream to fulfill, many obstacles block my path.

The largest difficulty in my way to achieving this goal is that I am deathly afraid of heights. While I find the potential experience of floating in the air to be mesmerizing, I know that as soon as I set foot in the basket, I will begin to hyperventilate. I do not know what first inspired this phobia, but I am well aware of how crippling it can be! Secondly, the closest company that provides hot air balloon rides is 270 miles away! Even if I can find the transportation to the nearest ballooning company, I still have to find the dollars to pay for the experience. By the time I add up the cost for transportation, the balloon ride, a hotel room, and meal money, my magic carpet ride may end up costing several hundred dollars!

While the obstacles to this goal may seem overwhelming, I am convinced that I can overcome them. First, I will need to learn to be more courageous so that I can get over my fear of heights. I can work my way up, literally, by standing on the furniture in my house. If I can comfortably stand on top of a chair, then I can move to standing on the counter and so forth. Then, I could go down to the pier and climb the lookout tower. Once I feel confident enough to fly, I will need to find a way there. Since I do not own a car, I will need to check out which bus line will take me to my destination. Riding a bus is one of the most economical ways for a single person to travel. In order to accumulate the money I will need to travel, I can organize my current finances and make a plan to earn the rest over the summer. In addition to my part-time job, I can do extra chores at home and mow lawns in my neighborhood during my free time. Even though facing my fears, riding a bus clear across the state, and doing extra chores may not be fun, I know that my efforts will be worthwhile when I float magically above the trees in the soft summer air.