

Remembering Earth

Marilyn K. Moody

You were one of the first settlers. You have been gone from Earth for a long time. But you were a child there once. Tell us what you remember the most?

I was five when I left Earth. Of course, I left my entire family. That's how they did it then. It's so different now. That last day on Earth, I stared and stared at my mother, trying to be sure I would remember her face, especially her eyes. I told myself I would never forget her beautiful grey eyes—she often sang a funny song to me about her “grey lying eyes.”

They didn't allow you to take any photos, or videos, or anything that would remind you of your family or Earth back then, did they?

No, the idea was not to remember, to forget everything as fast as possible. Within a year, I forgot what my mother's face looked like, but her voice and singing stayed with me. When things started easing up in the new administration, I asked for a photo of my mother. To humor me, they sent a digital image. It wasn't my mother. They didn't think I would know the difference after all these years.

But I did. The woman had brown eyes.