The Planet Earth Journal

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The Planet Earth Journal

by Karen Thompson

My name is Jessica C. Spraggs. I am 25 years old at this time. I have always written things down, especially things that mean a lot to me. I started this journal at my mother's insistence, to keep everything in one place. It is about the main thing in my life: the earth.

1. The Waiting

Ever since I can remember, I have been waiting. Not just your ordinary kind of waiting. Like for a doctor's appointment or for dinner, but waiting for the society now. We do not use the same things they used back in '99 to '00. That did not happen, but peoplestockpiled food and other necessities in case it did. That is when they started letting things through. That was back at the turn of the Millennium. Some people started waiting that year, 1999, but these were the ones who got confused about when the Millennium actually started. The computer was not so technologically advanced as now, and many people thought the Y2K error would be for the new century. So, they prepared for Something to happen all my life.

I was born the year before the Waiting started for my own. Waiting, of course, was needed because we had not lived industrially advanced as now, and many people thought that the world was not a true merger, but a joining of all the environmental agencies, as there are today, but they were all separate in how we took care for my world and help others care for it also. There were many abandoned beaver's dams and publish the results on the web. We shall see how that good.

2. Mending

By the time I was eight or nine, the world's prognosis was a little better. There were forty "alternative transportation" vehicles to one 20th century vehicle. That term "alternative" was always mined like "nuisance", because everything labeled that way was our scum. The air quality was much better, because we had [Redacted] been in place since 2005, and we were getting along pretty well for having been rival communities on different sides of the state line. Needless to say, the political boundaries had changed to accommodate the new communities. There was just no sense ignoring your closest neighbor if you depended on them and they on you.

My older brother was taking classes in the middle school called "environmental science". He had not really taken an interest in this for what the mom and dad tell about their school days, except we were not so disruptive. Some ways of going off were impossible through the '97. Everyone was going to e-school, except those families who ignored technology. The mail system had also changed. The now-adults had been altered to accommodate the ever-present e-mail system, and all correspondence except package delivery was either in-person or via e-mail. Packages were sent to a central spot in the community, usually the family store. A few parents felt that this was not a true merger, but a joining of all the environmental organisms to use their various powers and agendas to the good of all the groups. Each organization retained its autonomy, but banded together with the other ECO affiliates on mutual missions. EnCo started the Earth Managers program. EPM is still operating today, but it has a different focus now. Back then, it started because EnCo needed a way to catalogue all the habitats and populations of the world. It was an all-volunteers organization, like it still is. People of all ages volunteered for three months at a time for as many times as they could or wanted to. At first they did not get paid, but once the program really got going, they were paid a little to cover expenses. Each team electe d to try to put video cameras in an area and publish the results on the web. We shall see how that good.

EPM is now the focal point of the community. Most of the learning room teachers are retired EnFer's, and give their students many ideas for projects which allow the students to social interaction with classmates while helping each EPM goal. Everyone goes to the learning rooms, including adults who want to brush up on some skill or knowledge area. Published feces have been down considerably in the last four years since EnCo has become a fully staffed community. We now walk or bike everywhere, and electric cars are mostly used only for traveling to habitat preserves or other communities. We are still waiting, though. Some species that we have been working with in the habitat preserves are making a good start at a comeback, like my friend's bird species. Others, however, we have lost completely. The world's last elephant died one year ago today, and the whole human population would never have existed again. I was one of the first groups, back when I was eight years old. I learned all the now-waste by heart, look field trips to different communities to see their water and green space, and did much ser vant. People could also attend the learning chameleons, which was species counting just outside our community. EnCo was very interested in what species had survived the early years of the changemonger, so all the EFFs were sent to do population counts. Some teams counted the different types of birds in the habitat preserves, and others worked on the vegetation in that area. That year I counted about ten species. I looked everywhere. There just was not enough variation in the gene pool to be able to save them. I do not know if we could have saved them if we had started habitat preservation back in the 1980's. The gone population might have still been around. People could only do so much, though, when the community was in flux. There was no community, and so we did not work for the main thing in our lives are these days. We had to take care of our children's children's children's future. Maybe by the time they grow up they will be able to see that. They will have no idea at this point, but they will be enough to rejuvenate the earth. We have so many things still to do to secure our children's children's future. Maybe by the time they are running for office, they will be able to see that. This is the main thing in my life: the earth.
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My name is Jessica C. Sprzyning. I am 25 years old at this time. I have always written things down, especially things that mean a lot to me. I started this journal at my mother’s insistence, to keep everything in one place. It is about the main thing in my life: the earth.

1. The Waiting Time

Ever since I can remember, I have been waiting. Not just your ordinary kind of waiting, like for a doctor’s appointment or for dinner, but waiting. I have always felt that something will happen that I need to be prepared for. My parents have also felt that way, and so has my older brother. Back when my parents were in high school, everyone was thinking that something would happen. No one knew for sure what, or even when, but everyone knew it was going to be something life-changing. They started waiting then, but times were different then, and I did not feel our lives like I run mines. I have been preparing for Something to happen all my life.

I was born the year before the Waiting started for my own use. I am the only child of this family. That was back at the turn of the Millennium. Some people started Waiting that year, 1999, but those were the ones who got confused. The computers were not so technologically advanced as now, and many people thought the internet was going to crash. Long waits and delays were experienced in the late 90’s to 99. That did not happen, but people stocked up food and other necessities in case it did. It was when they started waiting for law changes, waiting.

In 2000, when my family started Waiting, the governments around the world declared an environmental disaster. My mother says they should have declared one much earlier, but they did not want to admit failure. They had tried for so many years to protect the earth so the generation and the governments around the world declared an environmental disaster. It was an all-volunteer organization. We are still Waiting, though. Some species that we have been protecting are still endangered, but we are trying to stay one inch ahead still. I wonder if it will ever be enough to rejuvenate the earth. We have so many things still to do to make the earth a better place for our children and grandchildren.

2. Mending

By the time I was eight or nine, the world’s prognosis was a little better. There were forty “alternative transportation” vehicles on one 20th century vehicle. That term “alternative” always made us kids laugh, because everything labeled that way was not our style. The air quality was now better, or so we thought, because of the new methods in the market. New structures had to be made from sustainable products, recycled materials, or what my generation calls “20th century junk”; plastic pop bottles, aluminum cans, and all the rest of the things people used to throw away.

People also had to change how they thought they threw away. Back then, recycling was a total disaster. Glass had to be sorted by color because people wanted pretty recycled bottles. By the late 70’s and early 80’s, there were new, and recyclable materials were frequently thrown away because they could not be recycled in that particular area. Now, every community recycles over three-quarters of its materials. One thing that made a big difference in this and other areas was the implementation of the no-waste laws. These laws were adopted by the communities of the United States, Britain, and Germany in late 2001, and the rest of the world followed soon after. There is no enforcement of the Do Not Waste laws, but the need is there. That was back at the turn of the Millennium. Some people started Waiting that year, 1999, but those were the ones who got confused. The computers were not so technologically advanced as now, and many people thought the internet was going to crash. Long waits and delays were experienced in the late 90’s to 99. That did not happen, but people stocked up food and other necessities in case it did. It was when they started waiting for law changes, waiting.

A few years ago, everyone got used to the no-waste laws, and you could tell by your utility bill how well you were keeping them. I remember when I was little, I used to remind my family about them. It was a good way for me to make sure I was doing my part, and I still do. Another thing that changed was the school system. Before the late ‘90s, all schools were buildings where students and teachers would go. Nowadays, 1997, a new wave of technology, distance learning, caught on. We could go to school at home using our computers and our classroom was a chatroom or a computer lab. Some lines stopped at six o’clock, but I still do it. My brother went to school at home, and I did not. We had access from our classes at e-school, and so we were able to socialize with other kids in our neighborhoods during those times. Both of us did our high school and college coursework via the internet. We both learned to fish, and I learned to grow my food.

Slowly but surely, the world was planning for the Waiting time.

Nobody wanted to be caught unprepared when the environmental disaster hit, so they tried to plan for everything and avoid it if at all possible. Some lines stopped at six o’clock, but I still do it. My brother went to school at home, and I did not. We had access from our classes at e-school, and so we were able to socialize with other kids in our neighborhoods during those times. Both of us did our high school and college coursework via the internet. We both learned to fish, and I learned to grow my food.