

Treatment Title

Log line

A young space conservationist discovers a horrible truth, leaving her with an impossible moral choice that won't only impact the last animals and humans from earth but humanities legacy for the future generations.

Everyone on the Arc knows that after 261 years, when the earth became nearly uninhabitable, the Arc's mission to preserve and stabilize the last of life, culture, and nature succeeded. The second goal of the giant spaceship, to get back and slowly inhabit earth again after it's environment and geomagnetic storms calmed down, could be an event the young generation might experience.

TOMI (14F), a bright-eyed, curious and passionate conservationist, living in the grasslands of the Arc, is excited when her dreams to see earth and witness life expanding again, suddenly seem to become reachable. Although Tomi's friends and the farmers don't seem to believe or care for this too much, she is determined to take part in the event's decision-making, as it could be the most important one in her life.

Tomi goes on the mission to reach the Center and participate in the council as a representative for the grasslands animals and life preservation, for when the landing happens.

As she leaves her home for the first time in her life and moves through the various levels of the unimaginably colossal spaceship, she discovers foreign technologies, kind, dangerous and strange inhabitants of the levels and curious spaces and landscapes.

After finding her way in this new and alien world, and finally becoming a member of the council, she discovers that the goal of the Arc could get destroyed by its very mission.

The hidden and chilling truth is the Arc left earth not 261 years ago but over 2000. In addition, the plan to recolonize earth changed when another planet was discovered which suits life perfectly. The problem however would be, that this planet already has early stages of multi cell organisms of life on it. Colonizing it would mean to intervene in its development or probably completely erase it. Going back to earth, however, means starting humanities and preserved natures' life in extremely poor and hostile conditions.

This leaves Tomi with an impossible choice, to stand in and save what she knows, loves and worked for all her life or giving another life a fair chance to grow.

The story explores philosophical questions about responsibilities, grief, apathy and hope for things that are yet to come not for oneself but for future generations.

The journey is accompanied by themes of maturing and coming to terms with the limitations of one own's lifetime, as well as the deep love for the beauty of life and nature in environments that seem to make this impossible.

KEY CAHRACTERS

TOMI (14F)

Smart, cunning, dreamy and kind conversationalist. People in the village and animals in the Grasslands love her. She can seem naive to others because of her positive worldview, and fast unconventional decision-making. Tomi loves stories about earth and wishes for the animals to evolve and live in peace with humans there again.

JUNA (42F)

Tomi's mother. Is a hard working conservationalist and farmer. She is very close with Tomi and engages with her daughter interests. She leaves Tomi a lot of freedom, since the Grasslands are very safe, people live there quite sheltered and know how to get around and Tomi is smart and knows how to handle the landscape, animals and people.

She once had the same goal as Tomi, but knew that her generation wont witness earth anymore and dedicated her life to care for it on the spaceship for the future generation.

LEO (17M)

Tomi's friend. Grasslands, Market-village. Doesn't believe in change, wants to be happy finally in with his simple life. He once went to the Centre when he was 16 and came back at 25. When asked he tells about his life and adventures there, which Tomi loves, but he prefers not to talk why he came back.

ASHARA (38F)

A experienced member of the council. The Centre. Want's what is best for humanity. Knows a lot about human history, in comparison to others.

KAI (15/16NB)

New member of the council. Wants to escape the nepotism of his parents and be a own member of the council on his own terms. Danced traditional dance, is now trainee with Ashara.

NOBU (2M) semi-domesticated grey fox

Tomi's companion and ambassador for animal species from the grasslands.

Note: Objects on spaceship are called same as on earth but look different (Radio, bicycle, fireplace). Spaceship is so big, normal people don't really understand how big it is, although models exists (similar to us when we know how big earth is but we never left country)

1 **EXT. GRASSLANDS- ANIMAL PRESERVATION - DAYCICLE**

1

We see machines working with noise. Coles up: wind ventilation blowing.

CUT TO:

Grass moving through the wind, like ocean waves. Calmly whooshing. A girl (TOMI, ca. 14) lying in the grass relaxed, eyes fixed on the vast expanse of the grasslands.

RADIO

...and now your space weather update for the Arc-2124. Today, we bring you delightful tidings from the celestial realm.

ANIMAL MOOING O.C.

Our cosmic forecast promises optimal conditions for a safe and swift journey. A convergence of magnetic fields from distant galaxies A-5069 and VOI-50-D has formed a protective shield around our vessel, warding off cosmic rays and solar winds. So, rest easy, as we sail through serene and undisturbed cosmic seas. If it continues that way, our journey will be shorter than anticipated!

Tomi excited, sits up, her heart pounding with anticipation.

RADIO

MAY WE GET HOME SAFELY!

Tomi takes the radio with her and runs off. Radio precedes talking about local news, construction sides and space phenomena, visible from certain parts of the astronomy centers in the ship. We see a vast landscape with hills and different, sometimes misplaced animals like buffaloes, saigaks and proschevalski horses. Running down a hill, we see strange looking farm buildings, with fences around them. Tomi jumps down and takes swiftly a bamboo bicycle, leaning on the fence. Tomi's mother (JUNA 42F) works behind the fence with the animals, follows Tomi with her gaze.

TOMI'S MOTHER

Tomi, where are you going in such a hurry?

Tomi turns towards her mother, her excitement momentarily overshadowed by guilt.

TOMI

(startled)
 Mama! The weather! You know what it means! We might finally return to earth! I have to tell Leo!

TOMI'S MOTHER
 Of course, you do kitten. But you promised me, remember?

TOMI
 The painter at the spring festival! That's today!

TOMI'S MOTHER
 (Sigh smilingly, takes off gloves and working gear)
 Let's get inside before you forget where your head too.

Juna hugs Tomi with her dirty arm and cheek. They walk giggeling in to their modest home, where a sense of warmth and love envelops them. The room is adorned with paintings of them, their animals and friends and trinkets, each telling a story of their life. Some rooms are filled with cluttered, primitive technology and biology science papers. They appear like something ancient and modern at the same time. Tomi and her mother efficiently wash the dirt off and get ready dodging each others movements perfectly, in their cluttered, pipe filled washing room. In the same instant as Tomi sits down before a reflecting metal plate, her June turns around ready with a brush and a basket full of plants.

TOMI
 (filling the silence, being unsure of her mothers feelings)
 Do you need help with her hair too
 Mama?

TOMI'S MOTHER
 (Gently brushing her hair, focused)
 No kitten, I know you are in a hurry. I'll be fine.

TOMI
 I- just don't know if I can help you next time when they will do paintings of the families in the Grassland again.

(talking fast and
insecure)
But you are always pretty!

TOMI'S MOTHER
(Looks at her in the
reflection, puts her cin
on her hair)
Tomi, I know you. You will leave
tomorrow to get as fast as you can
to get to the Centre and the
Council. I'll be alright don't
worry. I'm more than alright.

(braids hair)
You know how jealous it will make
the other farmers hearing how my
daughter gets to represent the
earth's animals? They will finally
clean the fence for the saigaks to
make a better impression in the
town hahaha.

TOMI
Hahaha right, Mr. Anderson will
never let you have too much
attention hahaha.

TOMI'S MOTHER
You're ready little kitten. Meet me
after the singing. Don't be late,
or it will get too dark to paint
your sweet features properly.

CUT TO:

2 EXT/INT. GRASSLANDS- VILLAGE - NIGHTCICLE

2

Tomi, getting animals ready for parade. Everyone is quiet
and respects the rules to not scare them. After she gets
them back and makes sure they feel alright she feeds them a
big treat.

She then finds LEO (17) watching others having fun by the
orb (a luminescent shape, giving off light in different
colors, flickering like a campfire)

TOMI
Is that your thing now?

Leo gives her a friendly and slightly annoyed look, knowing she's not done mocking him.

TOMI
Watching OTHERS having fun?

LEO
(defensive, smiling)
I worked all day and you're
bullying me?

TOMI
Whats the good in cooking
masterpieces if you're not eating
them, just to avoid people. You'll
starve to death.

Leo looks cold at some people in uniforms by the fire.

TOMI
Come on, the officers are here like
three times a year.

LEO
(mockingly)
And we allways have to show that we
are worthy of the Centres energy.
Like the wild dogs begging for
food, but instead we have to feed
them the best crops, just for show-

TOMI
How often have I told you not to
give the wild dogs food?! Human
food can make them ill! Of course
theire begging!

Leo smiles and looks down. An akward pause. Tomi gives him the radio she took with her.

TOMI
I mean... That doesn't have to stay
that way. I can tell the council if
that bothers you so much.

LEO
(Smiles more, stares at
the ground. Pauses before
responding)
The radio overwhelms me since im
back, you can have it, you know.

(He looks in her
direction but not at her,
gives the radio back)

Every year we get these
breaktroughs. We hear about them but
barely understand them. And have to
disrupt our everyday to celebrate
something we dont really
understand. Why? I dont care about
that anymore. I care about everyone
here. And if youre right, we might
get to see a vast new land. But I
just got to be happy here.

TOMI

What changed last year? I thought
you liked your time at the Centre.
You told me so many stories. How
did you become so grumpy?

(She notices him not
responding)

When you wanted to get more
influence in the Centre... Weren't
you also 14?

LEO

(Almost cuts her off)

No 16. I'm not as smart as you.
Influence.

(Scoffs)

Thats what I thought too. It was
full of promises. But its just
information in the end. The
information that is.

TOMI

What do you mean?

LEO

It's just so much. I tried to
understand it. But...

(whispers)

God I feel stupid.

(Eyes move around, tries
to remmember)

Who directs the ship for example?

TOMI

Rao, Clar, Jo-

LEO

Yeah, yeah. That's true, but it's
infinitely more complicated. We
can't ever understand that in the
grasslands.

TOMI

(defensive)

I know about the relationships on
the ship. Maybe because I AM
listening to the radio. They want
to create a new council system.
Maybe if you would also listen to
it you would show more enthusiasm
and come with me as you promised a
year ago and-

LEO

Im not talking about that. You will
see for yourself. Its easy to get
lost in chaos. I got tired of it. I
gave up and started appreciate the
life I still have here. Im not
ashamed to admit it.

TOMI

Why havent you said that till now
then?

TOMI

Why havent you said that till now then?

LEO

...

MOM

Tomi! I told you to get to me as soon as you can! The
painter wont wait!

walking

You excited to go with Leo?/ did you talk about it?

TOMI

he wont come. Its okay.

Graveyard out of wood bc love art

reject earth

(big city, likes animals and understands them)

Is it an excuse to not engage/ fear of change or where does escapism and enjoying what you have matters?