

Our Lives on Mars

By

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EXT. OCEAN, EARTH, MARS (1)

Images of ships and land vehicles. Mars. Splash down.

V.O. [SINGLE VOICE]

Any long journey is something we usually prepare for, and when we're going somewhere we haven't ever visited, we're probably going to plan that journey very carefully. (beat) Sometimes we need to think about the return trip. Then there are times when we know we'll have to stay and make the best of a new home. But before we go, we always think about what to take with us (beat) and what to leave behind.

EXT. PLAYGROUND AND HOUSE, DAY (2)

Images of children playing. Exploring. Coloring in a rocket.

V.O. [TWO VOICES]

Venturing into the unknown is what we do. We take risks because we hope for something better. (beat) A better future for our children.

INT: MAP ROOM (3)

Maps from European exploration of North America. The ocean.

V.O. [TWO VOICES]

People came to the new world for that reason, taking the opportunity to leave things behind for good. They were looking for freedom. For equality. For justice.

EXT. LAUNCH SITE, DAY (4)

Images of rocket launches. Space imagery.

V.O. [SINGLE VOICE]

Pretty soon there will be a chance to go from from the new world (beat) to a new planet. That will present a unique chance to leave some old ideas behind. We only need to take the culture of merit and innovation that helps us to leave in the first place: That modern system is the engine for the journey.

EXT. SHOP WINDOW, MARINA, HIGHWAY, DAY (5)

Toy queen novelty dolls. Children with parents. Images of puppet show. Discarded suitcase on side of highway as traffic passes at speed.

V.O. [SINGLE VOICE]

Some ideas from the old-world are still with us, but leaving old beliefs in the past defines progress. It's called moving on. That can take will power. It can even mean taking a stand. But it's worth it if ways of treating people as better or worse than others can be forgotten. (beat) Some baggage should be left behind. A new home for humanity must be a land of freedom for those brave enough to create a better world.

INT. CABIN OF VESSELS, LIBRARY (6)

Navigation equipment. Astronauts. Declaration of Independence (Printed version by J Dunlap) and signatures (from Olive Branch petition: Sam and John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin).

V.O. [THREE VOICES]

When we leave Earth, we'll need to be sure we're on the right course in every way. So is it ever too early to start thinking about what lives could be like on Mars or whatever new home future generations are heading for? Once living there they will want to see their rights in writing. They will need to know that all are equal: (beat) Equal before the law, with a government of laws. They will need to be sure they can choose all their leaders, and that they have an equal chance to be leaders. They will want to be free to chase their destinies no matter who they are.

EXT. PLAYGROUND, MARS, BEACH, DAY (7)

Family in the sunlight on a playground. Wide shots of Martian landscape. Ocean.

V.O. [ALL]

We, the people, have this chance to plan for a new planet. Let's make sure its vacant surface is going to be a level playing field. We can use this chance to move forward, knowing what was wrong about the past, based on the progress we've made here on Earth. A line can be drawn in the Martian sand that separates logic and inclusion from lies and prejudice. (beat) This is a vision for equality in a future home. (beat) A dream of new freedom for all.