

Legacies of Loss Interview

Loss of Pets & Home, Part 2

Midori (b. 1927) reflects on the loss of the beautiful home her father had built for his family and says that the hardest thing was leaving her pets.

Excerpt from a Landscapes of Injustice oral history interview with Midori Bruns.

ERIN YAREMKO

Speaking on the topic of loss [MIDORI: Loss?] – loss of items. Can you describe how losing and leaving behind the items made you feel and does that still affect you today?

MIDORI BRUNS

Ah. No, the thing I regret the most is my cat. Oh yeah, I love cats you know. My daughter has three. And I dote on them, I grow cat nips for them. [Laughs] Material things ...

ERIN YAREMKO

This including the home.

MIDORI BRUNS

The home, it was a company home to start with and actually the only sentimental value is in my head. What dad had done to make life so pleasurable with having a summer house and inviting his friends to have beer and what not under the tree and you know. That was, the very nice memory and dad building us a wee wading pool and I mentioned before and a duck pond. Oh yes, that's one of the saddest, we had three ducks. Beautiful ducks. Oh god, anyway. We can't take the ducks out so dad said we had to kill them and eat them. And none of us could, how can you eat your pets? Oh god, we just refused.

Yeah that's the saddest thing leaving, pets and living things behind. Yeah. And also I regret dad's beautiful garden and flower garden and vegetable garden in the back but that's ...

Yeah when you're faced with a harsh reality of not knowing what's coming, yeah. The living things that you leave is the one you regret the most, your pets. Yeah.