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By Theresa Williams

Dear Reader,

We have no memory of our birth. So when we're little we want to know all about it. We ask for details. Mostly, we want to know we were wanted.



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The night I was born, my father ran over a coyote and killed it on the way to the hospital. This always made me sad.



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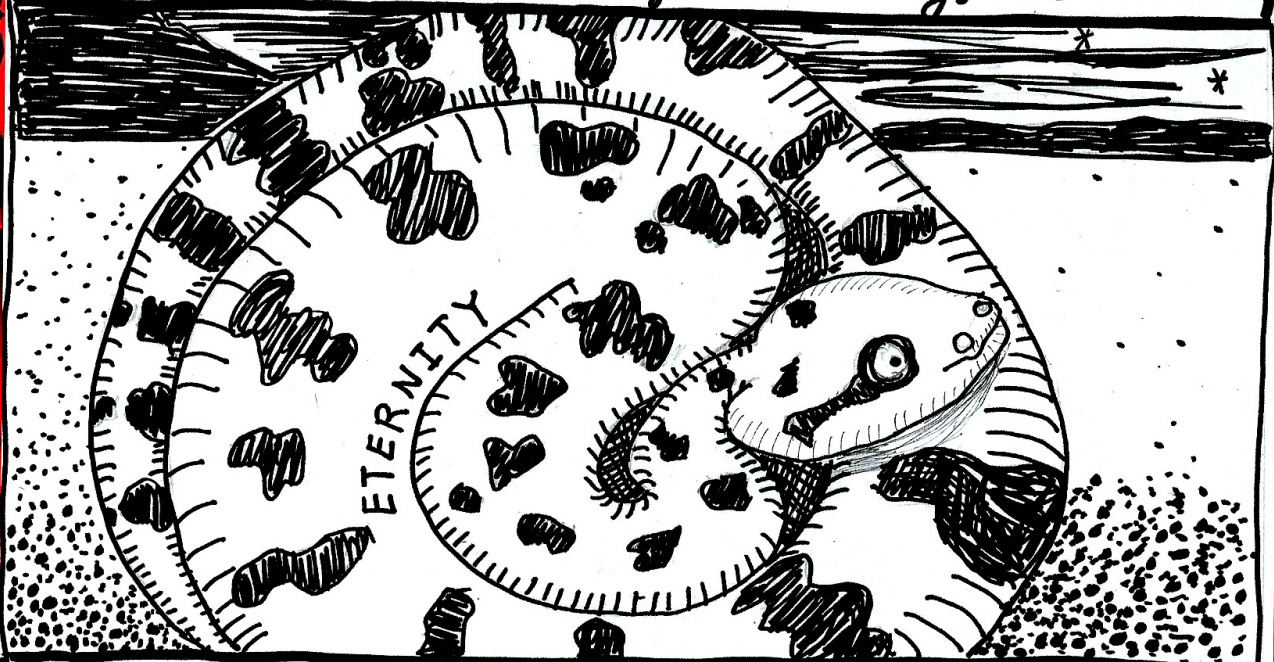
But it was also exciting—a life for a life! It was mysterious and I felt special. I asked to hear the story again and again.




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Now nothing tangible of the coyote remains. It isn't even a memory because the people who saw it — my parents — are dead. Now it's only a story, but it's my story. And now it's your story, too.



Someday, The Goat Child  will have to make up his own story. His made-up story will have one meaning and one meaning only — "I was wanted."

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Don't miss the first story in this series:

[The Miraculous Birth of The Goat Child](#) [3]

Also see Theresa Williams's essay:

[The Origin of The Goat Child](#) [4]



Theresa Williams is a contributing writer at *Talking Writing*. Her novel, *The Secret of Hurricanes* (MacAdam/Cage 2002), was a finalist for the Paterson Fiction Prize. Her short fiction and poems have appeared in a number of magazines, including *The Sun*, *Chattahoochee Review*, and *Hunger Mountain*. Her chapbook [The Galaxy to Ourselves](#) [5] was published in 2012 by Finishing Line Press.

This is the second in a series about The Goat Child.

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