

IMPROVED VERSION:

We cried tears as we greeted each other. Since departing from Portsmouth, England on the 13th of May 1787. I had missed her ever since, and arriving on the Lady Penrhyn was the hardest thing that I had ever experienced. The captain William Cropton Sever was the cruelest captain ever telling us off for the slightest things we did, including sitting down and not working. She was lucky to go on the ship The Mary Ann as the captain was slightly less cruel.

"I haven't seen you in ages Rosamond, you've grown so much!" Mother said, giving me a hug. "I thought that I would never see you again!" I replied holding back my excitement and fear of seeing someone after such a long time. So much had happened since I had last seen her. I noticed that her legs looked slightly weak from the journey so I suggested we should sit down. I wasn't as worried as I was when I was shaking after the voyage as it happened to me and I figured it was just from being out at sea for so long. Mother's hair was scruffy from not being washed for months but her hair was longer than it used to be.

I suddenly worried about dad, had he committed a crime too? Was he here? Was he alone without anyone to accompany him after long days of working at the mines?

"Mother, what about father?" I said. My cheeks quivered and I looked at her expecting something bad to come out of her mouth.

"Father is fine, when he found out that I was coming to Australia for committing a fraud crime, he immediately came and visited me in prison. He gave me five pennies and set off to live with your grandparents further east. They're missing you too and they told me to give you this." Mother said quietly, looking as if she was holding back tears, placing a small royal blue box in the palm of my hand. The box was silky and covered with soft fur on the outside. I noticed my hands were slightly sticky so I placed the box on top of a rock to prevent it from dirtying the pretty blue outside. I opened it and found a pearl necklace inside. The one that I had found in the streets of England. I wept at the thought of my grandparents back at home in England. Thinking of me, I loved this necklace. When I was forced to leave it back at home worrying it would get stolen I had told my grandparents to keep it safe. It smelled of the flowery perfume that my grandma always used when she was going out and felt of the purest pearls. Feeling the cold pearls on my neck reminded me of home. Mother clasped the clip on the necklace around my neck and I felt happier than ever. I pulled my mother into a deep embrace. Nothing was said, all we needed to do was survive the voyage till we went back home.