

## LE STORIE di Emma

## Emma the astronaut

My name is Emma and I am an astronaut.

I am writing this story to tell you how my passion for the stars began. It was my dad who took me into space for the first time. I think I was ninety days old when he laid me on that magical blue, green and yellow towel.

It was there that I saw for the first time all nine (or eight?) planets and the infinite stars that inhabit our universe.



My favourite one is a planet called Saturn: it is not the biggest but it is definitely the prettiest. Three circles of different bright colours encircle and embrace it, making it unique among the planets. Saturn and I are so similar... In fact, I have also been embraced by three circles since I was born: my mum, my dad and my grandma.

Sometimes, these huge spheres also played a song to send me off to sleep but I was sometimes so happy that I couldn't even close my eyes. I didn't want to stop staring at that immensity for anything.

I hated sleeping and I hated being still: all I did was move around when I was in my mum's belly, which often made her tired and sleepy during the day. Those little songs I innocently listened to with such curiosity and attention opened a window to unknown worlds, creating from nothing the stages of a journey that only I was able to imagine. I was also able to admire the planets in the many books I had. One day - I told myself - I will place my feet in space and caress those huge floating spheres.

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It was then that my dad told me it isn't possible to walk in space: "There is something missing up there, known as gravity. In fact, you'll be able to fly and float freely among your star friends and your planet friends!"

Lots of snow white moons filled my dreams, infinite rainbow-coloured dawns illuminated the room around me, gold comets shot up and down, competing to decide who, between them, was the fastest. Enormous stars with five, six, seven, a thousand points that had no end and no beginning.

From that time, I decided that I would become a space traveller: I would become the world's first child astronaut.

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