

## Coffee and Memories

*By Natalie Lawson*

Once you catch the aroma of coffee you're surrounded with an abundance of pleasant memories.

I remember our enormous kitchen on the farm. Every morning my mother would make coffee in the small pan on top of the wood stove. She would stir the grounds in the water and let it boil and set. When it was done, the coffee would be crystal clear and just enough for two cups. My mother would add sugar and cream to hers and my father would drink his black. I must have been watching her conspicuously as sometimes my mother would give me a teaspoonful to taste. I can still remember how satisfying the flavor was to me. The embracing smile on her face stayed with me all these years.

Another memory was at a restaurant in Aspen, Colorado. This girl was singing with a beautiful voice. I didn't know any of the songs but I was enjoying the music with my husband. I remember we were having the biggest hamburgers I had ever seen and the best cup of coffee I had ever had. Turns out they were called Bailey's and Coffee. Later I learned the singer's Lawson was Judy Collins. This was before she was well known. We were at one of the front tables only six feet away.

One good thing about being grown up is that you can have all the coffee you like!