

Home

I'm from the endless nights in D.C.
I'm from the long train rides.
I'm from the lonely bus rides.
I'm from my sheltered room.

I'm from the spray paint scarred on the walls.
I'm from hiding out in the street.
I'm from the hideouts with my friends.
I'm from ducking and running.
I'm from the crazy dramatic scenes.

I'm from the family get together.
I'm from the unnecessary jokes.
I'm from ridiculous games.
I'm from the love that we have for one another.

I'm from R&B music.
From the saying, "Never forget who you are."
I'm from the realest friends.
I'm from the little white lies I tell.

I'm from the step team.
I'm loud, annoying at times and hard to understand.
I'm from the smell of rain and the suffocating nights.
I'm from D.C and there's no place I'd rather be than my home.

by Nadia Arce

I am from...

I am from the kitchen with clam
chowder

And Great Pop's spaghetti
From watching "National Lampoon's
Christmas Vacation" on
Christmas

While eating Swedish pancakes in the
morning

And crab legs in the evening
From candy canes to the smell of giant
Christmas tree

I am from nutcrackers and whale trinkets
Ladybugs and bumblebees
Nauna's clam chowder and mom's
cliché of pesto burgers
From "Buffalo Wild Wings" straight to
the Scope
I am from Virginia

I am from carpooling
To the smell of soccer cleats
From sorrow of speed days
To victory on Saturday
I am from field hockey
Where no one can stop me
Competitive to a team player
I am from athletic

I am from Rock 'n' Roll
To living in a "Yellow Submarine"
From dreaming on
To being an "American Idiot"
From Eminem to P!nk
I am from unique

I am from Germany
I am from Sweden
I am from a melting pot
England to Switzerland
Utah to Tennessee
I am from family

I am from
supercalafragalisticexpialadoshus
To "Lilo and Stitch"
From Peggy Guggenheim's collection
To Grandpa Turkey's
I have artist affection

I am from traveling
South Carolina to Japan
From California to Virginia
Italy to who knows where
I am a Bair

by Nora Bair

Where I'm From

I am from America, the land of freedom and opportunity

From burgers, cigarettes, beer and college football

I am from *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* and *The Little Mermaid*

I am from the land of love and good food

From strong coffee and long naps on the sand

I am from energetic chats between hands and fingers

I am from the smell of carbonara at three in the morning

From bay mud under my naked feet and Rita's before lunch

I am from Charlie's obnoxious yaps and my Oma's deep red lipstick

From hazelnut coffee creamer and meowing outside my window

I am from late TV dinners and arguments in Neapolitan

by Camilla Beaderman

Where I am From...

I am from America...

I am Mexican and of Cherokee decent
I am from Jalapeño peppers, tacos, and summer barbeque.
I am from the old house in Fay, in the South Side of SA
Though it is a little old and dirty it stores memories of our family.
I was born in Texas and I could have also been raised there too,
If Dad's vocation wasn't the military

I'm from San Antonio, Texas
I am from "Home is where the Navy sends you."
I am from Jacksonville, Florida,
The place I have spent the most time in.
Breathing in the sea-water, watching the ocean waves hit the shore,
Feeling at home when I am next to the water.
I travel the world, never to settle for long
I rode the tsunami tides in Yokosuka, Japan,
To make my way to Naples, as a wildcat.

I'm from hot chocolate and cookies during the holidays,
And Christmas movies throughout all of December
A hot bowl Pozole for dinner, setting up the Christmas tree and the Nativity scene
And still celebrating long through the New Year

I am from all different genres of music
From classical, rock, Tejano, and certain songs on the radio
I am from bookshelves of countless books, and was taught that education is very important.
I indulge in the scent of a crisp new book in my hands
I was taught everything I know with the help of ink words on paper

I am from lazy Sunday afternoons
To "try your best in everything you do"
I am from "Gracias a Dios," because that is what Abuelita says
I am from the mold that made me who I am today
To "Tomorrow is a new day."
I have been around the world, heart restless to find a home,
I am from America.

by Isadora Flores

I Am From Hello's and Goodbye's

I am from Virginia,
known for the scorching hot weather,
and constant snow that fills the horizon,
I am from pep rallies and snow-days,
from hot chocolate by the fireplace.
from laying on top of the air-con,
while watching the rain pelt the window or snow flowing down.

I am from pool parties and Filipino get-togethers,
to playing Connect 4x4 and Monopoly on "family-game-night"
from paying respect to the elders by mano,
to having Nanay's pancit accompanied with cake and toast.

I am from laughing to Whose Line is it Anyways and Running man,
to reciting the best jokes from the classics: Pink Panther and Ace Ventura,
from wanting to explore and live in the Magic Tree House,
to envying Artemis Fowl's wits and Percy Jackson's adventures.

I am from Japan, Virginia, Italy, Pensacola, Guam, and the Philippines.
the Landstown Dolphins and Lancers,
Naples Wildcats and Tiger Sharks,
Sullivans Dolphins, Princess Anne Piranhas, and Oceana Man o Wars.

I am from the Philippines,
the land of the jokers and hard-workers,
from Sunday Mass to morning fried rice with tosino,
from ice cold showers with only a sink and a bucket,
to banana leaves as plates and sleeping with a mosquito net.

I am from waiting for hours for my bus to arrive,
to seeing it jammed tight with three people to a seat.
I am from count-your-blessings because it could always be worse,
to work before you play, sayang, and bahala na.

I am from hello's and goodbye's,
from best friends to complete strangers.
I am from empty houses and packaged boxes,
to the lift off and landing of airplanes.
I am from Virginia.

by Lorenzo Flores

Where I am From

I am from Italy...

I am from the land where wine flows like water,
I am from kneading dough,
and cooking with family in the kitchen.
I am from the land of pizza and mozzarella,
here we eat spaghetti and dance the tarantella.
I am from the land of sun,
and the land of never ending love.
I am from the land of our greatest ancestors.
I am from the land of great musicians,
and of great conquerors that started their journey here.
I am from the land stretching from the white tipped Alps,
to the beautiful beaches at the sole of the boot.
I am from the land of the great peninsula,
from the land of Green, White and Red,
home of soccer, pasta and bread.
I am from the land of Pulcinella
and the saying "La vita e bella".

I am from America...

I am from the land where the Bald Eagles soar,
the home of county fairs and corn fields.
I am from the land of Apple pie and cheesecake,
from home-cooked meals and soul food.
I am from the land of great tragedies,
but also of great success.
I am from the land of Hollywood and Wall street,
and of the American Dream.
I am from the land of 50 states,
but one nation under god.
I am from the land of the free,
and the home of the brave.

I am from two different lands that are perfect in their own way,
I am proud to be Italo-american .

By Ivan Garcia

I am from America

I am from America...

I am from a home place, of flashing lights from the lighthouse

I am from a hot sunny summer,
from carved pumpkins in the fall,
and fresh snow in the winter.

I am from garlic bread and fresh cut lobsters,
from cod fish and clams.

I am from Naples, Italy

The Tedeschi, and the Gilfoy's.

from homemade pizza and grape jelly pie,
from Nonno Gianni's chiacchiere,
and chocolate pudding (sanguinaccio).

I am from Cape Cod, Massachusetts,
from turkey and potatoes for thanksgiving,
to a handmade gingerbread house for christmas.

I am from sea shells pressed against your feet walking down the beach,
from Da's special chicken recipe with carrots and gravy.

I am from America and Italy.

by Valerie Gilfoy

The Old Days

I am from the land that bleeds Red, White and Blue.
I'm from the salt in the air, sand in my hair.
I'm from the fall leaves of September.
Where careers are made and dreams come true.
Where smiles are wet and sandals are dusty.
Where many stars plant their hands in the cement
and make a name for themselves.

I am from the first walk to tripping on the first run.
From the first word to, too many words to keep count.
I am from a family of all girls, to just by myself.
I'm from the long drive from the East coast to west.
From a big family full of memories,
to nothing with just my mom.
From outspoken to outcast.
From not being heard to being heard clearly.
From all C's to all B's.
From street wear to uniform.
From public school to Private School.
From sun to snow.

I am from breezes to chills and shivers.
From my breath fogging the glass every morning.
I am from homework to the Bible.
I am from walking all day to on my knees to pray at night.

I am from the first audition for acting to reading my script
in the Performing Arts School.
I am from Whitney Houston to Mariah Carey.
From singing in the shower to dancing in class.
From my first 8 hour flight to my first road trip on a bus
in the tight, small streets of Naples.
From being a Naples Dolphin to being a Naples Wildcat.
From making friends to seeing friends go.
From visiting place, I would only read about in the history book.
From learning about a culture that's very different from mine.

I will remember the day my dad close his eyes for a deep sleep
and never woke up.
I will remember how lonely and incomplete I felt, but I will carry on.
I am from a dream to become something great
to help others evolve into something better.
I am from my mother's tight hugs to my first smile on high school day.
I am from a family that works hard, and so I shall be.

by Edjanea Green

I am from America

I am from America

I am Kennedy Space Center and the Florida Citrus Bowl

I am from drinking hot cocoa in the winter,
to eating cookies Christmas morning,.

I am from biscuits and gravy and sweet and sour chicken.

From watching the Thanksgiving NFL games, to playing games with friends.

I am from Pennsylvania where the Little League World Series is played.

I am from Venezuela where the water is as clear as crystals.

I am from playing Madden for hours in the summer,
to doing homework all night during the school year.

I am from pop music like when I listen to Bruno Mars,
to watching Monsters Inc. over and over until I fall asleep.

I am from saying let's go sometimes,
to saying squad all the time.

I am from loving the smell of pancakes in the morning,
to the smell of burning sugar when preparing Crème Brulee on my birthday,
To walking in on the smell of banana bread with a twist.

I am from living a life of meeting new people like Montel Williams,
to seeing Guy Fieri at a restaurant,
to getting an autograph by Mikael Simon.

I am from America.

Christian Hernandez where I'm from....

I am from America....

I am from the hot road under me,
I am the green trees all around me,
I am from the beaches, and the
Fish.

I am from Los Angeles,
Arizona and Kentucky
From the Kentucky fried chicken
and pizzas.

I am from El Salvador
and became known to the states.
I am from a poor state, that's worked
hard for what we have.

I am from Latin music and pop,
I am from the Catholic Church
That sings and the beautiful
smiling air.

I am from the hot humid nights
from the TV watching nights,
I am from cat loving ,and
From turtle loving family.

I am from the green and
white wild cats. I
am from the fome of the free
and the land of the brave.

Sadie Marie Johnson

I am from Texas...

I am proudly from 3633 Oakmont Dr. Grand Prairie.

I am from dinner at Nana's house and backyard baseball games at Geemaw's.

I'm from homemade ice cream and pool party grilling,

From front yard picnics and volleyball in the dead center of the road.

I am from ma and pa Tex-Mex restaurants and a sweet peach tea after practice,

From Sunday brunch at Outlaws and cookie monsters at Cheddars.

I am from the smell of new cowboy boots and Dad's chili,

From freshly mowed grass and the humidity of 110%.

I am from wide rolling hills and underfed lakes,

From barely surviving yards and stove top sidewalks.

I am from Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, and Kenny Chesney,

From "Dead Skunk," and "Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue."

I am from Norway and Scotland, from McIntyres and Johnsons.

I am from "I remember when...", and "Let me tell you something's."

From the University of Texas and the fighting Texas Aggies.

I am from Whitt Elementary school and Jackson Middle school,

From SGPHS alumni and the local YMCA volleyball program.

I am from the lone star state of pecan trees and bluebonnets.

I am from Grand Prairie, Texas in the United States of America.

Who am I?

I am the girl from towering green-forested mountains.
from endless blue waves.
and from jagged coastlines and golden shores.

I am from the beautiful beaches of Hawaii,
from the foggy coasts of California,
and from summers in hot, dry Arizona.

I am from reading fairy tales before bed,
from late nights watching the starry sky,
and days spent exploring.

I am from a dusty trailer in the middle of nowhere,
and from apartments of thin walls,
and finally, a beautiful mansion, of white marble and twisted black iron.

I am from a house of music,
clarinet, piano, violin, and tuba, too,
I am from sheets of music strewn about the room,
and blasting the radio during car rides.

I am from do your best,
and stand for what you believe in,
and let's go on another adventure,
kindness is not a gift, but a goal,
from be your own person
to you can do better,
and for every star in the sky, there is a story.

by Jaida Johnson

Where I'm from

Kira Lowrey

I am from Sand Diego,
Singapore,
Naples.

I am from the Salty Ocean and Sea,
Green Trees and Tropical Fruit,
Fresh cut Grass and well-manicured Parks.

I am from Homeschool Park Days and Trips to the Zoo,
Asian Festivals and Blocks of Wood Carved Into Furniture,
Olive Wood and Outside Cultures Bleeding Past Their Borders.

I am from Germans, Frenchmen,
The Welsh and The Dutch,
The Scottish, The British, and The Irish,
The True Americans, who died nonstop when visited.

I am from Strawberries and Cranberries,
Chicken or Lamb in Spicy Indian Curries and Mooncakes,
Pizza, Pasta, and Bread Dipped in Oil.

I am from *The Beatles* and Chinese Pop,
Renaissance Artisans and *Vincent van Gogh*,
"The Sound of Music" and "Marry Poppins,"
"Heroscape" and My Dads Cabinet Stuffed
With Seemingly Thousands of Board Games.

I am from "I will throw you to the wolves,"
"Blue-sas n sass,"
Scrunchiches.

I am from The Salty Ocean Mist,
The Scent of Indian Food,
The Stench of Gasoline.

I am from Sunny Days All Year-Round,
Hot Humid Air and Daily Rains,
The Disgust and Distain of Seeing Trash On The Streets.

I am From Little Houses With Big Backyards,
Warm Soft Light in Restaurants With Beautiful Cloth,
Loud Happy People Who Know Nothing of Personal Space.

I Am From My Travels.

(This is art. Please do not judge)

All Around the World

I am from all over the world.
I am from where the United States was
founded.
I am from the state where the first
President lived.
I am from the “Mother of States.”

I am from Virginia.
My brother and I were born there,
so I guess you could call it home.
I am from the home of the Washington
Monument,
Memorials, such as the Lincoln and Martin
Luther King Jr.
Where the Cherry Blossoms from Japan,
bloom in the springtime.

I am American by way of Africa and
Europe.
I am descended from a slave, who later
own hundreds of acres of land.
My fifth generation grandfather was the
last of my family to be born into slavery.
I am a successor of my families surviving
in tightly packed ships sailing over a
dangerous sea.
I am the offspring of my family’s
struggles, sacrifices, sweat and suffering to
build a country as we now know it.
From the hot water cornbread that has been
prepared by previous generations.
From my parent’s “first things first; do we
work or play first?
and you may have to work harder than
others.”

I am from R&B, Gospel, Rap, Hip Hop,
and Country,
from listening to old school rap like
Rapper’s Delight,
from belting out Uncle Charlie lyrics,
while riding in the car,
from learning about and listening to Darius
Rucker.
I am from a mixture of Gospel genres,
From Mary Mary to Classic church songs.

I am from a family of educators and
entrepreneurs.
college professors, a builder of a
healthcare clinic for the underserved
from a teacher of the mentally disabled.
I am from a family who has served their
country, WWI to present day.
I am from a very large family on my
mother and father’s side.
I am confident about my future,
from being a teacher, to marrying someone
in the military,
from having four kids.
I am from all over the world.

by Kaitlyn Malone

Where I am from...
Seth O.R.

I am from Hawaii
home in the mountains
in the valley
with my family

I am from butter mochi
and rice and more rice and moe rice and more rice and more rice and more rice
from raw fish, freshly caught, making my uncles hands smell nasty
and squirming, squishy, slimy octopus with more rice

I am from Christmas
green Christmas'
presents scattered
and shaking boxes

I am from waking up to feed chickens
making sure they are well
chasing and catching chickens
and making sure they feed me

I am from the scent of sweet flowers
fresh fruit whenever I wanted
from the smell of pine masking the smell of the iron saturated red dirt
not masking the taste of red dirt in your mouth after tripping

I am from the warm, bright sun
baking on the warm sand on the beach
the water lapping at my toes with turtles laying nearby
from the sting of sunburn on my shoulders

I am from late nights reading
from loud cousins and "It was an accident!"
To quiet nights ruined by the buzz of mosquitoes
and complaints of taking showers

I am from running around barefoot, running from who ever is "it"
from martial artists, from Japanese, Filipinos, fishermen, divers, musicians, mathematicians
from the sound of my great-grandpa's ukulele
to the sound of wailing
from laughing
to crying
from leaving
from coming back
from the cascade of hugs
from trying to remember everyone's names
and scrapes and bruises
going down hills on tricycles
getting into trouble

I am from Hawaii

Mika Poluhowich
10/26/14
Period 3
I'm From Poem

I am from Japan...

I am from the flurry of falling cherry blossoms,
from the scent of seafood in the summer,
mom's cooked stew in the winter,
from the sweet olives in fall.

I am from the homeplace of manga,
from the beauty of calligraphy,
from children watching anime,
from adults in karaoke, down the bright neon street.

I am from Tokyo tower to Tokyo Skytree,
from Kinkakuji and Ginkakuji,
from Mount Fuji up higher than the fluffy clouds.

I am from the dark, fierce ninjas,
from the noble, protective samurais.

I am from Japan.

Where I'm From

I am from San Diego.

I am from the sea, the salty breeze my friend.
I am from the warm days that do not ever end.
I am from the winters so cool but so grey.
I am from swimming in the cold, deep, San Diego bay.
I am from cooking cut out cookies for fun,
and as far as cakes go, German Chocolate is second to none.

I am from San Diego, but my grandparents are not, no.
My Father's grew up and still live in Franklin Park, Chicago.
My Mother's now live in Normal, Illinois, but when it starts to snow,
They pack their bags and down to Arizona they will go.
We call them Opa and Oma, because they're from Germany,
but my Dad's parents are just Grandpa George and Grandma Dee.
Opa works on his trains, and makes his walking sticks,
Oma watches Nascar, and makes her driver picks.
Grandma watches the Cubs, they haven't won in years.
If you told me Grandpa's Bears went '500', I wouldn't believe my ears.

I am from around the world,
My last name is Welsh, you see.
I'm also Irish, English, Croatian, and French
With some German and some Cherokee.
I came from French immigrants working in the city,
but I'm also a quarter English and I don't know how that came to be.
My Father's Father's Father (I think) lived on the Balkan Sea,
A proud Croatian Rakovic or something like that was he.
He crossed the Great wide ocean, and s all things come to an end,
You can plainly see I came right back across it again.

But I was born in San Deigo,
and it will always be where I'm from.
Despite it's crazy drivers when it rains,
and the sea that will turn you numb.
I grew up from Easter egg hunts in the summer,
when a colored egg was my favorite sight,
and also in the winter,
when it was December 25, at 12:01 at night.
I grew up on Tom Bergeron and AFV;
Wipeout used to be my favorite show on TV
I had no couzins at all, but I wasn't alone,
I had this little 'Gator' I drove until I couldn't fit in because of all I'd grown.
I had all of my Birthdays Parties at the Chuck E Cheese's
they were the best that they could be,
And the christmas tree was never in the Garbage until it was past January 23.

I am from the South West, where Mexican food's the best,
But as far as sports go, the baseball team needs permanent rest.
The Chargers are okay, and the Ducks cannot be beat,
And Soup Plantation will always be where I'm going to eat.
I was raised on the Pet Shop Boys, my favorite song is 'Alright',
And staying up watching 'Lost' I have spent many a night.

I am from velcro shoes,
My Gym teacher was also my homeroom, too.
I am from week long trips to Disney land,
And frequent visits to the Zoo.
I am from Calvin and Hobbes' books at the store,
and don't ever track mud on the floor.
And if it's a B minus or below, you don't live in this house any more.

I am from San Diego.

John Rusher

Where I'm From

I am from planet Earth...

I am from 中国的长城 (the Great Wall of China),
il Colosseum (the Colosseum),
الاجيزة هرم (the Pyramid of Giza),
□□□ □□□ (the Taj Mahal),
La Tour Eiffel (the Eiffel Tower),
and the Statue of Liberty.

I am from peri bacaları (the fairy chimneys) of Turkey,
los sumideros (the sinkholes) of Mexico,
nga toka keke (the pancake rocks) of New Zealand,
montanas del fuego (the fire mountains) of Spain,
桜 (the cherry blossoms) of Japan,
and the Yellowstone National Park of North America.

I am from Panspermia, Biopoesis, Cosmogony,
Endosymbiosis, Spontaneous Generation,
the Clay Theory, the Theory of Consecutive Creations,
the Materialistic Theory, the Organic Evolution,
or the Theory of Special Creation.

I am from the celebrators and beer makers of Lithuania,
the bullfighters and artists of Spain,
the fashionistas and lovers of France,
the drinkers, fighters, and dancers of Ireland,
and the freed of the USA.

I am from the comfort and safety of petrol,
the love and warm hugs of vanilla,
the greasy goodness of bacon,
the openness of fresh air,
the days of summer vacation of freshly cut grass,
the smoothness and richness of melted chocolate,
and the fluffy and buttery saltiness of popcorn.

I am from go-for-it and got-your-back,
from try-something-new but keep-it-legal,
from y.o.l.o, swag, and b.a.e,
from never-look-back but learn-from-yesterday,
from I-love-you and forever-and-infinity.
I am from planet Earth.

by Anastasia Sheils



Lachlan Sims

I am from America

I am from the Space Needle

I am from Pikes Place Market

I am from forested mountains

from the pouring rain

from the ever-gray sky

from the rumbling thunder

I am from “go outside”

I am from smoked salmon

from golden ripe apples

I am from Seattle, Washington

from the raucous gulls

from the stony beaches

I am from the smell of the sea

from the pine trees in summer

from the grass under my feet

I am from “respect everything around you”

from “leave it how you found it”

I am from the cold

from the wailing wind

And the never ending sound of the rain

I am from the land of the free

Where I'm from

I am from Virginia...

I'm from where the landscape is amazing and the hills are green

I'm from playing tackle football in the summer,

From the whole family watching the NFL Thanksgiving game while we eat,

And opening one present on Christmas Eve

And the rest on Christmas Day.

I'm from watching *Kenan and Kel* and *Fresh-Prince of Bel-Air*

I'm from the whole family watching *The Wizard of Oz*

From going to work with my dad at the pentagon

From playing madden with my older brother

And basketball with my younger one.

From my mom always saying, "an adventure is not an adventure until it's over!"

I am from the red and yellow Washington Redskins,

From Rodney Thompson Jaguars and Naples Wildcats.

I am from never give up

And finish everything you start

From treating everyone as you would like to be treated

And never down anyone

From never back down

And a just do attitude.

By Aaron Snider

I am from America by Robert Tavarez

I am from where the oranges are made.
I am from taking the trash out every day,
Dishes two times a week.
I am from sancocho and morisoinando,
From wooden chairs and the stuck nail.

I'm from Tampa, Florida
The Tavarez, the Vanputten,
The Dominican immigrants in hammered boats,
From sasone in I can't believe it's not butter containers,
From getting 10 punches a day
From Abuela's Marisol homemade Ariana,
Its creamy, mushy, golden flavor
From Evans fried chicken,
The sauce and meat always on point.

I am from bachata and merengue and hip hop,
From Miriam Cruz es cosas Del el
From Prince Royce El Amor Grande,
From T'C'S Wolf.
I am from the belief of samsara and karma
From "if you don't want to be a roach in your next life
then stay a wise man in the one you're in now"

I am from playing dominoes every 2 hours,
From hearing "TRANCAO" when you know you lost,
From being asked by my friends if you want play ball.

I am from Forest Gump,
From Pulp Fiction,
I am from the Gators,
From Black and White Knights,
From Green and White Naples Wildcats.

I am from dos pecosones
And mojhone
From be the first to think and last to act,
From do whatever you like and don't live up
to anyone expectations cause it's your life you're living.

I am from the land that we ask God to bless.

KEY

Sancocho=soup

Morisionando=milk and orange juice

Sasone=sauce

Ariana=grained corn

Es cosa Del el=it's his stuff

El Amor Grande=the giant love

Trancao=game over

Dos pecosones=two hits in the back of the head

Mojhone= turd

Where I'm From

I am from the Navy.
From Washington to Virginia and back
I am from moving every two years
'Home' is almost a trick question
Never staying in one place
I am from flying to foreign places
Eating pasta and pizza in its birthplace
I am from the Navy

I am from seeing the Arc De Triomphe in three different forms
And eating crepes, tapas, and polenta
I am from the Navy.
Watching movies at a theater with Romanian subtitles
Popcorn with the same buttery smell as the states
I am from celebrating holidays I never even knew existed like *All Saints Day* or *Woman's Day*
From singing 'Happy Birthday' in English, French, Chinese, Romanian, and Italian
I am from the smell of pumpkin in the fall
But no Starbucks *Pumpkin Spice Latte*
I am from the Navy.

I am from do-your-best
and never-give-up
I am from be-original
and 'YOLO'
Being called a 'Navy Brat'
I am from the Navy.

I am from long distance, multi-connected flights maybe once a year
When I get to Minnesota
I shop 'til I drop
And compare my height to my cousins
I am from being the shortest
And from being Asian-American
Asked if I'm Chinese by Italians at *Shoe Alley*
Saying, "No, sono di Korea."
in broken Italian
I am from trying to speak in broken languages mixed with English
Trying to fit in
I am from the Navy.

By Grace Vandelac

Me by Seamus Wade

I am from America...
I am from the land where red, white, and blue fly.
I am from the land between the sea and shining sea.
I am from BBQ's on Friday night,
to football on Sunday,
and Thanksgiving in November.

I am from the New Mexican desert...
Hot as the sun in the summer,
cold as ice in the winter.
I am from red or green at breakfast, lunch, and dinner,
and the sensation of burning when I eat it.
I am from its rolling mountains that turn pink at sunset,
to the low river canyons.

I am from what seems like the end,
to the battle against the darkness that tried to consume me,
to helping others with the same battle.
From the destruction of my burden,
to seeing my friends consumed by it, never to return.
I am from the Relay for Life to remember those we lost.

I am from my family,
I am from the love that keeps us together,
to the fights that threaten to break us.
From the bonds that strengthens us
and the ones that keep us alive.
I am from the ones I love.

I am from San Diego.
From the high surf to the low,
from my lacrosse opponents,
threatening to put me on my back.
I am from the rising skyline,
And the bay that lies below.

I am from the voice inside,
from my mind that was too scared to come out,
too stupid to see what was happening,
and too cowardly to do anything when I did.
I am from the bonds that broke,
and let me speak my mind.

I am from Naples, Italy.
From the concrete jungle,
to the ruins that reside.
From the land of pizza,
And the view that accompanies it.
I am from the beautiful Naples,
Bella Napoli.

I am from Japan, the place that I was born
from not remembering much
but looking at old videos, pictures and such
I am from the bento box lunches
from fighting my baby brother, trying not to throw punches
I am from always moving out
and going with the flow, without a doubt
I am from the Navy

I am from San Diego, the beginning of school
from the nap times in preschool
and the pillows soaked in drool
I am from the sandy beaches
and my mom's soft sweet kisses
I am from after school library trips
and watching the ocean, scattered with ships
I am from always moving out
and going with the flow, without a doubt
I am from the Navy

I am from Maryland
I am from Rockville, I thought the moving would end
and from the place where I meet my best friend
I am from swimming in Casper Lake
and from trying my first t-bone steak
I am from exploring the windy creek
and going farther and farther with adventure we seeked
I am from pizza nights at Teddy's
and playing tag in the forest, always ready
I am from the start of my soccer years
and always playing on through blood, sweat and tears
I am from always moving out
and going with the flow, without a doubt
I am from the Navy

I am from Italy
I am from Napoli the place of pizza
and from my first sight of the leaning tower of Pisa
I am from climbing to the top of Vatican City
and looking down at it, all so pretty
I am from Naples American High school
from getting away from hot days in the support site pool
I am from always saluting our flag, O so wavy
because I am from the Navy.

by David Werking

Where I Am From

I am from here and there.

I am from the cool west coast breeze
from the Mexican food fresh across the border
from mild winters and perfect summers
from the raging fires of the wooded land
from the safety of playing in the streets

I am from the desert
from the middle east
from the 100 degree “winters”
from the hospitality of the protestors
from the welcome of another culture

I am from the refreshing east coast breeze
from the tops state of the south
from the country accents
from the long rides into the woods
from the walks to the smoothie shop

I am from the great dinner gatherings
from the twenty pound turkeys to the ten pound ham
from the dressing and the cranberry sauce
from the sweet potato pie and homemade tea
from the fall colors to the decorating the Christmas tree
I am from the headstrong
from the stubborn and independent
from the blunt and
from the truthful

I am from the hard rock and metal
from the poetic free verse of Watsky
from the un-tampered truth of Spose
from the acoustic and new century classics
from the OneRepublic to Five Finger Death Punch

I am from the Sharon Creech
from *Ruby Holler*
from *Tilt*
from *Divergent* to *How to Kill a Mocking bird*

I am from this and that

By Catherine Yopp