

Where I'm From

I am from around the world

I am from my stomping grounds, alongside a sea.

I am from snow cones in summer,
fried shrimp in fall,
and venison for winter.

I am from 4-wheeling and go carting,
from krispy kreme robbers and sweet tea.

I'm from Darien, Georgia,
the Cherokee, the Bulldogs, the Rebels,
from pottery 300 years ago,
from old deer stands built in 1952,
from shrimping the Sapelo sound,
from the shimmer of the murky waters at dusk,
to the silence of dawn.

I am from Garmisch, Germany and the sacramento and san joaquin valley in California,
from the secluded valleys with mountain tops covered in snow, in a beautiful valley,
where the people are nice and are wise in their history.
down into the deepest driest valley in California, where the smell is of cows and
fertilizer,
from regular americans to taco trucks at every corner,
from a small town.
from back scratches from Grandma,
to sleeping sideways at California.

I am from the old hunter gather like tradition,
from the nights sitting in my deer stand,
from walking down a trail with my buddy.
from gulping down oysters in the bay,
from salmons jumping in the rivers.
I am from the past,
even though it has passed.

I am from the hammock on the beach,
from BBQs and country meat,
from the waves off the bow,
from deep below there is no sound.
from the homemade sweet tea to every cousin I greet,
it is always fun to go play in the sun.

I am from Mountains high in the Alps,
from Germany, Zugspitze, and the Sierra mountains,
from lake to lake, stream to stream.
I am always on the lookout.
from Jaguars, to patriots, to Wildcats,
from all of the world for me to view,
to where I know that I am home.

I am from a country background,
and never getting put down,
from overcoming obstacles in my way,
but getting the job done.
from running errands,
to digging holes,
no worries I am kind and sweet to those I meet,
I am from the around the world.

By Justin Baker

I Am From Poem

I am from War Eagle country,
From the southern foods and the roots of country music.

I am from the screams of “War Eagle!!”

And the mascot Aubie.

I am from Toomer’s Tree,

Whose branches gave Toomer’s Corner life.

I am from throwing footballs to four-wheel riding.

From the Elstons and the Bests,

And From horseback riding and fishing,

From barbecues.

I am from a Christian family,

From southern home-style cooking,

From family reunions,

And from watching the Iron Bowl.

I am from the moments of sitting back on a porch and watch the day go by.

I am from War Eagle Country.

Where I'm From
by Tyler Bredlow

I Am From Everywhere

I am from Texas, Massachusetts, New York,
Kansas, Japan, Minnesota, Saudi Arabia, and
Italy in that order.

I am from a military life,
one of constant change.
I am from losing and
making new friends

I am from cramped plane rides
and long periods of time without wifi.
I am from car trips,
to places unknown

I am from the smell of my moms
secret "Fat Pill" cookie recipe.
I am from the mouth-watering
taste of cannoli's.

I am from "procrastinating is my specialty"
and sleeping all day.
I am from "I hate homework"
and the definition of lazy

I am from the smell of oceans
and the warm humid air of the rainforest.

I Am From Everywhere

Where I am from

by Karen Buck

I am from Japan

I am from the busy streets of Tokyo keeping me up at night

I am from visiting Grandma on the weekends taking the subway, trains, buses or riding our bikes anywhere

I am from wearing my kimono on special occasions in temples or shrines

I am from taking your shoes off when entering the house

I am from the aroma of yakisoba, takoyaki, and okonomiyaki filling the air and gunpowder of fireworks during festivals

I am from Japan

I am from San Diego, California

I am from having the best weather all year round

I am from the zoo, SeaWorld, 32nd street, and home of the fish taco

I am from where In & Out Burger is king

I am from going to Coronado Beach on the weekend feeling the hot sand between my toes and the cool breeze of the sea

I am from where I can snowboard and surf all on the same day

from winter being 50 degrees and everyone complains that it's freezing

I am from San Diego, California

Where I am from

I'm from America...

From England and Italy,

I'm from new houses every few years
and having to adjust.

I am from learning to say "hello" rather than "goodbye"

From treating everyone kindly because you only have to deal with them for 2-3 years
and meeting incredible people when you least expect it.

I'm from skyping family and friends at ungodly hours,

And not knowing if and when you'll see them again

I'm from plane rides, train rides, car rides, and boat rides

From my siblings being my best friends outside but my enemies in the car

And only seeing a movie because "they had it on the plane."

From taking day trips to amazing places

And being an adventurer

I'm from waking up in the summer to the smell of New Jersey mulch,

The smell of motorboat gas in Upstate New York

From the roses in the Queen's Garden

And the lilacs in my backyard.

To the slight smell of cigarettes paired with the smell of incredible food being cooked

I'm from spending birthdays on airplanes,

Thanksgiving in Venice,

Christmas in Garmisch,

From going to a different country just for the weekend

And being able to say that and not sound spoiled

I'm from trying your best even when it gets tough,

From being the bigger person

I am from "stop being so stubborn"

And replying okay, but still being stubborn.

I'm from getting movies about a month after the US,

From waking up insanely early just to watch a new episode before it's spoiled

I am from watching the weirdest Italian commercials

And using proxies to watch Netflix and BBC.

I'm from America, but "home is where the military sends you."

by Shannon Byrnes

Where I'm From

I am from America

I am from the grass between your toes,
And the wind that blows.
I'm from Church every Sunday and Papa's prayers.
I'm from knitting needles and rocking chairs.
I am from America

A land where the tea is sweet,
And the biscuits need gravy.
Where evenings mean fried fish caught that day
And hushpuppies while the children play.
A land where the car is a truck and the music is country,
And teens still say, "yes ma'am" and "no sir".
I am from America.

I am from lightning bugs, cousins, and freshly baked pies.
I am from a land with no prying eyes,
Where neighbors are friends and
Football is king.
I am from America.

I am from the Army.
The war, the destruction, the pain,
From daddy being deployed and Uncle Johnny never coming home.
I'm from sorrow, and mourning.
But I am also from hope, bravery, and freedom.
I am from a land of heroes.

I am from America.

I am from America....

I am from the big green house on the
corner street
To family owned restaurants lining the lane
I am from summer hikes at Old Man's Cave
To hot chocolate and movies around the
New Year
I am from pumpkin pie and Yorkshire
pudding
To daring war stories told around the dinner
table

I am from Columbus, Ohio
From the Ohio State Buckeyes, to the
Wright State Raiders
I am of English decent
From The Tudors to countryside farmers
I am from fish n' chips smothered in vinegar
To old British books passed through the
generations
I am from Christmas service
To Super Bowl potlucks

I am from the Rock N' Roll Hall of Fame
To the many renaissance fairs
I am from Saturday morning cartoons
To family movie nights ever Friday
I am from Church on Sunday's
To weekend dinners
Apple Pie on Thanksgiving
And Cranberries at Christmas

I am from catching fireflies in June
To building snowmen in December
I am from climbing trees in May
To huddling around the fire in January
I am from silently stacked suitcases
To the hum of jumbo jets
I am from new unfamiliar faces
To a brand new language foreign and
unknown

I am from everywhere...
To the beaches of Hawaii
And sky scrapers of Singapore
I am from the Blue Ridge Mountains
To the gloom of Mt. Vesuvius

I am from "Never give up"
To "You can do anything"
From "Keep it secret keep it safe"
To "Try your hardest or don't try at all"
I am from Sci-Fi and Fantasy
To *The Walking Dead* every Monday
And *Survivor* every Thursday
I am from *Star Wars* Marathons
To *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*
I am from America.

By: Diana Carl

Where I'm from - Francis Carlos

I am from Washington.

**I am from desperately trying to keep in touch with friends,
There were too many bonds I tried to amend.
I am from claiming I could have visited,
But funds turned out to be limited.
I am from almost going to homecoming,
But my dad said "yeet", and that news was bumming.**

**I am from countless swim meets.
In my spare time, composing some downbeats,
From my brother's phone getting stuck in the air conditioner,
An accident so bad we almost had to get a medical practitioner.**

**I am from visiting any random city,
Regardless of its population density.
Tight lanes with a Jeep would increase the driving intensity,
My dad would never rely on simplicity.
Some towns would come in great immensity,
In others, even a restaurant would be in scarcity.
Either way, touring during a meet was our number one activity,
Honestly, any city would have worked,
We weren't strict on our selectivity.**

**I am from becoming a chief,
Although I think the program is too brief.
I am from hearing the Drill Team is no longer funded,
Probably the biggest problem I've confronted.**

**I am from going through football conditioning,
But realizing that two sports AND rigorous classes would be inhibiting.
I am from missing almost all the meets for Track,
That scuba diving class that I went to instead was whack.**

**Actually, I think now I have been away from Washington for too long.
As of today, my ties with the people there are not that strong.
However, I can't just say that I'm from Italy.
That's not something you can say wittily.**

I am still from Washington.

by Francis Carlos

Where I'm From

I am from San Diego...

I am from the boardwalks, crowded with people.
I am from faire rides in the summer,
flip flops year around,
and taco's on Christmas eve.
I am from homemade fish tacos,
and pumpkin cheesecake,
from cannonballs and the never ending summers.

I'm from San Diego, California,
the Youngs, the Broses, the Chichesters,
British immigrants with homemade quilts,
from peanut butter bon bons,
from homemade ice cream,
from the family angel,
and the swear words that always follow
from Sally the witch hanging from the light pole,
from Great Grandma D,
stubborn as ever.

I am from Ireland, England, and the Czech
Republic,
fresh off the boat, all alone in a big world,
true love found in the streets of New York,
settling down on the mists of the west coast,
trying to fit in and hide their pasts.
I am of mixed European blood,
confused of my families pasts,
unsure of who is my blood family
and who is adopted.
And I love you's whispered into the night.

I am from rock and roll, and jazz,
from jazz playing during dinner,
from ACDC's Highway to Hell,
from jamming to the Eagles,
I am from the "Black Betty"
playing in my father's garage
and the "Thunderstruck" of Angus' guitar.

I am from crazy moustache movie night,
from doughnut store runs in pajamas,
from scavenger hunts, dancing, and swimming
in the chaos of Tiki fest,
from Thanksgiving weigh offs and
Kanasta on New Years eve.

I am from Road to Bali and The Incredibles,
from Sherlock and Bones
I am from Marvin Mustangs,
blue and yellow Lewis Leopards,
Patrick Henry Patriots and Naples Wildcats,
from the band room and the red track.

I am from San Diego.

by Hannah Chichester

Where I am from Poem

by Sierra Dye

I am from the Navy life.

I am from my birthplace.
I am from California,
From Polaroid pictures and
From the beach and earthquakes.

I am from where I grew up.
I am from Virginia,
From forest back yards and tree-houses and
From kickball in the cul-de-sac.

I am from snow angels in the winter,
From gardening and picking flowers in the
spring,
From raking and leaf-pile diving in the fall
and
From lemonade stands in the summer.

I am from disco dance parties in the family
room,
From sponge painted walls and carpet
floors,
From bunk beds and Barbie dolls and
From night lights and bedtime stories.

I am from Florida,
From theme parks and beaches,
From unbearable summers and
From public school uniforms.

I am from Halloween parties,
From travelling every summer to see family,
From a huge Thanksgiving turkey and
From family reunions.

I am from Italy,
From burning trash on the side of the road,
From crazy bus drivers and
From unforgettable bonds.

I am from summer beach trips,
From seeing Mt. Vesuvius,
From small showers and
From concrete walls.

I am from everywhere.
I am from the Navy life.

KARRINGTON EVANS

10/29/14 7:10 AM

WHERE I AM FROM POEM

I AM FROM WHEREVER THE NAVY SENDS US...

I am from the hospital that lies on Langley Air Force base in Newport News,
I am from moving as a toddler to the sandy beaches of Guam,
From family cookouts and delicious barbeque,
I am from spending birthdays at the beach,
From noisy cities and living in towering skyscrapers,
I am from authentic ramen and sushi,
From stepping over Hermit crabs in Okinawa,
I am from The "Old Dominion state,"
I am from Virginia, Guam, Japan, and Italy

I am from traveling the world, from Sad "Goodbyes"
but more "see you later,"
From meeting friends of similar lifestyles,
I am from long plane rides and lots of unpacking,
from making videos to send to mom,
I am from summer days spent on the trampoline,
football games in my backyard, and endless days at Busch Gardens
From Fathers stories' of "back in the days"
I am from ancestors of Africa and Germany and years of untold stories.

I am from waking up early on Christmas to take the drive to DC,
and spending Thanksgiving around the ones I love,
I am from the audience of my Uncle Verns' Church,
to skipping rocks in the backyard of Uncles' house,
I am from driving through Christmas light shows,
to long days at the National Zoo,
I am from Tiger Cruises on Moms' Aircraft Carrier.

I am from Drake making me feel sad even when I'm Happy,
to Kendrick Lamar telling Rappers the Truth,
I am from Hulu and Netflix,
and staying up for the Super Bowl and NBA Finals,

I am from "Remembering the Titans" to "Men Of Honor."

I am from the fragrance of Moms Breakfast on Sunday mornings,
From Saturday morning cartoons and pickup games on the Court,
I am from a family, who sometimes argues but loves each other deeply,
I am from Mediterranean cruises during spring break
to trips to Germany, Spain, London, and Paris,
I am from lifetime lasting memories that cannot be replaced.

I am from "Hard work beats talent when talent fails to work hard"
I am from many used "Yolo" and Carpe Diem

I AM FROM WHEREVER THE NAVY SENDS...

Where I'm From

I am from Naples Italy
From my mom cooking a different dish every night
To closing my doors cause my sisters always fight
From going to my grandmothers house on the weekend
From my mom always yelling "don't swim out to the deep end"
I am from my parents loving me endlessly
I am from Naples Italy

I am from Massachusetts, Cape Cod
From eating lobsters with my family
To sneaking out to the pond with my cousin Zachary
From having to leave at the end of the summer
To always forgetting my portable charger
I am from living abroad
I am from Cape Cod

I am from beautiful, wonderful Naples
From being left from friends always moving
And many more that seem to be intruding
From wearing a uniform once a week
To standing in formation and not being able to speak
I am from waking up to Nutella waffles
I am from beautiful, wonderful Naples

Where I'm From by Jordan Hoffman

I am from San Diego, California...

I am from the place that has good weather all year long
And the spray of waves crashing on the rocks,
I am from the feeling of the warm sun on your back,
And all types of food, from tacos, to sushi,
To a good old fashioned American burger.

I am from going to Padres games on the weekends
And cheering in the crowd with my dad and brothers,
I am from going to surf camp with my friends,
And us still being pretty bad afterwards,
I am from playing sports after school,
And trying to impress the girl I had a crush on.

I am from Italian descent
From the Leaning Tower of Pisa to the Coliseum,
To pizza margherita and bruschette,
I am from having relatives over for New Year's dinner,
And lighting up huge fireworks on the street later.

I am from iPods and iPhones,
To SpongeBob Squarepants and Timmy Turner,
I am from "the force is strong with this one",
And playing Pokémon on my Gameboy.
I am from moving to different places,
And meeting new people in Florida, Chicago,
And finally here in Naples,
But I will always consider San Diego my home.

I am from San Diego, California...

Where I am from Poem

I am from Naples...
I am from my mom's chicken pot pie
I am from homemade fried chicken
I am from the tasty smell of Country Fried Steak and Creamy Mashed Potatoes
I am from the smell of Fluffy Chocolate Chip Pancakes for breakfast
To the succulent juiciest and tastiest Cajun Steak you could ever taste

I am from the songs of Chuck Berry to the Albums of 50 cent
From the East Coast rap to the West Coast rap
I am from the songs of Charley Pride to the one hit wonders of rock and roll
I am from wham, and Tears for Fears to Queen
I am from Dancing with Myself
To watching the sun rise to the relaxing tune of "Morning" from Peer Gynt suit

I am from the Ruins of Pompeii to all the roads that lead to Rome
I am from the vast sea of the med and the sandy trash ridden beaches
I am from the Vatican to the Mountains of the Apennine
I am from the snowcapped Mt Vesuvius in the winter to the Swiss Alps

I am from Naples...

Where I Am From Poem

I am from American

I am from a small private road
With horse pastors on each side
I am from going to Pikes Place Market
And seeing the view from the top of the Space Needle

I am from Sounders Games
And eating sushi while watching the Super Bowl
I am from going to Mt. Baker while wearing flip flops
And having huge snowball fights on Christmas

I am from being a Naples Wildcat,
To traveling over twenty hours for Europeans
I am from getting too many bruises to count
And horrible tan lines during soccer season

I am from drinking way too much coffee
And being addicted to sour patch kids
I am from having a fear of needles
And avoiding getting my ears pierced

I am from sleepovers with friends,
from walking to the mini mart in pajamas,
to always playing the one minute game
I am from watching scary movies
To late night talks,
And always being the first to fall asleep

I am from blue jeans
And vans for days
I am from being really bad at dancing
To blasting Taylor Swift music in my friend's room
And screaming the lyrics

I am from the saying "always try to see the best in people"
And " Don't judge a book by it's cover"

I am from America

I am from all over...

I am from a beautiful state,
From super sunny summers and chilly winters spent in Big Bear,
I am from the "Gold Coast" and from "The City of Angels",
I am from "Eureka!" and "It takes 20 minutes depending on traffic,
I am from a beautiful state filled with warmth and happiness,
I am from California.

I am from safe travels and many adventures,
I am from many pictures and many walks,
From tired smiles and tired legs,
I am from long car rides to reach a distant place
and from airplane rides that are short and always late,
I am from the Coliseum, the Eiffel tower, and the Big Ben,
From Rome, Paris, London,
I am from a wonderful blessing and opportunity to live in a place like this,
I am from Italy.

I am from a loving family,
From "time for bed Em!" to "Good morning Momo!",
I am from a sweet little sister, who loves adventure and fun,
I am from a wonderful mother, who I hope to become,
I am from a strong father, who never breaks down,
And I am from a loving family who is always around.

I am from playing in the brittle fall leaves,
From hot cocoa on a chilly winters eve,
I am from opening only a single present on Christmas Eve,
And waking up early the next day to see what I've received.
I am from delicious sweet potatoes, glazed pineapple ham,
yummy stuffing, and amazing pumpkin pie with a swirl of whipped cream on top,
I am from the 25 nights of Christmas on ABC,
And from a Charlie Brown's Thanksgiving.

I am from miso soup and rice and from burgers and fries,
I am from sticky mochi ice cream and refreshing mint chocolate chip,
I am from hot oolong tea and from a venti peppermint mocha frappuccino from Starbucks,
I am from a small island and I am from a large state,
I am from my mom's chicken katsu and from my dad's baby back ribs.

I am from all over,
I am from constant plane rides,
I am from making new friends and saying, "goodbye,
but see you later," to the old ones.
I am from "see you soon" and "nice to meet you",
I am from California, Hawaii, Virginia, and Italy,

I am from all over...

Where I'm From Poem

I am from Suffolk, Virginia
From endless cornfields and scarecrows
From muggy green lakes with many animals
From toads croaking in the summer nights
From catching fireflies in jars at night

I am from warm tea while reading a good book
From midnight snacks with my sister
From the smell of Sunday morning breakfast with my dad
From my mom's lasagna and french salad

I am from my beach tree out my bedroom window
From leafless branches in the winter
From blooming flowers in the spring

I am from hearing loud country music from the cars passing by
From my dogs barking at night
From deer running through the backyard
From my cats' soft fur

I am from weekend trips up to Williamsburg
From long beach days
From days just sitting around the house
And from the usual Oktoberfest

I am from my family
From my friends
I am from the people who love me

I am from Suffolk, Virginia

Carter Martin – Where I am From: Take 2

I am from Home

I am from the Pacific Northwest
I am from the Cascades
From the cyborg Cities of Portland and Seattle
And the Tall hills of Everett
From petrichor after a rainy day
And the wet smell of fir trees
From damp, coastal air
And the waves of Puget Sound

I am from Family
I am from the Netherlands and Germany
From Dumplings and Goulash
From Christmas and Easter
From “Not you, Iro, you’re driving.”
From Pizza on Fridays and Asian food on Saturdays
I am from Apples to Apples and Wii nights with friends
And from saltwater taffy from the coast

I am from Fiction and Fantasy
I am from Star Wars and Star Trek (THERE IS A DIFFERENCE!!!!)
And Doctor Who
From the torture of Hawk: The Slayer
And Gondor calling for aid
From Golden-Age Collectibles
And not finding the droids that I am looking for
From Stephen Moffat and Don’t Blink!
And the fickle sting of Joss Whedon

I am from my Friends
I am from playing and laughing together
From heated debates on who is better: Batman or Spiderman?
From fights, arguments and other such quarrels
And the inevitable recovery afterwards
From brief moments of fellowship and happiness
And bonds that will last a lifetime

I am from home

Hannah Martin

Where I'm From: Sweet Home Alabama

I am from Alabama.

I am from the rolling hills and pastures of Alabama.
I am from the home made fried catfish, mashed potatoes,
juicy and sweet watermelon, spaghetti, and pancakes
and muffins in the morning for breakfast.

I am from going to Walmart and Target often
not even a mile away from my house.
I am from visiting Bass Pro Shop just to have something to
do on weekends.

I am from visting the Vulcan and the
Galleria in Birmingham.

I am from the Irish redheaded ancestors in my blood.
I am from green and blue eyes and curly hair.
I am from the Greek toes on my dad's side of the family,
and scoliosis on my mom's side of the family.

I am from playing board games and card games
with my family on the weekends.
I am from swapping ornaments every
Christmas with my whole family.
I am from eating out at a restaurant
every Sunday after church.
I am from seeing all of my relatives
at family reunions.

I am from the smelling the paper mill every
morning before school.
I am from smelling the hot sweet tea
while brewing.
I am from the baking of birthday cakes
and muffins for breakfast.
I am from the old Prattville Cotton Gin and
Bear Creek Swamp legends.
I am from Alabama.

I am from the beautiful San Diego, California
Where no matter what direction you look toward
It's just as amazing as the other
Where during the fall the leaves change color
And drop from the trees creating an array of beauty
Taking drives along the Coronado bridge
Just to stop and take in the glory.
Where we would skip school
to be astonished by the movement of water
A place we created "On top of the World" being,
Not only a housing development but at the very top of the hill
you can look out at what stretches around

I am from sand Diego's sun and beach,
sunburn, body surfing and sand castles.
Cavemen, Padres, Chargers and Aztecs,
to football in the street, and baseball in the park

I am from homemade lasagna, enchiladas and eating so much you can barely breathe!

I'm from dinner conversation,
("Elbows off the table!" "Clean your plate!")
Injunctions, disagreements, family sagas
and letters, from far off, read aloud.
I'm from long car trips ("Are we there yet?")
And Mummy's excited, "Smell that salt air"!

I am from a place that no matter how hard one tries,
they can never take it away from ME
because it has grown to be a part of whom I am
and that cannot be erased.

I'm from the beautiful san Diego, California

I am from Kentucky,
I am from the wide open fields,
The sound of horses running free.
I am from the fresh smell of pine,
To the smell of fresh snow.
From snowball fights to warm fires.
I am from hot chocolate and peanut butter cookies,
From cartoon to action movies.

I am from Okinawa, Japan,
I am from the smell of salt water,
Feeling the cold water on my feet.
I am from the sound of fireworks,
To the sound of crickets playing music.
From festivals going on till light,
Everyone laughing all night.

I am from California,
Where the sun it always bringing the heat
I always feel warm from my head to my feet.
I am from amusement parks t open beaches.

I am from spooky nights to twinkling lights,
From sitting on the couch reading a book,
From watching movies until it's late,
From hitting a ball to swinging a bat.
I am from pumpkin pie with whipped cream,
From marble cake to brownies.

I am from Naples, Italy,
I am from the cool winds to the warm sun,
From delicious spaghetti, sizzling pizza, to yummy cake.
From fireworks, pasta, pizza, gelato.

I AM FROM POEM

I am from everywhere

From final exams finished early and cross-continental plane rides

I am from the odd smell of a new home, a new state, and sometimes a new country

I am from the palm trees of Florida, the beaches of California, and the streets of Maryland

I am from the bowling on Christmas: A tradition that still holds wherever I live.

From grandma, who never hesitates to visit

I am from friends left, and friends gained

I am from “we’re never moving again” to “I lied, we’re moving”

And “you’ll love it here”

I am from a family only seen once every few years

I am from everywhere

I am from waking up in a new bed,

Walking into a new school,

Meeting new people,

Seeing new sites,

I am from everywhere

by Tod Milton

I am From

I am from America...

I am from Germany and France,
from India and back.
I am from long voyages to strange places,
from Ellis Island and starting new.

I am from Aspen Drive to Monterey,
from Virginia to Florida,
from West Virginia to the land of crab cakes and the Bay,
from Red Birch Road to an apartment overseas.

I am from red brick houses.
I am from shucking corn outside on the porch,
and making ham salad in the kitchen.
I am from Fourth of July cakes,
and Dairy Queen Blizzards.

I am from Thanksgiving at Mt. Trashmore,
and Christmases at Illinois.
I am from hiding the pickle in the tree,
from Easter egg hunts out back,
and annual Father's Day pictures in our best.

I am from spinning around to see my eyes,
and hiding in the bushes playing Man-Hunt.
I am from playing Little House on the Prairie with my sister,
from watching Sleeping Beauty in my pajamas,
to listening to Coldplay at night.

I am from take-the-bull-by-the-horns
and pick-your-battles,
from no-pain-no-gain,
and life-is-what-you-make-it.

I am from America.

by Alicia Nottrott

*obtained and adapted from the original by George Ella Lyons

I am from the world

I am from the green white and red to the red white and blue
From the hot summers and the freezing winters
From the blue seas and the green fields
From the higher you reach the harder you fall

I am from Florida
From the smell of salt from the beach
To the smell of the rainy roads
From the dames point bridge
To the beautiful seas in Key West

I am from Sicily Italy
From the famous one year around lasagna
To the early morning granitas
And the late lunch arancini
And the world known canoli
From the erupting mount Etna
To the valley of the temples

I am from California
I am from the surfers' nation
To the golden gate bridge
From N.W.A
To snoop dog aka snoop lion
Where I'm from poem
I am from Eritrea
A place I've never been
But heard many stories about
I am from zegheni
To kitcha

I am from San Giorgio
Where my great grandma and I would
Go for long walks
From stray cats
Hanging out at parks
From big dogs
With loud barks from
Staying up late making katgna
I am from the world

by Tod Pittman

I am from the world

I am from the green white and red to the red white and blue
From the hot summers and the freezing winters
From the blue seas and the green fields
From the higher you reach the harder you fall

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To the smell of the rainy roads
From the dames point bridge
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I am from the world

by Tod Pittman

Where I'm From

I am from me, myself, and I...

I am from California

Where you'll find deep in the heat is the city of Los Angeles,

I am from the scorching hot sun at the beach on Friday

With the carnival on the pier and surfers far in the ocean

I am from the comfort of your bed

Which smells like the fresh air and clouds

I am from Yokosuka, Japan

Where all you hear is the train against the train tracks,

I am from the Cherry Blossoms, The Hydrangeas

I am from family game nights and craziness, from Kevin and Alexa.

From strong and inspiration leaders

I am from Hip Hop and Jazz and Contemporary

From the day and night, sharks in the waters

And from patient and told to be kind.

I am from the deep dark misty water

Of the Pacific Ocean,

Where mermaids sing to lure you in

I am from the fresh river air

From morning till dawn with my feet in the water

From mom telling me no, and disobeying she

I am from me, myself, and I...

By Juno Ponce

Where I'm From

Kayli Rembert

I am from California...

I am from a small town by the coast.
I am from choobies, which I miss the most.
I am from waves crashing and crisp air,
children laughing and salty hair.
I am from swaying palm trees in the breeze,
and sweet flowers visited by bees.

I am from long walks on the pier,
to decorating in the winter with reindeer.
I am from twelve foot Christmas trees,
spraying my couches with febreze.
I am from pumpkin pie in the fall,
enjoying apple cider with them all.
I am from giant candy bars on Halloween,
and Knotts Scary Farm that makes everyone scream.

I am from kilts and bagpipes,
but I am all stars and stripes.
I am from road trips to Arizona,
visiting my cousins in Sedona.
I am from the delicious South of Nicks,
to watching late night movie flicks.
I am from walking around the Del Mar Fair,
plenty of joy and laughter to share.

I am from lazy dogs,
to only one hog.
I am from fresh lemon juice,
to store bought chocolate mousse.
I am from petite cocoa batons,
to Ruth Chris' flans.
I am from Costco and Trader Joes,
to filling my hair with bows.
I am from shopping at Target,
to the Sunday morning farmers market.
I am from eating at Board and Brew,
to singing and performing with my choir crew.

I am from walking my dog on the sandy beach,
to eating Ellie's Table's macaroons, filled with peach.
I am from camping at Doheny,
to roasting marshmallows and weenies.
I am from drinking Starbucks' coffee,
to eating Rocket Fizz's toffee.
I am from Fishermans and Wahoos,
to the bright sun and sky so blue.
I am from going to Krikorian with Grandma,
to playing at the park on a seesaw.
I am from trips to Big Bear,
to family love and care.

I am from California.

Where I am From Poem Arabia

by Jack Rinko

I am from deserts across the Middle Eastern land.
I am from the Red Sea to the Persian Gulf.
I am from mosques that were made by hand.

I am from the traders of the Mediterranean Sea.
I am from the religion based off Abraham's son Ishmael.
I am from a place where religion was not so free.

I am from the descendants of Allah and Muhammad, his prophet.
I am from the large cities of Mecca, Medina, and Cordoba.
I am from the idea that the "holy wars" were a war's main posit.

I am from the Qur'an 2:195 "Let not your own hands contribute to your own destruction"
I am from suffering through the Hajj and Ramadan.
I am from The Five Pillars of Islam, that are used for giving instruction.

I am from beautiful calligraphy, and geometrical and vegetal patterns.
I am from the powers of the Qur'an.
I am from a place that pig meat is not allowed and sheep meat really matters.

I am from the trading of items for China tea.
I am from wonderful olive oil and wheat.
I am from gorgeous mosques and art for everyone to see.

I am from the taste of chewy roasted lamb.
I am from the smell of Holy Lands.
I am from the feeling of power from the Holy Qur'an.

I am from the sound of calling to prayer every morning.
I am from the boardgames of seega and mancala.
I am from camel races that any can win without any warning.

I am from the perfection of the ancient astrology and astronomy.
I am from the translators of languages that revolutionized the world.
I am from the medical and mathematical advancements and new technology.

I am from the good and bad through loss or salvation.
I am from the foundation of Islam.
I am from the one and only ancient Arab civilization.

Where I Am from by Bella Rosi

I am from America
I am from Chesapeake, Virginia
From trees surrounding the house,
Grass a foot tall,
And yellow pollen covering the world
I am from Traverse City, Michigan
I am from swimming in Lake Michigan all summer
Picking raspberries in the woods
And building snowmen in the backyard
I am from the rolling hills of Bells Mill Park
The open plains of Triple R Ranch
The forests of Old Mission
And the shores of Lake Michigan
I am from the mountains of Naples
The rolling hills of Tuscany
And rocky hills of Ireland
I am from Christmas in pyjamas
I am from opening gifts from Mrs. Claus on Christmas Eve
And pizza before for dinner
I am from burning candles and incense on Halloween
To watching horribly romantic movies on Valentine's
Day
I am from Europe
I am from family in the cold north of Germany
The bay region of La Spezia
The hills of France
The snows of Poland
The rain of England
And the Highlands of Scotland
I am from homemade meals
My mom's chicken pot pie and meat loaf
My dad's amazing lasagna
My grandmother's legendary pies
And my own pumpkin pancakes
I am from the old bedside table
Brought from Italy over 100 years ago
I am from old wing chairs,
Recovered so many times no one remembers what the
original pattern was
I am from paintings hand done by my mother
And quilts hand sewn by my grandmother
I am from television
I am from TV shows as serious as Mad Men and Game
of Thrones
To sci-fi shows like Doctor Who and Haven
I am from music
The gorgeous, haunting chords of Enya
The happiness of Vivaldi's Spring
And the high operatic tunes of The Phantom of the
Opera

I am from movies
I am from The Lord of the Rings, Avatar, Avengers, and
X-Men being watched again and again
I am from games
I am from playing Lego videogames with my dad
Playing Titanfall and Destiny with my brother
And playing Skyrim late into the night
I am from playing The Game of Life with my friends late
at night
To daring my friends to beat me at The Hobbit
I am from the tall bookshelves
I am from The Hobbit, The Lord of the Rings, A Game of
Thrones, Le Fantome de L'opera, The Fault in Our Stars,
and the endless books my grandmother has read me
I am from the family sayings
I am from "Do it right, or do it twice"
"I feel more like myself then I did when I started"
"Just a scoche", "I am Groot", "Suit up"
And "The family that kicks together sticks together"
I am from the smells of old wood
The smell of laundry detergent
The salt of the sea
The freshness of the forest
The manure in the barn
The burning of frankincense
And the burning of something that might be trash but it
could also be a fire
I am from horseback riding
Hours spent cleaning and mucking
Sore legs from all day riding
Manure stuck in the cowboy boots
Being covered in dust and dirt
And winning first place in a riding show
I am from summer camps
From Triple R Ranch, Camp Silverbeach, and 4H
I am from trail rides in the woods
Camp fires every night
Archery in the afternoon
Swimming in the Chesapeake Bay
And camp songs like Johnny Appleseed and 4H spirit
I am from the school activities
I am from chamber orchestra playing Christmas songs
on the December concert
I am from being terrified to sing for Jazz band but in the
end everything turns out fine
I am from the long hours of sweating and running in
Quidditch, scoring goals and coaching my team
I am from marching with a heavy bass drum and playing
in the stands for hours in Marching Band, having the
time of my life
I am from America

Where I Am from by Zaria Salters

I am from an American background
I am from Pensacola, Florida
From the lake in my backyard
To riding down the gravel roads on base
Trees growing over 50ft tall
And the sweet smelling grass in the early morning
From early family sayings
“Zaria look who’s home, from deployment,”
to “Sorry sweetie, not gonna be home for a while.”
I am from Norfolk, Virginia
Where I’ve seen my first snowfall
And gone to many festivals
From Mt. Trashmore to Busch Gardens
I am from multiple books such as the Hungry Caterpillar
and When the Mouse wants a Cookie
And every little thing in between
I am from Silverspring, Maryland
Where the 4th of July fireworks are loud and bright
and the New Years are even brighter
From my brother and I make up our first hand shake
to pushing each other down the stairs
I am from Virginia Beach, Virginia
When middle school changed my whole life
Becoming a social outcast, getting bullied for my appearance
and having the highest grades amongst my peers
I am from “You will eat it or wear it” to “Make it yourself”
I am from music
To playing the violin for six years and my brother playing piano for three,
to learning a new instrument and becoming frustrated all over again
I am from food
Big Sunday meals after church to T.G.I. Friday’s on special occasions
To thanksgiving turkey, ham, dressing, yams, collard greens, and corn bread
to our barbecue cookouts with hot dogs, hamburgers, mac n’ cheese, potato salad, and Kool-Aid
I am from cities that never sleep
TV almost every day and music being my eternal escape from reality to
Getting lost in books and always being able to keep my head up with my grades too
To a loving, harsh, caring family to crazy, chaotic, inspiration friends
I am from an American background

I Am From Poem

I am from the middle of nowhere,
From Yana's and Piggly Wiggly
I am from the forest and the fields

I am from midnight mass
And hard work
From mom, brother,
And no one else

I am from the hardheadedness
And good sense of humor
From nobody gets it right the first time
And keep trying until you do

I am from church
From pews and from praying before bed
From Christmas and Easter and church on Sundays

I am from a sturdy house
Steak and ribs
From pictures and sign baseballs around the TV

I am from North Carolina

by Ron Sheffield

Where I'm From

By Andrew Smith

I am from America
I am from warm summer days
To brisk Fall nights
I am from where the sea salt air tickles your nose
And where the sand gets stuck between your toes

I am from California
I am from going to the beach every Saturday
And waking up for church on Sunday
I am from the smell of Mom's Chicken after Sunday Mass
And where we do not start eating till we say "Amen"

I am from Scotland and Ireland
I am from kilts and haggis
From four leaf clovers and fresh Irish whiskey
I am from two cultures alike in many ways
But both genuinely unique in others

I am from the Navy
I am from moving every so often
And leaving old friends behind
To making new friends along the way
I am from around the world
Always finding new adventures everywhere I go

I am from Italy
I am from the crazy Italian drivers
To the beautiful country sides and vineyards along the highway
I am from a place where hand signs are the main form of communication
And where lines are non-existent

I am from many places, but my home is Italy

Where I'm From

I am from Italy...

I am from right, crowded streets and multiple crop fields by the highway. I am from reckless, aggressive driving and jaywalking, from small street corner cafés and cornettos, from helmet-less bike riders and small cars.

I am from pizzerias and pasta restaurants, from French-fry pizza and penne pasta, from thin crusts and olive oil, from barely any tomato sauce and a lot of pesto. I am from the birthplace of my favorite food with a variety of toppings, and the place of a variety of pasta with exotic sauces.

I am from many tourist attractions, along with the sale of souvenirs and entrance tickets. I am from the Leaning Tower of Pisa and the Roman Coliseum, from the floating city of Venice and the Trulli Houses, from the majestic city of Florence and the Spanish Steps. I am from an ancient empire turned capital city with its beautiful monuments, from a country of travel, exploration, and dream vacations.

I am from an early morning view of the Alps to a sunset view of Mount Vesuvius, from traditional late-night fireworks and the smell of burning garbage. I am from inconsistent weather, from rainy summers and scorching falls, from chilly mornings and cloudless nights, from the Aviano Saints and the Naples Wildcats.

I am from if you want something done right, do it yourself, from every failure is a step to success, from experience is the greatest teacher, and from strive for greatness. I am from Italy.

By Terrell Staten

Where I'm From

I am from calling people kids on PlayStation.
I am from going out and playing football with friends.
I am from trash talking friends on whose team is better.
I am from 'being more spoiled than my older siblings'

I am from San Diego, California.
Where you can take lessons to make sand castles,
To dinnertime surf.
Eating Mexican food whenever you want,
To dieting to get that rockin' BOD DUDE.
To chilling out at sunset cliffs
Or going dirt biking on the side hills with your friends.
To hanging out with the family at Pacific Beach
To going to SeaWorld with all of your cousins.
From checking out all of the aquariums
To going to the ocean and actually feeling the fish and other wildlife.
To going to old town to get dinner
To going to a late night baseball game.
From exploring all of the parks
To staying home and ordering pizza, without moving an inch.
The main point is, is that San Diego is a place to hang around with friends
and have fun, and that is what it really is for me.

I Am from Poem by William Thorp

I am from wherever my family is....
I am from coast to coast,
I am from the beautiful skylines of the California coast to the sea breeze from Alafi,
I am from crappy pizza next to the Coliseum,
I am from the countless sunsets over foreign skies.

I am from family movie marathons,
I am from falling asleep in my father's lap at the San Diego Padres game,
I am from priceless family photos,
I am from a thanksgiving at Disneyland,
I am from countless family BBQs.

I am from Eureka Kansas,
I am from Saturday morning coffee's with my grandpa,
I am from the smell of wet soil after my grandmother waters the garden,
I am from the 30 minute drives just to see a movie,
I am from the chlorine bleaches in my hair,
I am from countless goodnight kisses.

I am from home cooked meals to crappy pizza night,
I am from delicious birthday steaks,
I am from the first meal I cooked (eggs),
I am from the comforting lemon pie,
I am from countless plates of food.

I am from the smell of freshly cut grass,
I am from the smell of syrup and waffles on Sunday morning,
I am from the smell of the original Chapstick,
I am from the smell of countless candles burning in the winter.

I am from the sound of Pandora playing at BBQs,
I am from the sound of classical music in my grandma's car,
I am from the classic rock playing in my dad's pickup truck,
I am from the modern music blasting from my mom's car,
I am from countless songs full of memories.

I am all our family vacations,
I am from the amazing views from the top of Vesuvius,
I am from floating city of Venice,
I am from the ski trips on the German Alps,
I am from countless irreplaceable memories of my adventures.

I am from wherever my family is.

"I am from" Poem

I am from Deception Pass Bridge over the cool waters of Puget Sound.
I am from baseball games at Safeco Field and kettle corn being sold at the corner.
I am from hockey games at Verizon Center in D.C.
I am from evergreen forests of Washington State to the coral reefs of Guam.
I am from Annapolis harbor to Mt. Vesuvius of Naples, Italy.

I am from fresh fish tacos on the corner of 7th street in Anacortes to fresh sushi on Commercial Avenue, to the red rice and smoking barbecue of Guam.
I am from the fresh air of Washington to the smell of eggs in the morning with breakfast burritos.

I am from putting up the Christmas tree to watching football in the middle of the night to going out to eat after church on Saturday nights.
I am from watching the Bourne movies to watching Seinfeld on weekday evenings.
I am from smooth jazz and playing baseball on the weekends.
I am from immigrants from Ukraine to Lithuania.
I am from playing soccer after school to scuba diving on the weekends.
I am from Anacortes, Chesapeake, Annapolis, Guam, and Naples.

Kyler Ward

Where I'm From

I am from Washington...

I am from Anacortes, placed in Puget Sound
from the rolling hills and high trees, placed around,
from 6th Street, where across the road is an old motel,
from Commercial, dazzled in snow and lit up by street light,
from the cold yet friendly sea, perpetual.

I am from Whidbey Island, just underneath,
from Deception Pass, filled with fog,
from Prowlers flying overhead, whose growl beckons nature,
from posts of "Welcome Home" and "May God Be With" welcome you in,
from hundreds of buildings, and monumental hangars, to offices of flight.

I am from Seattle, the Emerald city
from the rain that welcomes me every day,
from the space needle, an icon for all to see, whose shadow is cast upon all's face,
from Safeco field, where rally fries are sent my way,
from Sea-Tac, where I go to leave this enchanting place.

Where I Am From by Julia Wheelan

I am from the military.

I am from the bustling city and quiet cul-de-sacs.
From important neighbors and normal neighbors.
From big backyards with rusting swing sets overgrown
with weeds
to 2.7 square feet of tiled balconies with neat plants in
pretty pots.

I am from car trips to visit the matriarch most winters.
From summer camps with sweaty and chlorine in the air
to camp songs sung on long bus trips.
From mom filled school days and father filled breaks.
I am from moving every 2 or so years.
From empty rooms and filled boxes
to bare closets and bursting suitcases.

I am from Ellis Island.
From Irish farmers and Italian war brides.
From crowded boats to small, stuffy apartments.
From baseball in Brooklyn's back alley's
to soccer games in Milan stadiums.

I am from smells that linger in the house after meals.
From Italian pasta to Italian wines.
From German schnitzel to Irish potatoes.
From greasy fast food to five star restaurants.
From cooking with Grandma to baking with sisters.

I am from old Volvo's with windows that stick
to child locked doors on minivans.
From cross country road trips.
From boxes full of airplane ticket stubs and old Metro
cards
to receipts from boats rides and taxi trips.

I am from late nights and early mornings watching TV.
From movie nights with mom, constantly asking questions
or passing out in the first ten minutes.
From days, weeks, months filled with music at an
eardrum bursting level.
From fights over Monopoly to cheering when the Jenga
tower doesn't fall.
I am from fairy tales and comics.
From liking The Little Mermaid better than Ariel.
From not having a single comic book but knowing
everything about the Avengers.
From choosing Marvel over DC.

I am from museums and galleries.
From crawling through the air vents at the Spy Museum
to looking at bits of the Berlin Wall at the Newseum.
From taking selfies with the Venus di Milo to being
unimpressed with the Mona Lisa.
I am from family photos with rubber bands with Thomas
Jefferson behind us
to racing up the steps on the Lincoln Memorial.
From taking stereotypical photos with the Big Ben, the
(Leaning) Tower of Pisa, and the Eiffel Tower.

I am from late, caffeine filled nights and early mornings.
From staying up all night doing those countless extra
credit projects and whatever else to ensure getting that
4.0+ GPA.
From knowing how to find the answers for the next test
online
to creating the study guide in the class.
From working hard in school and college, but never
having it paid off.
From lifeless eyes and pale skin to mouths open in
yawns.
From having a full college resumé with countless sports,
activities, and good grades
but having an empty social life.

I am from "do as you're told"
to "it's okay, it was just a mistake."
From "don't say shut up!"
to "stop fighting."
From "get those A's"
to "but C's get degrees, Mom!"

I am from everywhere and nowhere.
From empty dust filled houses.
From leaving friends to finding new ones.
From losing old memories, but making new ones.

I am from the military.

I am from myself

from Maryland, Germany, Italy, Virginia, Georgia, back to Virginia, Kentucky, and back to Italy.

I am from "Home is where the Army sends us"

I am from Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty

I am from a line of soccer players, of whom I break the tradition of.

from a family of readers.

I am from the Magnozzi's and the Wheelan's.

I am from Goodnight Moon and No, David No.

from Captain Underpants, Greek myths and ancient treasure hunts.

I am from "I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free" and Tete de Femme,

from the Persistence of Memory and Ron Weasley.

I am from a patriarchal society

from a culture with misogyny and racism infused in it.

I am from a place where none are free, but all are lied to.

I am from "Don't ask too many questions" and dealing with your problems.

I come from making cookies in the microwave and sneaking scoops of ice cream
when I'm supposed to be asleep...Shhh

I am from having popcorn for dinner and fast food on birthdays.

I am from excessive amounts of swearing and girl power,

from "Treat yo self" and "Why jog when you can blog?"

I am from my mom's perfume, always filling the house

when she sprays its last precious drops.

I am from "Its jif not gif"

from acceptance, unless you insult me.

I am from repetition.

from closing the door 7 times at night to feel better

and checking under the bed 12 times to feel safe.

I am from trying as hard as I can, but it never being good enough. I

I am from having my heart pound and my hands get sweaty

everytime I answer a question in class.

I am from "You're just feeling blue",

from people not believing me, and me not believing in myself.

I am from family never quite living up to its expectations.

from trying to learn from my mistakes, but never remembering.

I am from change.

from showing people new ideas and new ways of thinking.

I am from trying to inspire people and help them.

from honor and defending the one's I am loyal to.

I am from a world of opportunities, just around the corner.

from self-motivation.

I am from making a difference, starting with me.

I am from being alone often, but not caring.

I am from myself