

## Where I Am From

I am from 25 acres, starry skies, cats, dogs, chickens, a goat, small white house, big white house, big green barn, pastures, pigs, turkeys, pheasants, a bunny, Lego land in my basement, lavender walls, Christmas decorations, no trees close to my house, my blue car, the 16 passenger white van full of youth group children, Barbie and action figures, skits with my brothers;

From sizzling food, shouting siblings, horse whinnies, rooster crows, kitten mewling, instruments being practiced, mom's banjo, and grandpa's piano, church hymns, choir music, Southeast High School's fight song and alma mater, quiz bowl questions, classical music in Spanish class, TV shows and video games;

From Dairy Queen, grandma's house, the great outdoors, Edinburg park, Chapel Hill mall, the Carnation mall movie theatre, the lake behind my house, the cornfield behind the school, grandma's gazebo, prom on a boat;

I am from chicken and rice, the china dragon, olive garden, sandwiches, pizza, berries, apples, clementines, stew, corned beef, taco salad, chipotle, Panera bread, ice cream with peanut butter, soy sauce, pickles, black olives, salad;

From Lady Gaga, Maroon Five, Kelly Clarkson, Melanie Martinez, Bea Miller, Dissonant chords, band class, choir camp, swing choir, singing in the talent show, the SpongeBob theme song, the radio in the car, musicals, soundtracks, Miranda's Cd's, talking in the cafeteria;

From mountain dew, apple juice, ice water, cranberry juice, Welch's grape juice, Dr. Pepper, Root beer, Birch beer, cream soda, 2% milk;

From cooking food, animals at the county fair, a nonfunctioning nose, lemon pledge, book pages, scented candles, mom's perfume, laundry fresh out of the dryer, Bath and Body Works, hot chocolate, rain, fresh clean air;

From Christmas and Thanksgiving at my house, cleaning all day, Christmas Eve, Fourth of July, and Memorial Day at grandma's house, fighting over whiffle balls and the wooden swing, Easter at Uncle Jerry's house, mind bending clues, hunting for eggs with money inside;

I am from don't worry about them, just do your best, did you do your chores, worrying doesn't help, hurry up or we're going to be late, I love you, we are so proud of you, how was school today;

I am from valedictorian, two B's in chemistry, hosting the veteran's day assembly, doing my best always, applying to college far away, losing a best friend, gaining self-confidence, 4-H projects, helping out at the church, other people's feelings come first, trying to sports, auditioning for jazz band;

I am from two sets of grandparents, mom's five siblings, dad's three, fifteen cousins, mom, dad, James, John, friends from school, teachers, coaches, family in Michigan, my great grandmother, my aunt's husband, and me.