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| Where I’m From |

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| by George Ella Lyon | | by Lehua Parker | |
| I am from clothespins, | | I am from long bus rides, | |
| From Clorox and carbon-tetracholoride. | | From library cards and rainbow shave ice. | |
| I am from the dirt under the back porch. | | I am from the Hardy Boys books under the covers with a flashlight. | |
| (Black, glistening,) | | (Stuffy, ghostly,) | |
| it tasted like beets.) | | they tasted like burnt socks.) | |
| I am from the forsythia bush | | I am from the coconut tree | |
| the Dutch elm | | the gardenia bush | |
| whose long-gone limbs I remember | | whose scent filled my bedroom | |
| as if they were my own. | | and colored my dreams. | |
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| I’m from fudge and eyeglasses, | | I’m from Friday night volleyball and Wot, boddah you?, | |
|  | from Imogene and Alafair. |  | from Katherine with a K and Stephen Hanalei. |
| I’m from the know-it-alls and the pass-it-ons, | | I’m from the we-kokua-‘ohana and the we-get-‘em-mahalo, | |
|  | from Perk up! and Pipe down! |  | from Watch your sister! and Pa‘a ka waha! |
| I’m from He restoreth my soul | | I’m from Sundays at Waimanalo | |
|  | with a cottonball lamb |  | with boogieboard hymns |
|  | and ten verses I can say myself. |  | and POG communion. |
|  | |  | |
| I’m from Artemus and Billie’s Branch, | | I’m from wagon-wheel pioneers and wayfinding wa’a, | |
| fried corn, and strong coffee. | | pickled Maui onions, and canned fruit cocktail. | |
| From the finger my grandfather lost | | From the steel mill Grandma Betty sweated in | |
|  | to the auger, |  | during World War II, |
| the eye my father shut to keep his sight. | | the ‘auwe, ‘auwe Tutu wailed as bombs dropped on Pearl Harbor. | |
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| Under my bed was a dress box | | In the top of my mother’s closet | |
| spilling old pictures, | | Polaroid snapshots and 8mm films, | |
| a sift of lost faces | | Hawai‘i and Utah | |
| to drift beneath my dreams. | | an ocean apart. | |
| I am from those moments— | | I am from those fading images— | |
| snapped before I budded— | | Fly-spotted and creased— | |
| leaf-fall from the family tree. | | my ‘ohana-nui and me. | |

To find out more about

George Ella Lyon and her poem: <http://www.georgeellalyon.com/where.html>

I Am From Project: <https://iamfromproject.com/>

National Writing Project: <https://www.nwp.org/cs/public/print/resource/4673>

Where I’m From Poems by Students at Project Hope: <http://nelrc.org/managingstress/pdfs/lessons/Where%20I%27m%20from%20poems%20-%20Project%20Hope.pdf>

I Am From Project Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/iamfromproject/>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| Where I’m From |

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| #1  01) | I am from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, | |
|  | (specific ordinary item) | |
| 02) | From \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. | |
|  | (product name) (product name) | |
| 03) | I am from the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. | |
|  | (home description) | |
| 04) | (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,) | |
|  | (adjective) (adjective) | |
| 05) | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.) | |
|  | (sensory detail) | |
| 06) | I am from the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
|  | (plant, flower, natural item) | |
| 07) | the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
|  | (another plant, flower, natural item) | |
| 08) | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
|  | (description of above item) | |
| 09) | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. | |
|  | (continued description of above item) | |
|  |  | |
| #2  10) | I’m from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, | |
|  | (family tradition) (family trait) | |
| 11) |  | from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. |
|  | (name of family member) (another name of family member) | |
| 12) | I’m from the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, | |
|  | (family tradition) (family trait) | |
|  |  | from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_! and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_! |
|  | | (something you were told as a child) (something else you were told as a child) |

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| 13) | I’m from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
|  | (representation of religion or lack of) | |
| 14) |  | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  | (descriptive detail) | |
| 15) |  | and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. |
|  | (another descriptive detail) | |
|  |  | |
| #3  16) | I’m from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, | |
|  | (place of birth) (family ancestry) | |
| 17) | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. | |
|  | (a food item that represents your family) (another food item that represents your family) | |
| 18) | From the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
|  | (specific family story about a specific person and detail) | |
| 19) |  | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, |
|  | (specific detail from the story) | |
| 20) | the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. | |
|  | (detail of another specific family member and story) | |
|  |  | |
| #4  21) | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
|  | (location of family pictures, mementos, archives) | |
| 22) | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, | |
|  | (line detailing the objects/contents) | |
| 23) | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
|  | (line explaining the connection between you and the objects) | |
| 24) | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. | |
|  | (line summarizing how the contents affect you) | |
| 25) | I am from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_— | |
|  | (line explaining the connection between you and the objects) | |
| 26) | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_— | |
|  | (imagery summarizing the connections) | |
| 27) | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. | |
|  | (final detail of imagery) | |

Name: George Ella Lyon

Date: Summer 1993

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| #1  01) | I am from clothespins, | |
|  | (specific ordinary item) | |
| 02) | From Clorox and carbon-tetracholoride. | |
|  | (product name) (product name) | |
| 03) | I am from the dirt under the back porch. | |
|  | (home description) | |
| 04) | (Black, glistening,) | |
|  | (adjective), (adjective) | |
| 05) | it tasted like beets.) | |
|  | (sensory detail) | |
| 06) | I am from the forsythia bush | |
|  | (plant, flower, natural item) | |
| 07) | the Dutch elm | |
|  | (another plant, flower, natural item) | |
| 08) | whose long-gone limbs I remember | |
|  | (description of above item) | |
| 09) | as if they were my own. | |
|  | (continued description of above item) | |
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| #2  10) | I’m from fudge and eyeglasses, | |
|  | (family tradition) (family trait) | |
| 11) |  | from Imogene and Alafair. |
|  | (name of family member)(another name of family member) | |
| 12) | I’m from the know-it-alls and the pass-it-ons, | |
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| 13) | I’m from He restoreth my soul | |
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| #3  16) | I’m from Artemus and Billie’s Branch, | |
|  | (place of birth) (family ancestry) | |
| 17) | fried corn, and strong coffee. | |
|  | (a food item that represents your family) (another food item that represents your family) | |
| 18) | From the finger my grandfather lost | |
|  | (specific family story about a specific person and detail) | |
| 19) |  | to the auger, |
|  | (specific detail from the story) | |
| 20) | the eye my father shut to keep his sight. | |
|  | (detail of another specific family member and story) | |
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| #4  21) | Under my bed was a dress box | |
|  | (location of family pictures, mementos, archives) | |
| 22) | spilling old pictures, | |
|  | (line detailing the objects/contents) | |
| 23) | a sift of lost faces | |
|  | (line explaining the connection between you and the objects) | |
| 24) | to drift beneath my dreams. | |
|  | (line summarizing how the contents affect you) | |
| 25) | I am from those moments— | |
|  | (line explaining the connection between you and the objects) | |
| 26) | snapped before I budded— | |
|  | (imagery summarizing the connections) | |
| 27) | leaf-fall from the family tree. | |
|  | (final detail of imagery) | |

Name: Lehua Parker

Date: 2/17/2019

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| #1  01) | I am from long bus rides, | |
|  | (specific ordinary item) | |
| 02) | From library cards and rainbow shave ice. | |
|  | (product name) (product name) | |
| 03) | I am from the Hardy Boys books under the covers with a flashlight. | |
|  | (home description) | |
| 04) | (Stuffy, ghostly,) | |
|  | (adjective), (adjective) | |
| 05) | they tasted like burnt socks.) | |
|  | (sensory detail) | |
| 06) | I am from the coconut tree | |
|  | (plant, flower, natural item) | |
| 07) | the gardenia bush | |
|  | (another plant, flower, natural item) | |
| 08) | whose scent filled my bedroom | |
|  | (description of above item) | |
| 09) | and colored my dreams. | |
|  | (continued description of above item) | |
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| #2  10) | I’m from Friday night volleyball and Wot, boddah you?, | |
|  | (family tradition) (family trait) | |
| 11) |  | from Katherine with a K and Stephen Hanalei. |
|  | (name of family member)(another name of family member) | |
| 12) | I’m from the we-kokua-‘ohana and the we-get-‘em-mahalo, | |
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| 13) | I’m from Sundays at Waimanalo | |
|  | (representation of religion or lack of) | |
| 14) |  | with boogieboard hymns |
|  | (descriptive detail) | |
| 15) |  | and POG communion. |
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| #3  16) | I’m from wagon-wheel pioneers and wayfinding wa’a, | |
|  | (place of birth) (family ancestry) | |
| 17) | pickled Maui onions, and canned fruit cocktail. | |
|  | (a food item that represents your family) (another food item that represents your family) | |
| 18) | From the steel mill Grandma Betty sweated in | |
|  | (specific family story about a specific person and detail) | |
| 19) |  | during World War II, |
|  | (specific detail from the story) | |
| 20) | the ‘auwe, ‘auwe Tutu wailed as bombs dropped on Pearl Harbor. | |
|  | (detail of another specific family member and story) | |
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| #4  21) | In the top of my mother’s closet | |
|  | (location of family pictures, mementos, archives) | |
| 22) | Polaroid snapshots and 8mm films, | |
|  | (line detailing the objects/contents) | |
| 23) | Hawaii and Utah | |
|  | (line explaining the connection between you and the objects) | |
| 24) | an ocean apart. | |
|  | (line summarizing how the contents affect you) | |
| 25) | I am from those fading images— | |
|  | (line explaining the connection between you and the objects) | |
| 26) | Fly-spotted and creased— | |
|  | (imagery summarizing the connections) | |
| 27) | my ‘ohana-nui and me. | |
|  | (final detail of imagery) | |