

Student Final Draft

Where I'm From

I am from the faint scent of cherry blossom, plumeria,
and the golden sunset at Waikiki beach.

I am from the cold winter wind,
crystal clear water on bare feet,
and cars driving through Tokyo streets.

Their smiles support me:

Wifey, Chloe, Wakincho, Shobean, Chimpanz and Otakuchan.

I'm lucky to have them. They were hard to find.

I'm a mess though,
from misunderstanding and replacement,
from nothing more and nothing less.

I'm from the taste of butter garlic shrimp,
and dipping fresh sushi in shoyu
I'm from the line of the rainbow shave ice truck,
hiking and sweating at Diamond Head Mountains.
I'm from Mount Fuji through the classroom windows,
and bike rides in the neighborhood.

I miss giggling about things only we understand,
our late night calls and sleepovers.

I also lost a part of me,
and I still wonder,
when we pass like strangers,
why it had to be?

I might be from moving on and accepting,
from never giving time to a past where no joy is found.
But I am not the same anymore.
Who and where am I now?

I'm learning to love my current life,
To live it to the fullest.
Learning that my heart and feelings
still are hard to control.

From Tommy Buteau and Dionne Douglas, via Edutopia