

FIGURE 3.2 “Where I’m From” by Cairo Mills

Where I’m From

I am from deep roots of family
from hanging out on weekends with my mom, dad,
sister, and a dog named Rabbit
I am from intelligence, respect, obedience, and love
I am from pine trees in my backyard
whose limbs guided me up to see a world anew
I am from action figures and video games
from Russell’s and Mills’s
I am from yelling and loving
and from having a big dinner when the family is together
from helping my grandma cook
I am from going to church every Sunday with my family
I am from the air force and even Ireland
from lemon pound cake and gumbo
from armies of war
and from segregation and racism
I am from Camp Mattatuck
I am from those moments where I can appreciate
what I have
I am from thanking those who gave me what I have