I am from good love and every kind of cheese you can envision

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Abstract
In lieu of an abstract, below is the essay's first paragraph.

"I am from medical books about cancer, cats on the couches, and dogs in the family room."

Cover Page Footnote
I am from medical books about cancer, cats on the couches, and dogs in the family room.

* I am from the Blessed Mother Mary, Jesus Christ our Lord, and the holy Catholic Church.

* I am from good love and every kind of cheese you can envision.

* I am from the colorful playground at Paddy Hill, the library up the rise, the flowers spread along the way, and the friendly Italian people around the bend.

* I am from the pine trees that encompass magical powers, a willow tree that I could read, imagine, and hide from view in. I am from my pink and purple ten-speed named Kenny that led me on many exploratory paths. I am from the neighborhood creek with dirt, bugs, hermit crabs, leaches, snapping turtles and snakes.

* I am from the Flynn’s, the Gunther’s, and the Bianchi’s; masons, architects, and jewelers. I am from the Queen of Naples, Italy.

* I am from my mom’s macaroni and cheese, my dad’s early morning omelets, warm bagels and cream cheese, first rate strong smelling black coffee, no sugar no cream! I am from well done chicken and ziti with Italian spices, do not forget the mozzarella cheese!

* I am from the penny candy shop and Marilyn Schneider’s dance class. I am from bows, barrettes, flowered dresses, crimped hair and perms. I am from stretch pants, a clubbed thumb, and uncanny elbows.

* I am from my gay uncles with lengthy nails and awesome hair, riding in their black Camero made me feel like I was from Tina Turner. I was from somewhere where no one could touch me or harm me in any way, manner, or form.

* I am from good love and deep devotion. I am from beautiful people, my parents. I am open minded and beautiful because of my past days and years. I will continue to shine on because of where I am from.

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