

THE WHERE I'M FROM POEM



Where I'm From

by George Ella Lyon

- What types of things is this poem specifically about?
- Lets brainstorm a list on the whiteboard!

I am from clothespins,
from Clorox and carbon-tetrachloride,
I am from the dirt under the back porch.
(Black, glistening,
it tasted like beets.)

.I am from the forsythia bush,
the Dutch elm
whose lone-gone limbs I remember
as if they were my own.

I'm from fudge and eyeglasses,
from Imogene and Alafair.

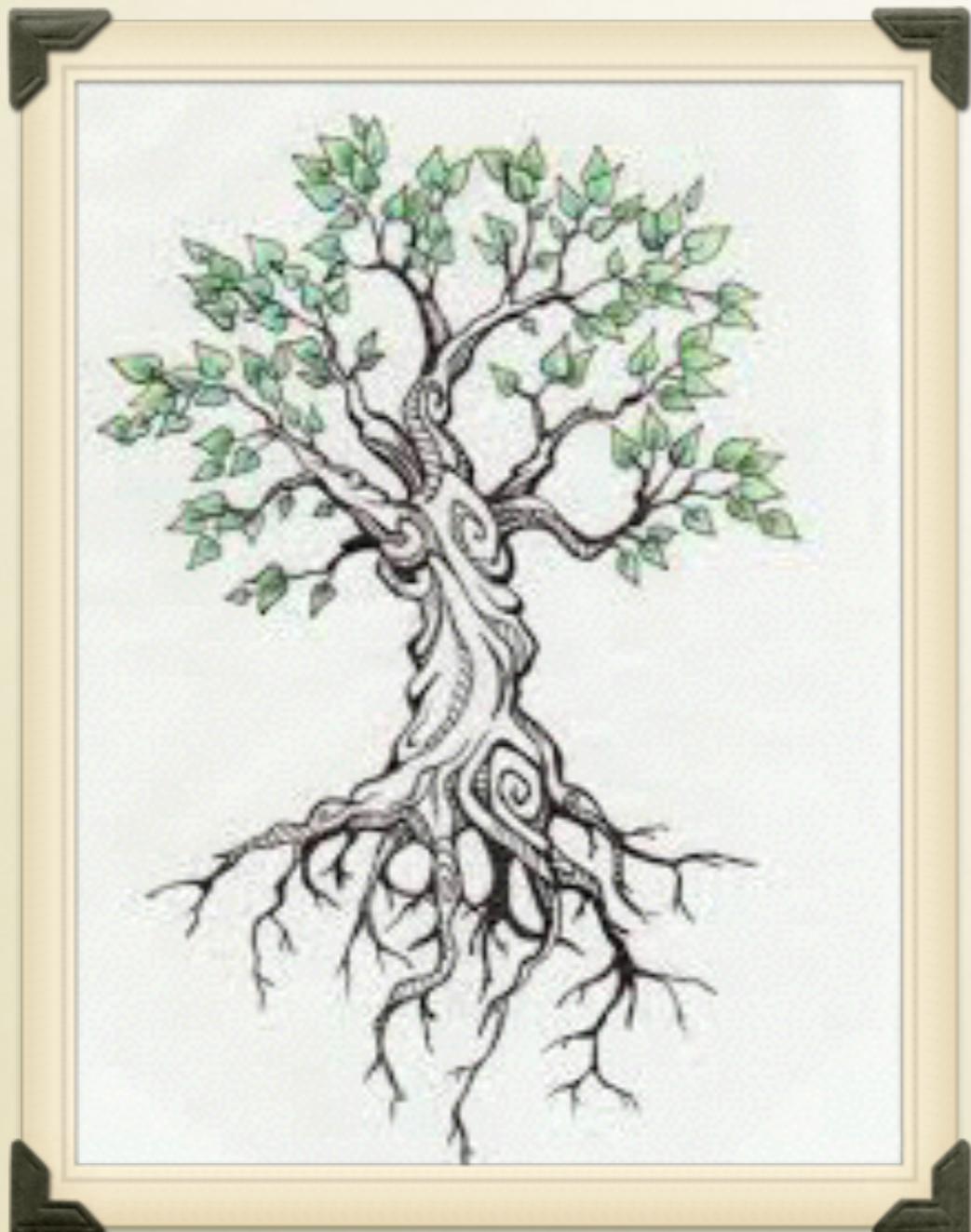
I'm from the know-it-alls
and the pass-it-ons,
from Perk up! and Pipe down!
I'm from He restoresth my soul
with a cottonball lamb
and ten verses I can say myself.

I'm from Artemus and Billie's Branch,
fried corn and strong coffee.
From the finger my grandfather lost
to the auger,
the eye my father shut to keep his sight.

Under my bed was a dress box
spilling old pictures,
a sift of lost faces
to drift beneath my dreams.
I am from those moments -
snapped before I budded -
leaf-fall from the family tree

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GUIDELINES



- Your poem should be between 3-4 stanzas
- Your poem should take a “snapshot” of important things in your life - especially while growing up.
- Your poem could have references to things everyone would understand as well as personal things only your family would understand.

Where I'm From
by Natalie Wright, Student Poet

I'm from small town America- woods and farms and barbeques, two lane highways and no lane rivers, a land of no subways, no buses, no Starbucks

I'm from a childhood climbing trees, jumping into rivers, playing with Ninja Turtles, My Little Pony, Pound Puppies, He-man and Sheera. Playing Robin Hood and Huck Finn, playing soccer with the boys (so what if I'm a girl?)

I'm from Osh-Kosh and B-gosh, the Jetsons, ponytails and scrunchies, New Kids on the Block, and all those other embarrassing 80's moments.

I'm from the Boxcar Children, Amelia Bedelia, the Hardy Boys, Encyclopedia Brown, Nate the Great, The Babysitters Club

I'm from music- the piano, the harmonica, the clarinet. Baritone, trumpet, guitar. I sing with the Beatles, Billy Joel, Bonnie Raitt, Crosby Stills and Nash.

I'm from Get Smart, Cheers, M*A*S*H, Taxi, Saturday Night Live, Singin" in the Rain, Duck Soup and Animal Crackers, Much Ado about Nothing.

I'm from Just Say No, if all your other friends jumped off a building, it's time for the Muppet Show with our very special guest star, and why can't you be more like your sister?

I'm from a family of comedians and freaks, teachers and antique dealers, Lithuanians Scotts and Welsh, Seaford DE and Pottsville PA.

I'm from jeans and flip-flops, surfboards and skateboards, CCD and Pre-K, family and friends, fog delays and snow days.

I'm from the land of the free and the home of the not-so-brave. From happy and sad, love and hate, life and death pen and paper.