Alexa Funahashi

4\* English

Where I’m From

I am from soggy-nosed pink dogs

from gnawed-on wooden blocks and tasted markers

I am from my grandparents’ warming white place on the hill

the house crawling with meowing dress up dolls

I am from PVC piped jungle gyms built in the living room

whose bars would flip me all day long

I am from lost reading glasses and broken laptops

from Obachan and Ojiji

I am from sassy pants and smart cookies

from long laughing phone calls

and pilled up books

I am from Sunday morning Mass donuts

I am from the Shuharts and Inoues

from buttery clam chowder and pounded sweet rice

from Dora the Explorer birthday cakes chosen with Obachan

and counted school buses with Ojiji

A childhood of joyful memories

I am from these moments a legacy of my grandparents.