

Trading Pokemon cards with my best friend  
Mom's second tuck-in  
Fighting over who wins UNO with my little sister  
Dad's side of the bed, watching the Yankees hit home runs  
Sleepovers with grandma, her famous lavash and cherry jam  
A walk on my street to wish on a dandelion  
The second grade hallway and the one underneath  
The soccer field turf under my cleats  
The sun shining on my legs in Palm Springs, shrinking my crocs  
The colorful carpet in the classrooms where I learned to add and subtract and spell sight words  
My collection of stuffed animals, I've named them all  
A photo I take with my 95 year old great grandfather, he is always so happy to see me  
Fries at Marty's every Wednesday after school  
Opening Hanukkah presents, my face lights up like the candles  
The empty spaces on a canvas that I fill with my paintbrush  
In the arms of my Labubus, the ones I earned by reading for hours  
The scent of hot kabob resting in a soft blanket of bread  
The Persian music I tell my mom to stop playing in the car  
Camp Hillel, summer after summer until I get too old  
Sticky hands after baking challah  
In the slippery lanes of Lucky Strikes as I grip the bowling ball  
The first sip of my pumpkin spice October milk  
My room, right next to Mom and Dad's  
All of these places and familiar faces  
I am safe  
I am home  
I belong

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