

Requirements:

2 Six Word Memoirs

1 “So Much Depends Upon” Poem

1 “Where I’m From” Poem

1 Nostalgia Poem

* Each piece must include a brief reflection that addresses:

- 1) What was the inspiration behind the poem/memoir? Why did you choose to write about the topic?
- 2) What can you share about the process of writing the poem/memoir? What specific choices did you make with word choice, line breaks, isolating words?

All work must be typed and carefully proofread!!!

Reflection for Nostalgia Poem...

I chose to focus my nostalgia poem on my family's annual summer trips to Montauk. This was my absolute favorite place to vacation with and spend time with my family. I can clearly remember so many specific details of the times we spent there, both large and small, from the ice cream shop we would visit each night, to the sound our car made as it pulled into the pebbled parking lot of the condo. I took a trip out to Montauk a few years back, and so much had changed. Familiar shops had changed names or closed, crowds had swelled. It just didn't feel the same, and I longed for the opportunity to go back to the way it was, to bring back the magical quality I felt as a child.

While revising my poem, I made a few decisions to make it more precise. I changed "My mom handed me trays of food" to "My mom passed trays of food" because I wanted to create the image of an assembly line since we'd all line up from the kitchen to the car, passing trays one to the other, one to the other. I also decided to isolate the "windmill / standing like a gallant knight" to its own line. The windmill was always such a dominant sight; it was the first place your eyes would go once it came into view, so I felt it deserved its own line.