

A Letter to my Mom about my New Home

Daylana Beard

Dear Mom,

Everything is more vibrant here

The art that lines the streets

The entertainment in this neon city at night

The people who always say please, thank you, and how is your day

Nevada Nice someone called it

And the mountains

Oh how I love the snow-capped mountains in the winter

Gliding down them on two thin pieces of metal wrapped in layers of fabric

I love how when it snows it's like the world is silent

Like we're trapped in a mini snow globe

With all of this snow, but summer's coming

Oh summer

The flowing river

I can't wait to float down it in tubes that look like pineapples

Day trips to Lake Tahoe

Just me and my bright blue paddleboard that matches the water

The winters are colder here but

At least the summers aren't as hot as back home

Reno has been a change

A good change

There are more colors with the seasons

More budding flowers and greenery

Coyotes and bunnies

I hear the howling of the wind as I fall asleep

I'm starting to call this home

And I know you hate that

Maybe one day you'll join me

Here, or wherever I end up

But this feels like home now.

I think I'll stick around for a while.