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.