



# I'm from...

GRACE S.

Age 14, Stacey Jr./Sr. High School

I've moved five times between four states and experienced challenges involving education (being far ahead/behind), having to leave friends, a big issue was continuing gymnastics and finding new gymnastics centers. I overcame a lot of these obstacles just by becoming more outgoing and working harder in school. I also joined different after-school clubs and tried to meet neighborhood kids. I had to go to schools depending on gymnastics centers which caused a lot more school moving. When my father was deployed to Qatar for a year my family communicated by Skype and phone calls. I have three brothers, two older and one younger. My favorite subject is English but I'm well-rounded at all subjects. I play French horn, I was born in California.

I'm in eighth grade and I'm 14, I joined S2S because I know what it is like to be the "new kid" and I'm actually working on trying to bring the S2S program to my new school because S2S helps a lot with briefing kids on how a school runs and what the teachers are like, helps kids to make new friend etc. – it's just very comforting when you're in a new atmosphere. Other things I've noticed is that military kids are different than other kids, usually more outgoing and worldly once they open up, not having lived with and grown up with same surroundings and kids their whole lives. They had to be and sometimes fitting into cliques and friend groups that have been the same for years can be hard and S2S just helps a lot with those issues. I am also in choir in addition to band.



**I'm from Northern California, blustery wine country  
I never visited the coast, only exploring vast redwood forests  
I'm from a family skiing adventure at Lake Tahoe  
And an escapade in Yosemite**

**I'm from scalding Texas summers, crawling with wasps and scorpions  
I'm from uneven bars and high beams, hours of gymnastics practice  
Full of stuffy, chalk-filled air  
I'm from medals and scores on all four events**

**I'm from the frigid winters in Nebraska, snow drifts piling up  
I'm from the constant threat of tornadoes  
And Offutt's Halloween Haunted Hospital  
I'm from spectacular Air Force air shows involving daring feats**

**I'm from July  
Where fireworks are plentiful and Christian summer camps aren't optional  
I'm from September  
Where school and fall begins and I age again  
I'm from January  
Where there are resolutions to come upon  
I'm from May  
Where I prepare to bid farewell to certain friends who will depart soon.**

