

3-14-2017

Untitled

Madelyn Chennells

Otterbein University, Madelyn.Chennells@otterbein.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu/is>



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#), and the [Digital Humanities Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Chennells, Madelyn, "Untitled" (2017). *Integrative Studies Symposium*. 5.
<http://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu/is/5>

This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences, Events & Lectures at Digital Commons @ Otterbein. It has been accepted for inclusion in Integrative Studies Symposium by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Otterbein. For more information, please contact shickey@otterbein.edu.

Untitled

I am from the flatlands

The cornfields

Where we dream of the sanctuary of rolling hills

Of small towns like my mother's

I am from the smell of coffee in the morning

And the music of the sleepers' sighs at night

I am from Friday nights

And high school football I never watched

From friends who used to say, "We'll escape someday."

From going away and coming back

I am from mountain folk and Midwest kin

From the elusive and the tangible

From the way the heart breaks when

It forgets its origins

From doing what I hate

As Paul writes in Romans

And neglecting what I love

I am from sitting on my mamaw's porch in Kentucky

Hearing the trains roll past as evening comes

And wondering

What I have done

To hold Ohio in my hands

I am from not knowing where I am from until I leave

From a Midwest baptism in Appalachian waters