

Ethlyn, Age 35

When I was a child I was from Bottle Creek, from the river, free, cold and calm.

When I was a child I was from thinking a broken shoe heel was funny
and death was scary.

When I was a child I was from The Turks & Caicos Islands,
Stubbs School, my one friend Bethann and love stories.
I was shy, proud of whom I was, slim, quiet and loved to smile.

When I was a child I was from my father teaching me:
“Don’t cry when kids call you big head, it is full of brain”.

Now I am a woman and about cooking, reading and spending time with my kids.
I am kind, helpful and loving, but I am also shy, stuck-up and classy.

Now I am a woman and sometimes happy, a mother, an ex-wife and a good person.
I am about thinking my husband falling off his bike and a car almost hitting him
as funny and my ex-husband as scary.

Now I am a woman and I am about curried chicken, mild, tasty and yellow.
I am about believing nothing is impossible and wanting my freedom back.

Now I am a woman and I am about really wanting to go back home to
Turks & Caicos Island in the Bahamas and never wanting to see my husband again.

I am about waiting for a change of name really irritating me, and handling it
by waiting patiently.

Now I am a woman and right now I am about liking the colors black and white,
going home, reading and mourning my sad past.

When I grow up I want to be an LPN. I want to be happy, free and independent.

When I grow up I want to be like my Mother, proud, independent and strong.
I want to live alone, go to the Bahamas and let my kids spend time with my father.
When I grow up I want to visit Africa and find my nephew.

Ten years from now I want to live in the Bahamas with my brother and be free.