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Section Intro: Pieces of Myself

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Pieces of Myself

Writing is a way to make one's experiences tangible and real in a concrete medium. As Terry Tempest Williams explains in "Why I Write," words are a way to manifest thought: "I write to imagine things differently and in imagining things differently perhaps the world will change." Words can be a powerful tool. They can be penned in nostalgia, to cope with struggle, or to document a moment in time. They may be written poetically, lyrically, or in shorthand.

The contributors of this section have generously given us a glimpse into their lives and shown us their way of coming to terms with the world around them through their own personal writing styles. They have exposed their train of thought, drawn on childhood memories, relived wartime horrors, and delved into the details of painful illness in order to make sense of their current realities. These authors showcase a piece of themselves through their writing. If you look closely, you may find a piece of yourself here, too.

—Morgan Conover, Shanelle Drakeford,
Danielle Martin, Eric Weyand