

Who We Are

WRITTEN FOR 10 PERFORMERS (gender-neutral)

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FULL CREDIT, EVERY TIME.

5: There are 1.7 million of us.

10: We're all over the world.

1: We understand each other, but no one else really understands us.

5: We are

ALL: military brats.

8: And I'm not kidding. People really don't get it.

4: Where are you from?

3 (traveler): Well, I was born in North Carolina, but then we moved to Hawaii when I was 2...

7: My dad just got orders; we're moving to Japan.

6: That's in China, right?

3 (traveler): And then we lived in California while my mom was in flight school...

1: I lived on a military base in Okinawa.

2: Does everybody there know kung fu?

3 (traveler): And right now I live in Korea...

4: I really like the restaurant near my house.

6: They have restaurants there?

9: Can you eat anything but rice?

3 (traveler): But at least once a year we visit my grandparents, who all live in Colorado...

1, 5, 10: People don't know what to make of us.

1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10: They don't know what it's like.

ALL: They don't know who we are.

<signal/break>

7: You're minding your business when your parent approaches with the news

ALL: Deployment

2: Your mind is overwhelmed with mixed emotions

4: (happy/proud) I'm thankful you're fighting for our country

8: (sad) What if I never see you again?

5: (angry) Why our family? Why do you have to be taken from us?

1: You give your parent a hug and wonder if this is the last

(signal/break)

10: You hear the mortars in the background of a phone call

ALL: BANG

6: You talk for just a few minutes

7: In the middle of the night because of the time zone difference

4: But finally it ends with

3 (parent): Good bye, I love you.

9 (child): You wonder if this is the last.

(signal/break)

10: Your friends say they're sorry

7: I understand

6: This must be hard, huh?

2: But their moms and dads go to work and come home

5: You haven't seen yours in 16 months

1: But life keeps happening

8: They missed your first steps

3: First words

7: Soccer games

4: Play

9: Prom

2: Graduation

9 (child): You

3(parent): I

9 (child): Missed

3(parent): Missed

9 (child): Out

3(parent): You

5: But we'll be OK

(signal/break)

1: Finally they come home!

2: But it's not really them

3: He's distant

4: Like he's keeping a secret

5: A stranger in our family

6: Fighting everyone

7: You try to joke the way you used to

8: But he's locked himself away

9: He says it's the guilt

4: Someone came home, but it wasn't him

5: Our family is back together

4: Sort of

5: And we're

1: Glad

10: Sad

2: Grateful

9: Struggling

3: Back to normal

8: Whatever that is

4, 5: We pull ourselves together

7: We figure it out

ALL: That's what we do. That's who we are.

<signal/break>

6: Wait, you lived in Japan? But you look American!

7: I AM American.

6: Americans can't live in Japan!

7: Seriously?

3 (traveler): But my sister goes to college in Washington...

2: My family is moving to South Korea in 2 months.

4: *gasp* You're a Communist?

2: Yes. You're talking to a Communist.

3 (traveler): And we're moving to either Guam or Florida at the end of this tour, but we won't know which until the orders come...

<signal/break>

ALL: We arrive.

10: Where do I go?

1: You're tired.

9: What does that say?

2: You're trying to find your way.

8: Excuse me?

3: You're trying so hard to fit in.

7: Should I take my shoes off?

4: How do I say "nice to meet you"?

6: Which way do I pass the tea?

5: There's a way to pass the tea?

6: Yeah... I think?

1: This door says exit; THAT'S the entrance

2: Chopsticks in your right hand, not your left

3: Drive on the left, not on the right

4: Red lights are just a suggestion

5: Eye contact is rude

ALL: AGGH!

6: Sometimes I just want a normal hamburger!

7: Finally, orders back to the States!

ALL: Home!

9: Except...

8: The roads are huge!

7: The schools are huge!

6: You look the wrong way before crossing the street

10: Look out!

5: Wait, no National Anthem before the movie?

4: I forgot to tip the waitress!

3: Guess we won't go to THAT restaurant again...

2: These food portions are enormous!

ALL: AGGH!

1: Sometimes I just want some decent _____! (students fill in favorite foreign food)

2: _____

3: _____

4: _____

5: _____

6: _____

7: _____

8: _____

9: _____

10: _____

6: These kids have known each other since they were 2

5: Do I have a place here?

ALL: Is this home?

4: Before you know it...

ALL: Time to PCS!

1: Off to another country

2: New school

3: New friends

4: New community

5: New rules

10: Here we go

9: go

8: go

7: go

6: go

5: go

4: go

3: go

2: go

1: go

ALL: We arrive.

1: Strange school

10: You'll figure it out.

ALL: We always do.

2: Strange people

9: You'll get to know them.

ALL: We always do.

3: Strange place

8: You'll find your way

ALL: We always do.

4: Strange culture,

5: strange rules,

6: strange foods...

1, 10: You'll learn,

2, 9: you'll adjust,

3, 8: you'll take it all in

4, 5, 6, 7: and you'll miss it when you leave

ALL: We always do.

<signal/break>

3 (traveler): So I'm not really from anywhere. Or maybe I'm from everywhere...

1: Do you speak Asian?

7: Do you live in a hut?

2: Do you have to catch your own fish?

8: Do you have to "go" in an outhouse?

ALL: NO!

1: We move a lot

10: But we are well-rounded

1, 2: We see our parents go off to war

9, 10: But we are proud of their bravery

1, 2, 3: We leave our friends

8, 9, 10: But we gain new ones

4: That's what we do

7: That's who we are.

5, 6: We are

ALL: Military brats.