**Home Page**

My name is Sarah, and I am married with a three-year-old daughter. I live in Cottage Grove, Oregon. I was born and raised in Long Beach, California and moved to Oregon in 2010 for a job.

I have worked in Quality Control in the food industry since I graduated from college in 2001. I started in Technical Services and move my way up to Senior Quality Manager, which was a regional position over 5 production facilities across the United States. I went back to single plant management when our daughter turned one.

I just recently went back to school, and am taking some pre-requisite courses prior to starting with the University of Colorado, Boulder’s online master’s program in computer science.

**Where I Live**

I live in Cottage Grove, Oregon just south of Eugene, Oregon. We moved here because frankly, we got the most house for the least money. My husband and I live west of here and were renting when housing prices started to skyrocket. Our landlords handed us a notice that we had 60 days to move out because they were planning on selling the house. They asked if we were willing to buy it several times in the years prior but at those times, we just couldn’t afford it. When they decided to sell it, we decided we might be able to find something a little larger and so we started packing and looking. We ended up buying a house in Cottage Grove.

**What I do**

I worked in the food industry for the past 23 years. When I realized that I just didn’t enjoy it like I used to, I started thinking about what I wanted to do. I couldn’t see myself going back to school for a masters in something food safety, but that is what I would need to do to continue to move up the proverbial ladder. Also, I no longer wanted to do the day-to-day firefighting that is quality management in a production facility. When I looked at what I had been doing everyday as part of my job, I realized the spreadsheets, data tracking, Visual Basic kinds of things I was doing were exciting to me and I found myself wanting to understand SharePoint instead of just thinking it was stupid and not intuitive, I realized I knew what I should do. I needed to go back to school and get a degree of some sort in computer science.

**Main Interests Page**

I am not an outdoorsy person, but I do love to be in our garden watching the various plants cycle through their seasons. I am a Harry Potter fan, I loved the books and movies, however, I wouldn’t say that I’m obsessed. I just enjoy the fantasy of it and the way the franchise has managed to continue to captivate generations. You can find a little bit of Hogwarts at my house at Halloween though! My family is also really keen on exploring traditions and cultures outside of our own and we do that exploration through food.

Gardens: I love a good garden! I love hydrangeas, lilacs, dogwoods, and magnolias. We have two dogwood trees and two red twig dogwood bushes. We have a magnolia tree, and two lilacs (one is a Miss Kim variety, so it is a dwarf but the other is full size). Hydrangeas might be a bit of an obsession, we have 5! I strive to plant varietals that are unique or interesting. For instance, one of our red twig dogwoods is variegated so the leaves are green and white instead of solid green.

Harry Potter: At Halloween we turn our front windowsill into a Harry Potter display with the floating candles from the great hall. We will the window seat with pumpkins and I cobbled together a Hermione costume (although I do have a wand!) and I am always in awe of other people’s HP inspired displays. The one above is from a toy shop in McMinnville, Oregon where they were displaying their “wands” in very Ollivander’s style.

Food Exploration: My family enjoys trying new recipes and exploring the holidays and traditions of other cultures through the food they eat. While this is just a pic of our last Thanksgiving turkey (it was a beauty!), last year we “celebrated” Diwali, Hannakah, and a traditional English Christmas that included a steamed pudding!