

## Hometown

These are the streets of my youth, now filthy and **dead**,  
once the haven I ruled and owned.  
This is the apartment that held  
the home I miss so dearly.  
This is the alley with the puddles,  
that we swam in like **oceans**.  
These are the murals, playgrounds, now faded.  
Here are the now beaten paths beneath the trees,  
which lead to the rocks secluded from the world  
where we journeyed to eat our lunches.  
This is the yard that contained the swings  
where to best friends were found and **lost**.  
These are the streets where you can no longer find  
the magic and beauty that used to be.  
These are the streets of my youth,  
decayed and never the same.

### Commented [CAF1]: 1.4.12.A:

Write poems, short stories, and plays with various organizational methods, literary elements and devices.

- Construct a strong story line with illustrative details that address a complex idea or examine a complex experience.
- Choose a method of organization that supports the intended purpose.
- Continue to exhibit a personal writing style.
- Demonstrate a sophisticated control of grammar, mechanics, spelling, usage, and sentence formation.

I feel that this standard is an accurate representation of what students should be able to do at this level in their writing. I think that all of these aspects are touched on or shown in this poem.

**Commented [CAF2]:** I feel that this poem highlights a personal style in my writing. One scholar that I feel would approve of the writing pedagogies that were used during this assignment would be Peter Elbow. I feel that he would agree with this text because in his essay "A Method for Teaching Writing" he states that "rules only approximate the outward characteristics of the prose of the writers who excel at using language to produce desired effects and reveal the self."

**Commented [CAF3]:** I feel that the previous quote from Peter Elbow is appropriate for this text because even though I did not use a substantial amount of rhythm or rhyme in this poem, a common rule that poetry should adhere to. However, in not following the normal rules of poetry I am letting the reader into my thoughts and feelings and creating that sense of self.