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A poem by Oakley Ayden

Backwoods Carolina cravings while standing in
California a few blocks from the ocean you left Virginia
for

i'm in your town. i breathe

your beach. i'll make you

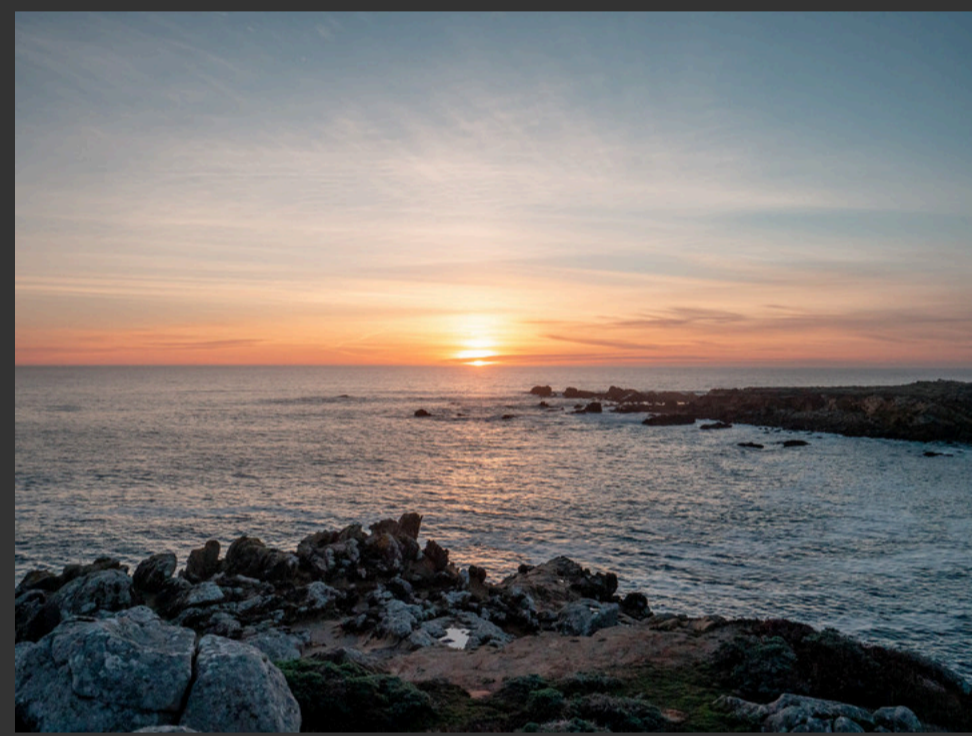
osso buco, sweets. just

bring me butchered

whitetail shank

and promise to

be primal.



Oakley Ayden (she/her) is an autistic, bisexual writer from North Carolina. Her poems appear in *Ghost City Review*, *Not Very Quiet*, *Neologism Poetry Journal* and elsewhere. She currently lives in California's San Bernardino National Forest with her two daughters. Find her on Twitter ([@Oakley_Ayden](#)) or Instagram ([@Oakley.Ayden](#)).

Oakley Ayden



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