Do you know who really did drown in the hurricane? I do. How can they not understand?

Every day, displaced students across the country wake up in a house or an apartment that is not their home. We do not know who they really are, but we do know where they came from.

We did not ask to come to St. Thomas to become students of a strange school in a strange town. We did not ask to become students of St. Thomas. We did not ask any more for us a hurricane to destroy our homes. But we are here.

We are here.

Every day, displaced students across the country wake up in a house or apartment that is not their home. Every day, those students are shuffled along to a new school in a new town, with new strange faces around them. We did not ask for this — none of us did. But here we are, just as there are students of strange towns in Texas and Mississippi and Alabama, far from the place we all called home.

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Samantha Perez, a high school senior from St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana, started writing during and after Hurricane Katrina about the impact the storm had on her life. She has written about the destruction and devastation that the hurricane caused.

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