

I Am What I Am

by: Debra Seerist

I am a mixture of

South Georgia where the sound of soft r's roll off the tongue
as in President Cawtuh, Guhvunuh, and Suh

North Georgia where once a Cherokee tribe existed and evidence
of their existence remains today

I am a mesh of

Irish roots from my mother's family
French roots from my father's side

I am what I am

Southern hospitality – fried chicken, watermelon, coconut cake, banana puddin', potato
salad and sweet tea

Southern charm – easy, slow, family and friends

Southern phrases – “Come go home with us”, picked a mess of beans and okrie”, Hey!
How ya'll doin'” and so many more

I am what I am

Native American blood of the Cherokee running through my veins
Sharing with them a love and deep appreciation of nature

I am me

A wonderful culmination of these things, but bringing my own creativity, dreams, plans
and desires into the mix

I am a daughter

The oldest child – the practical one

Quiet, shy and content to stay in a corner away from crowds

An observer, taking in the world from afar

Often feeling on the outside of the inner rim

I am a sister

The oldest to my energetic, vibrant, younger sister

Whom I adore – the center of the crowd
As I remain ever watchful from afar

I am a wife

A partner, a friend, a lover
Chosen by my husband
My life entwined with his

I am a mother

The fixer, the nurturer, the guide
Sharing my qualities
As I raise my children

I am what I am

I am so much
Yet have so much more to become