Asian American Dreams By: Oreli Horta Ho

I was playing tag with my friends. A boy walked up when I was sitting at the bottom of the slide. And do you know what he said? "Chinese Chicken wing."

I got so offended, and wasn't able to say anything back because I was shy. Maybe I was following the rude stereotype that Asians are shy and quiet. I regret that I didn't say anything, and sad that I wasn't able to stand with my culture and be brave.

Asian Americans have been discriminated against for the last 200 years. People think things like our eyes are slanted, we eat dog, and we are naturally smart (without working hard at studying).

I see perfectly well out of my eyes and I don't care what other people think. Asian eyes are beautiful.

My hope for the future is that we stop believing the stereotypes that we are shy and quiet. We should be strong, confident and speak loudly. We should stand tall, hold our heads up high, and most importantly, not be afraid to be ourselves.

I want Asians to be proud of our culture. Our traditions, thoughts, and foods can be shared with others by making friends with people of all colors.