

Longitude of A City

35 degrees north
85 degrees west

A beautiful gem
gently set between the Valley
Appalachians but intentionally
living at the foot of Walden's Ridge
looking out from the rock
that rises to a point
seeing Chattanooga

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The river winding
creating serenity
sit near it and be our guest
We NOW can benefit from this
We volunteer our strength to
bring forth a new age
This beauty is the perfect stage

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Our city takes no rest
Our community represents the best
We bounce back from tragedy
with lessons to share.
We take on hard conversations and
reachout all because we truly care.
Taking to the streets we build ways
to support the least.
Taking in donations even though we were cautioned of being
contagious
Quarantined to paper
let this "peace" go viral
into a happy spiral
the watching of a community
coming together its
breathtaking
It's inspiring

35 degrees north
85 degrees west

Nooga
Chattown
Gig City
We dig deep
Built from hard times and
protected possibilities on
a grainy slant
sliding down a diversity slope
We learn from each other
During this time we push one another
we cope.
We are a city full of hope.

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A city of creators
A city of entrepreneurs
A city of musicians
A city of visionaries
A city of poets
A city of dancers

From the bottom of broken crayons
with vibrancy we will speak
From the middle of the Big Nine
with musical and entrepreneurial history
we will speak
From empty canvases
we will fill our paint brushes with possibilities
From the riverfront
with our friends walking we will speak
From safe stages with a lonely spotlight
we will speak
From Brainerd rd
with love of life we will speak
From St Elmo
with a burning fire to restore we will speak
From the Walnut Street Bridge
with the spirit of freedom we will speak loudly

We are resilient
We are built tough.
We are learning on a curve
deeper than the W
Working.
Withstanding.
Willing.
Mountains to climb.
We see the future.
The vision is crystal clear.
Moving intentionally away from fear.

We will return stronger.
Our community bonds will be strengthened.
Resolved.
Restored.
Reset.
Release.

35 degrees north
85 degrees west

My city.
Our city.

~ Erika Roberts