<u>Home</u>

By Nathanial Fang

The first half of my name, my family name, is 方, pronounced as *fāng*. According to my mother, that means home. When writing it, a single stroke separates it from the character 万, *wàn*, meaning ten thousand. Following traditional stroke order, this stroke is the first to be written in the character. With that stroke, you are deciding whether to write 万 or 方 – a decision you can't take back. Before you even begin writing, you are deciding whether or not to make this ten thousand, this vast infinity of countless possibilities, a home.