

California

**Douglas [Aircraft Company] built
Santa Monica and then left it,
and the streets running south of
what had been the first Douglas plant
were now lined with body shops,
mini-marts, Pentecostal churches
and walk-in dentists.**

**Still, Santa Monica had its ocean,
its beaches, its climate, its sun and
its fog and its climbing roses.
The Gateway Cities will have
only their warehouses.**

Joan Didion, *Where I Was From*