

## 8 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP MEMORIES THAT HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH CYCLING

**2008 – Varese, Italy:** Fans chanting “Dai, dai, dai!” up the climbs, which is Italian for *Go, go, go* but sounds like *Die, die die*. The last thing you want to hear while climbing.

**2009 – Mendrisio, Switzerland:** Reggie Douglas & James Weekes of St. Kitts and Nevis constantly asked for their autographs. Few fans had ever seen black cyclists at Worlds.

**2010 – Melbourne, Australia:** Taping a pack of Trident gum to my time trial bike to circumnavigate the ridiculous UCI rules of bike measurement.

**2011 – Copenhagen, Denmark:** Seeing women from Syria, Israel and Guyana take the start line at Worlds for the first time.

**2012 – Limburg, Netherlands:** Sleeping under a table in the press room, day before the road race, as I waited for Brian Cookson to show up for the film interview.

**2013 – Florence, Italy:** Packing up the bike and running for the train station after the road race finish, then bunking in with a Korean family on the overnight train from Florence to Paris for our meeting with ASO the next day.

**2014 – Ponferrada, Spain:** Remembering there is more to life than bike racing, and hopping a train to explore Madrid with a friend for three days afterward.

**2015 – Richmond, Virginia, USA:** Racing the team time trial, setting a personal record in the individual time trial at age 40, having my dad come see me race world for the first time, and closing out my eight consecutive World Championships with nothing but peace, love and gratitude.

–Kathryn Bertine, *STAND*

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Kathryn Bertine is an author, activist, filmmaker, public speaker and retired professional athlete. She's written four nonfiction books, *All the Sundays Yet to Come*, *As Good As Gold*, *The Road Less Taken* and *Stand*. Her documentary film, *Half the Road*, can be found on iTunes, Amazon and Vimeo. A former columnist and editor at ESPN, she now serves as CEO of Homestretch Foundation. A native New Yorker and dual citizen of St. Kitts and Nevis, Bertine lives in Tucson, Arizona. Follow her on Twitter, Facebook and Insta @kathrynbertine and [www.kathrynbertine.com](http://www.kathrynbertine.com)