

# Sailing Away

James McMurtry

The SatNav can't get signal, and this light's forever long  
Lost in the rain in this no-man's land over by the Pentagon  
Wonderin' if I'm even worth the paper I'm printed on  
It's a judgment call

DC Beltway in this 5:30 gloom  
Openin' for Isbell in some cavernous room  
I hate it when the clocks roll back, it's darker than a tomb  
And they're out smokin' by the load-in, one and all

I won't forget your birthday, 'cause you don't forget the score  
I won't forget that chorus like I did the night before, when I was  
Tryin' to remember, did I lock the front door? And have I  
Any business bein' in this business anymore? And I'm

Sailin' away  
Feelin' faded, and I'm not okay  
Sailin' alone  
Steerin' by the stars, and I can't get home now

The light tech's friendly, and she sees me right through  
She's an iron-skinned veteran of professional crew  
So I don't stand half a chance, no matter what I do  
But she'll light me up good for those early few

One time you told me not to push you too hard  
You could drift away slowly till you drift too far  
And I paid attention, and I took it to heart  
But it's been so long now, I just don't know who we are, and I'm

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Dreamed I came home from a month or so out  
Junk mail on the kitchen table scattered all about  
I couldn't find you anywhere, I searched all through the house  
I kept hopin' as I opened every door

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Steerin' by the stars, and I can't get home now