

I'm supposed to be stoic  
As I wipe the tears off of my face  
Watch the ships off the coast of Mexico  
Block it out as they roll away  
I still see you smiling  
Even as I'm selfish as I've ever been  
See you sitting in your chair  
I see you singing happy birthday

I got the call in June  
But couldn't bring myself to see you  
Or even get you on the phone  
I wanted you to remember me in perfection  
But really I'm, I'm just a fucking coward  
I couldn't stand to see you die  
And I was dealing with my own shit  
If I'm being honest, mom said you'd understand  
But I don't blame you if you didn't

And I'm on the docks again  
Looking out at that awful ocean  
Watching the tide take you away  
I know you ain't resting your bones  
I know you ain't made it back home  
At least the loneliness gave you a break

We never held a funeral  
'Cause of the consequence they bring  
Letting go is never easy  
Even when you're empty and even when you're alone  
I hope they played you Otis Redding  
I hope you heard me hum along  
As those arms of yours went down into the dark

And I'm on the docks again  
Looking out at that awful ocean  
Watching the tide take you away  
I know you ain't resting your bones  
I know you ain't made it back home  
At least the loneliness gave you a break

And my phone rang a year later  
With your smile haunting me  
And I finally broke at a rental home  
In Joshua Tree  
And I tell myself it gets better  
But it never gets any easier when your voice  
It ain't on the other side

I hope they played you Otis Redding  
I hope you remembered I named my guitar  
After your favorite singer of your favorite song  
And I break down every time I see  
That old Spanish nylon that you bought  
It never comes off the shelf anymore

I'm on the docks again

Looking out at that awful ocean  
Watching the tide take you away  
I know you ain't resting your bones  
I know you ain't made it back home  
At least the loneliness  
At least the loneliness gave you a break