

## **Delbert Mcclinton**

### **"When Rita Leaves"**

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She left a lipstick letter on the mirror shattered on the  
bathroom floor  
All I could put back together was never see me no more  
Took all her clothes but one red dress, the one she  
knows I like the best  
All I could do was clean up the mess and wonder where  
she'd gone

I had a sky-blue, rag top Mustang, a 1964  
She drove it off into the night till it just wouldn't go no  
more  
She caught a ride on into town, bought some gas and  
laid the top down  
Then she burned that pony to the ground on the desert  
in new Mexico

When Rita leaves, Rita's gone  
She gave me every chance a man could want  
I've never known a love so strong

Or so crazy when she's been done wrong  
When Rita leaves, Rita's gone

I put a call into her mamasita back in El Paso  
She said she got the story from Rita on her way to  
Mexico  
Her mama knew I was takin' it hard, said she was sorry  
about my car  
She said, "You're lucky all she broke was your heart  
You better just let her go"

When Rita leaves, Rita's gone  
She gave me every chance a man could want  
I've never known a love so strong  
Or so crazy when she's been done wrong  
When Rita leaves, Rita's gone

She never gave me a chance to explain  
Well I guess it doesn't much matter now anyway  
When Rita leaves, Rita's gone  
When Rita leaves, Rita's gone

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