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Haken "How Long Is This Train"

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How long is this train son I heard his fragile voice I didn't want to listen but there really was no choice It seems like it goes on forever and I waited for so long The old man's breath came slow and smelled of whiskey in the dawn

On a cold November morning in the gentle mist of rain There's just so many reasons that people wait to meet a train

And as I waited for my sister to come down the metal stairs

He told me that his son had not been home in fifteen years

And I barely seemed to notice the tears behind his face But his wishes were no strangers to the people in this place

The old man stood there waiting for a young man dressed in blue

Then he handed him a neatly folded flag and said for you

He said your son he died a hero in the service of this flag

The old man took it gently put it in his paper bag Then I left him in the rain there but I'd still hear his voice

I try hard not to listen but there really is no choice

On a cold November morning in the gentle mist of rain There's just so many reasons that people wait to meet a train

How long is this train son I can hear the pouring rain I'm still reminded of him when I hear a passing train

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