

Outside Looking In

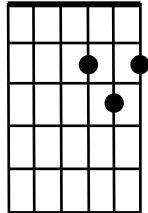
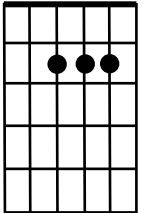
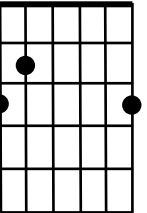
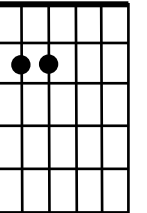
Background: I started writing this a few months ago, well before Mom’s situation started. It was just words and phrases from nowhere with no real conscious context as to what it was or where it was going. The development of those kinds of songs is nice, for something to just appear, then to figure out where it’s going and why. It’s often the subconscious working something out. When Mom got sick, it changed direction. Some of the time I was at Brooke Grove watching her transition, I was trying to absorb it all and get my head around what was going on, and was (re)writing lyrics on my phone. This is how it all landed.

Written: December 2024 – January 4, 2025

Arr.	Key	Time	Tuning	Tempo	Style	Capo
1	D	4/4	Standard	125	Acoustic Rock / Folk	3

Arrangement	1
Verse	D A G D D A G D A
Chorus	G D A G D G D A G D
Bridge	Em G D A

Chords Used in this Song (Relative to Capo)

D	A	G	Em
x o o	x o o	o o o	o o o o
			

Outside Looking In

Verse 1

D

The wind blew back her hair

A

Like a copper cattail wind chime

G

She walked past her old church

D

And looked in one final time

D

The pews were all empty now

A

Everyone's moved on it seems

G

She drifted past like a whisper

D

A

Floating somewhere in between

Verse 2

D

I know your face she said

A

But can't recall your name

G

I'm sorry I don't remember

D

But I'm still so glad you came

D

These pictures I've been painting

A

Won't pose for other eyes

G

I know they're singing falsehoods

D

A

But there's a little truth in every lie

Chorus

G

I know it won't be long
D
Before you shed this mortal skin
A
And leave us all
G D
On the outside lookin' in
G
I never knew someone so strong
D
Who embodied the spirit of a church hymn
A
That still sings for us
G D
On the outside lookin' in

Verse 3

D
Give me your hand she said
A
I want to feel your palm
G
Your big hands feel so cold
D
But your grip is strong
D
We're not gettin' any younger
A
But old age is not to fear
G
As each day fades we grow wiser
D A
Even as the years just disappear

Chorus

G
I know it won't be long
D
Before you shed this mortal skin
A

And leave us all
G D
On the outside lookin' in
G
I never knew someone so strong
D
Like the spirit of a church hymn
A
That still sings to us
G D
On the outside lookin' in

Bridge

Em
Hurry up I'm afraid she said
G
I don't know where I'm gonna go
D
You spend your life preparing
A
But still don't really know
Em
Transition comes slow yet swiftly
G
As the curtain on life descends
D
We all evaporate like whispers
A
And hope our soul transcends

Verse 4

D
The setting sun hangs low
A
Contrails streak the sky
G
I hope she's going home
D
At peace now, unafraid to die
D

It gets dark early now

A

Feels like midnight at 5:55

G

But the days are getting longer

D

A

And I feel conspicuously alive

Chorus

G

I know it won't be long

D

Before you shed this mortal skin

A

And leave us all

G

D

On the outside lookin' in

G

I never knew someone so strong

D

Like the spirit of a church hymn

A

That still sings to us

G

D

On the outside lookin' in

A

Yeah you can still sing to us

G

A

On the outside lookin' in

Epilogue Verse

We first lost track of time

Then lost track of days

The moments froze together

While memories melted away

I wasn't in the room

To feel your last heartbeat

Or to hear your last breath

But I know that's how you meant for it to be

Outside Looking In

Verse 1

The wind blew back her hair
Like a copper cattail wind chime
She walked past her old church
And looked in one final time
The pews were all empty now
Everyone's moved on it seems
She drifted past like a whisper
Floating somewhere in between

Verse 2

I know your face she said
But can't recall your name
I'm sorry I don't remember
But I'm still so glad you came
These pictures I've been painting
Won't pose for other eyes
I know they're singing falsehoods
But there's a little truth in every lie

Chorus

I know it won't be long
Before you shed this mortal skin
And leave us all
On the outside lookin' in
I never knew someone so strong
Who embodied the spirit of a church hymn
That still sings for us
On the outside lookin' in

Verse 3

Give me your hand she said
I want to feel your palm
Your big hands feel so cold
But your grip is strong
We're not gettin' any younger
But old age is not to fear
As each day fades we grow wiser

Even as the years just disappear

Chorus

I know it won't be long
Before you shed this mortal skin
And leave us all
On the outside lookin' in
I never knew someone so strong
Like the spirit of a church hymn
That still sings to us
On the outside lookin' in

Bridge

Hurry up I'm afraid she said
I don't know where I'm gonna go
You spend your life preparing
But still don't really know
Transition comes slow yet swiftly
As the curtain on life descends
We all evaporate like whispers
And hope our soul transcends

Verse 4

The setting sun hangs low
Contrails streak the sky
I hope she's going home
At peace now, unafraid to die
It gets dark early now
Feels like midnight at 5:55
But the days are getting longer
And I feel conspicuously alive

Chorus

I know it won't be long
Before you shed this mortal skin
And leave us all
On the outside lookin' in
I never knew someone so strong
Like the spirit of a church hymn
That still rings for us

On the outside lookin' in

Yeah you can still sing to us
On the outside lookin' in

Epilogue Verse

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Then lost track of days
The moments froze together
While memories melted away
I wasn't in the room
To feel your last heartbeat
Or to hear your last breath
But I know that's how you meant for it to be

Outside Looking In

<p>Verse: D A G D D A G D A</p>	<p>Chorus: G D A G D x2 Bridge: Em G D A</p>
<p>Verse 1 The wind blew back her hair Like a copper cattail wind chime She walked past her old church And looked in one final time The pews were all empty now Everyone's moved on it seems She drifted past like a whisper Floating somewhere in between</p>	<p>Verse 3 Give me your hand she said I want to feel your palm Your big hands feel so cold But your grip is strong We're not gettin' any younger But old age is not to fear As each day fades we grow wiser Even as the years just disappear</p>
<p>Verse 2 I know your face she said But can't recall your name I'm sorry I don't remember But I'm still so glad you came These pictures I've been painting Won't pose for other eyes I know they're singing falsehoods But there's a little truth in every lie</p>	<p>Chorus I know it won't be long Before you shed this mortal skin And leave us all On the outside lookin' in I never knew someone so strong Like the spirit of a church hymn That still sings to us On the outside lookin' in</p>
<p>Chorus I know it won't be long Before you shed this mortal skin And leave us all On the outside lookin' in I never knew someone so strong Who embodied the spirit of a church hymn That still sings for us On the outside lookin' in</p>	<p>Bridge Hurry up I'm afraid she said I don't know where I'm gonna go You spend your life preparing But still don't really know Transition comes slow yet swiftly As the curtain on life descends We all evaporate like whispers And hope our soul transcends</p>
<p>Verse 3 Give me your hand she said I want to feel your palm Your big hands feel so cold But your grip is strong We're not gettin' any younger But old age is not to fear As each day fades we grow wiser Even as the years just disappear</p>	<p>Verse 4 The setting sun hangs low Contrails streak the sky I hope she's going home At peace now, unafraid to die It gets dark early now Feels like midnight at 5:55 But the days are getting longer And I feel conspicuously alive</p>
	<p>Chorus Yeah you can still sing to us On the outside lookin' in</p>