

Just for a Little While

Just for a little while, that's all I ask

They went off to a birthday party, chauffeured by one of the moms

And here we are alone, waiting to retrieve them later

I felt a sigh of relief, I could breathe once more

All those things I want to do on a Friday afternoon but can't

I could read a book (but I won't), or play some music (again, I probably won't)

I could take a walk, close my eyes, read the news, write my novel, go shoot baskets

It's moments like these that I dream of when I wake up early each morning and get the kids ready to go to school, or come home and have to get them to eat or get washed, or stop beating each other up

I stare out the window as the car rolls away so quickly

And then I stare the other way, just for a little while

Stare off to the distant tall buildings and the hazy mountains behind them, and think of those days when we went away for a few days to hike up a hill, or sit and eat by the water, and nobody asked us to take them to the bathroom

Those were the days, that I miss

And then I stare back at the street that they left on

And ask that they stay at their party

But only for just a little while