

i adapt to the unknown/ under wandering stars i've grown/ by myself but not alone

Ashley Miranda

i am travelling through mourning

this is my first time travelling alone // normally, a menagerie of the living & personifications in plush follows me // but that was when my partner was alive

this is my first time travelling since my husband died // we did not always roam, but we dreamt // and when it was time, when we had gathered enough offerings for the ferryman //

we wandered together

our first trip was germany // you had lived there in college, in the late 90s// you lived moving through train car to train car, from bonn to berlin // where you saw metallica // & learned that things in germany did not rock, they hammered

you hammered out a path // sleeping at train stations // trying to live // free from the traumas

of your childhood // independent from the hands that strangled

your breath

our first trip is my first time travelling to europe // our honeymoon // & my new husband holds

a song to my head // "metallica, wherever i may roam" // tradition and travel he says // to ensure a good trip // a safe trip // a freeing trip

my partner is nostalgic, sentimental, soft and sweet // he listened to "wherever i may roam" before he went to live in germany // where he roamed alone

Metallica

"Free Fallin'"

Wherever I May Roam

08/1991

Elektra

but he was no longer alone // and it became wherever we roamed // flying to castles //
driving to mountains // driving state to state // experience to experience // reminding me
that we could do anything // that i could do anything

this is my first time travelling alone // this is my first time travelling since my husband
died //

i scroll to the only metallica song i own // and know i am // by myself

but not

without

you