

alabama

(by betsy chapman and louis bourgeois)

i am in a birmingham motel off the interstate watching 'the twilight zone'
i got lost downtown it was dark and empty and i got stuck at every light
i knew i was in trouble when i found myself at the greyhound station
they are never in the good parts of town
i called my mom and said 'i'm lost downtown'
she said 'go straight to the police station'
i said 'mama, i'm lost i don't know where the police station is'
it took me eight hours to get to here
eight hours
i passed a lot of homemade 'jesus saves' signs and found a beautiful
catholic church
because I saw a sign that said 'ava maria grotto'
so i turned off the highway and went into the town it was dark
but I could see the church from several blocks away
i drove to it but did not find the grotto
sacred heart of jesus in cullman springs, alabama?

miss you,
betsy

savannah

(by betsy chapman and louis bourgeois)

thunderbird inn

50's motor inn across from the greyhound station

i'm too afraid to sleep in a tent alone

today I rode for hours down highway 78

american flags ten commandments signs fireworks stands

i said 'how are you' to a man who worked

at a Christian thrift store and he just chanted

'god is good'

i said 'yes' and bought a pair of two dollar sunglasses

the two dollars will be used to help Christian drug addicts

and then it was hours on the interstate

wal-mart home depot mcdonald's

a waffle house waitress sang 'don't you remember you told me you loved me baby'

while she cooked but it was the luther vandross version not the carpenters'

i heard her say

the song I think is called 'superstar'

then I saw a billboard that said jesus love you

no 's'

i'll call tomorrow,

betsy

LAST TESTAMENT OF MY FATHER
(by Louis E. Bourgeois and Betsy Chapman)

Walking, walking
—SHOVELS—
{His leg fell off)
Parrots!