

# When a Soldier Makes It Home

## Arlo Guthrie

Halfway around the world tonight  
In a strange and foreign land  
A soldier packs his memories  
As he leaves AfghanistanAnd back home, they don't know too much  
There's just no way to tell  
I guess you had to be there  
For to know that war was hellAnd there won't be any victory parades  
For those that's coming back  
They'll fly them in at midnight  
And unload the body sacksAnd the living will be walking down  
A long and lonely road  
Because nobody seems to care these days  
When a soldier makes it homeThey'll say it wasn't easy  
Just another job, well done  
As the government in Kabul falls  
To the sounds of rebel gunsAnd the faces of the comrades  
Being blown out of the sky  
Leaves you bitter with the feeling  
That they didn't have to dieAnd there won't be any victory parades  
For those that's coming back  
They'll fly them in at midnight  
And unload the body sacksAnd the living will be walking down  
A long and lonely road  
Because nobody seems to care these days  
When a soldier makes it homeHalfway around the world tonight  
In a strange and foreign land  
A soldier unpacks memories  
That he saved from VietnamBack home they didn't know too much  
There was just no way to tell  
I guess you had to be there  
For to know that war was hellAnd there wasn't any big parades  
For those that made it back  
They flew them in at midnight  
And unloaded all the sacksAnd the living were left walking down  
A long and lonely road  
Because nobody seemed to care back then  
When a soldier made it homeThe night is coming quickly  
And the stars are on their way  
As I stare into the evening

Looking for the words to sayThat I saw the lonely soldier  
Just a boy that's far from home  
And I saw that I was just like him  
While upon this earth I roamAnd there may not be any big parades  
If I ever make it back  
As I come home under cover  
Through a world that can't keep trackOf the heroes who have fallen  
Let alone the ones who won't  
Which is why nobody seems to care  
When a soldier makes it home

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