Along for the Ride by Mike Dunbar plays on the radio. Sounds of a car on the interstate.

Ponders (under breath): almost... almost...

Ponders: There! Welcome to Connecticut.

Ana: You've been planning that for months haven't you?

Ponders: Maybe...

Ana: Are you going to do that everytime we cross into a new state?

Ponders: Are you sick of me already? We haven't even had our first full day on the road.

Ana: Yeah, you're right. You better turn around and take me back.

Ponders: Oh come on. Give it at least a week before we start talking like that.

Ana: *sigh* Oh alright. For the podcast.

Ponders: Thank you. You know I've driven down this stretch of highway hundreds of times, but never with the destination being New Orleans, or the Pacific Ocean, or the Grand Canyon.

Ana: Well I've never driven down this stretch of highway, so any of those places sounds incredible. But for now I will settle for a bed for the night.

Ponders: It's just an hour or so ahead, on the south side of Hartford.

Ana: We'll be rolling in pretty late...you're sure that's ok with them?

Ponders: I texted them to let them know it might be 10:30 or 11. They said the door would be open. Tomorrow we're going all the way from Hartford to DC through Manhattan.

Ana: Wait...is New York City on the way to DC?

Ponders: It's not... not on the way. It's a bit of a detour, but it'll be a pretty good midpoint for our drive. We'll get brunch with V and drive down to Stonewall. Then just a few hours on to D.C.

Ana: Do we have time for that?

Ponders: Time? We have all the time in the world! We can take as long as we need! The road is open before us! We're free to go where we want, see what we want, and spend as much time as we want wherever we want!

Ana: As long as we stay on schedule and make all of our airbnb reservations on time.

Ponders: Oh, yeah, with that consideration. The road is open ahead of us. This is the start of something incredible. I can feel it.

Ana: Well then I guess we better stop for gas so we can make it to that incredibleness.

Ponders: Oh, yeah... forgot to fill up. There's a truck stop just off this exit up here. It's kind of tucked back in the trees. It'll feel like we're going into the middle of nowhere, but it's there. I promise.

Ana: Ok. You know me. Along for the ride.

Along for the Ride drifts off of the radio and fills the headphones. After the song concludes the part that was on the radio loops again.

Ponders: That was Along for the Ride off of the album Belvidere by Mike Dunbar. You can find that and all of Mike's incredible music wherever you listen to music. This mini-sode was written and performed by me, T.H. Ponders, and Ana O'Daniel. The transcript, links to our social media and Patreon, and the links to Mike's music can be found on our website at accession.fm. Accession: Homeward, Episode 1, Moving Pieces, comes out next Thursday, January 23, right here on this feed. Until then, why don't you come along for the ride?