

## Goodbye Voyager

*Goodbye Voyager, As you head into infinity,  
To disappear forever  
Floating away, Beyond the far reach of the sun  
Goodbye Voyager One  
Goodbye Voyager One*

September 5<sup>th</sup> 1977

NASA sends you on history's longest journey  
Perched on top of a Titan Centaur Rocket Ship  
You disappear above Earth's atmosphere  
By 1979 you've passed Jupiter  
Nineteen hundred and eighty, hello Saturn  
In 1987 its farewell Uranus  
And in 1989 its goodbye Neptune  
Soon you will escape the Solar System never to return...

Chorus

You've travelled thirteen and a half billion  
Kilometres from the Sun  
Into the heliosheath, a bubble formed by the  
Supersonic wind from the Sun  
And then into the Termination Shock  
Where solar wind meets interstellar space  
In twenty years your power supply will finally give out  
You'll reach the nearest star in 40 000 years  
You'll reach the nearest star in 40 000 years  
Far away drifting forever you'll float through empty space...

Chorus

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*Watching television late one night I came across the story of the Voyager deep space probes, and fell in love with the mystery of the voyage. It has taken on a more mystical sense since then. Voyager is no longer a hunk of wires and metal sheets; it has taken me into the depths of infinity, to what theologian Martin Buber calls an 'I-Thou' relationship. Mystical indeed, and made even more so with the wonderful voice of Imogen Coxhead and the images of this voyage we often show when performing this song. Visit the NASA website for an update on the journey of the Voyagers.  
[http://www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/voyager/index.html](http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/voyager/index.html)*

Note: Voyager 2, not V1, visited Uranus and Neptune. But that technical point was too difficult to include in the song.