



## ARMY OF INK SAILING STILL

A time to go—place to stay.  
On this particular day, something precious came to  
its end. Two breaths became one.

*Footnote:* This little girl a while ago, but I've since  
found other useful layers of meaning – not relating to  
loss .....

A docked boat is one that has been taken out of  
a damaging environment for repair and restoration. It's  
going nowhere right now, but it still has a place – and  
relevance. I think this 'pulling up' process is one we  
have to continually engage in – and make time for. To  
restore ourselves. To stabilise and question; 'Where to  
from here?' But the pace of life too often gets in the  
way. Interrupts. And doing 'nothing', taking time out  
for ourselves, isn't something viewed in a positive  
light. So it's the 'stopping' I feel in the image that's  
important – and in urging us to do the same.

"A time to go – a place to stay"? reflects not only creat-  
ing a place in our lives for those who we have lost but it  
could also be about choosing (in our living lives) what to  
move away from and what to hold on to and really  
importantly..... what we can take from all of that's made  
us who we are and use it in the building of our future  
selves.

And that can be a tough process in itself because we  
often come up against those around us who resist our  
endeavours to change.





I have the little boat tattooed on my wrist as a tribute to Mum but also a reminder to keep doing the repair work, the healing, the restoration – and the building. To keep evolving and changing. The solitary small flag pointing back to the solitary girl is like a salute to those who feel they're not getting anywhere right now. It's brave to sit with yourself. By yourself. It's also brave to make these regular stops to question and work out where and how to?

Much like the little boat, this is often a painstakingly difficult process of scraping back the old layers that are no longer doing the job and undercoating yourself with all the wisdom, strength and lessons learnt from the path to who you are now. Pass it on...it might give those around you the nod to make more regular stops along their way, as you might do more of yourself....

SEARCH Blog for previous boat-like posts....[‘World Won’t Wait’](#) poem about despair and repair and a little boat. [‘I Want A Recracker’](#), a story about a boy in a wolf suit who has a sadness shield. And [Lost Stories](#).

Posted: 15 May, 2015 / Written & Illustrated J Browne

