

# Stand Up Guy

Mark Knopfler

Brew the coffee in a bucket  
Double straight man and banjo  
If you don't got the snake oil  
Buster, you don't got a show  
Who puts the do re me in our pockets  
Keeps the party goin' on?  
It's the man who sells the potions  
I'm just the one who plays the songs Now they generally buys  
The bigger size  
They usually rub it in  
I drank it once, it tasted  
Like grease and paraffin  
It's mostly alcohol, okay  
You can't deny it's strong  
We was goin' through the motions  
'Til the doctor came along There stands the bottle  
Ladies and gentlemen  
All these bottles  
Don't have to tell you, friends  
These days miracles  
Don't come fallin' from the sky  
Raise your glasses to the doctor  
To a stand up guy When the monkey shine is flyin'  
And he's promisin' the cure  
He says the French for your lovesick blues  
La maladie d'amour  
He gets the chumps all laughin'  
But he gets a few to buy  
Here's a beefsteak when you're hungry  
And whiskey when you're dry Now the band'll blow their moolah  
Like sailors gone ashore  
Now we're goin' to West Helena  
To gamble, drink and whore  
Let's you and me all make whoopee  
Here's mud in your eye  
Here's to all the gals he ever want  
And Heaven when you die And there stands the bottle  
Ladies and gentlemen  
All these bottles

Don't have to tell you, friends  
These days miracles  
Don't come fallin' from the sky  
Raise your glasses to the doctor  
To a stand up guy There's a big cheese with a cigar  
Been sizin' up the show  
He wants to get the doctor  
Pitchin' on the radio  
I will make a switch to guitar  
But the rules all still apply  
They want to trust somebody  
Yeah, they want a stand up guy There stands the bottle  
Here's to absent friends  
All these bottles  
Dead soldiers in the end  
These days miracles  
Don't come fallin' on from the sky  
Raise your glasses to the doctor  
To a stand up guy To the doctor  
A stand up guy

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