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 doh-re-me In our pockets Keeps the party going on? It's the man Who sells the potions I'm just 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 going 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 falling from the sky
Raise your glasses to the doctor
To a stand up guy

When the monkeyshine is flying And he's promising the cure He says the french For your lovesick blues La maladie d'amour He gets the chumps all laughing But he gets a few to buy Here's to 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 going 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 you ever want And heaven when you die

There stands the bottle
Ladies and gentlemen
All these bottles
Don't have to tell you, friends
These days miracles
Don't come falling from the sky
Raise your glasses to the doctor
To a stand up guy

There's a big cheese with a cigar Been sizing up the show
He wants to get the doctor
Pitching 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 falling from the sky
Raise your glasses to the doctor
To a stand up guy
To the doctor
A stand up guy