

## Drinking With Mickey Mantle

The Taxpayers

When I was five I was king of the yard, and my grandfather said  
I had one hell of an arm  
I remember learning his split-finger fastball, and all the tale  
s he would stretch with that famous Turner charm  
And by the fire pit in my old backyard, I used to sit transfixe  
d by his stories  
About the time him and Mickey Mantle drank all night long, spin  
ning yarns of all their former glories  
And I remember Christmas eve when I was ten and Ma told Grandpa  
he was wasting my time  
She sent him packing in the pouring rain; things were never qui  
te the same after that night  
But in the package he left under the tree was a new silver wris  
twatch addressed to his favorite grandson, Henry