

Randy Stark



Settles Tab, Enters Scrum
(Blames it on the boogie)

Settles Tab, Enters Scrum (Blames it on the boogie)

A story in verse

Randy Stark

Text copyright ©2017 Randy Stark
Cover Design by Neil D. Novello

All Rights Reserved

Settles Tab, Enters Scrum
(Blames it on the boogie)

Y'ALL THIS BOY

Just oh my gosh.
How do I even.
I mean.

WHAT HE DOES

Can you seriously just.

THIS IS A GUY THAT *LAST YEAR*

He goes to heaven to be with Jesus.
He's gone for the *day*.

(ASIDE)

How it doth excite her majesty.

IN FACT THIS KID

I remember reading an interview with him.

BOUNCING LIKE BASKETBALLS AT A SHOOTAROUND

Ideas.

NOW THAT GOLD IS SOLD BY THE BARREL

And oil don't ask.

THEY HAD TO MUTE THE TRIBUTES

After Peru.

I'M WONDERING IF THAT'S RIGHT NOW

The approach they are taking

Working to develop
The I in team.

WHAT MOST FOLKS DON'T KNOW IS THAT WHILE YES

It sort of failed, it was kind of a success, too.

WHENEVER YOU SEE A GUY JUMP IN FRONT OF A TRAIN

You have to ask yourself.

I LISTENED TO HER A COUPLE OF TIMES

But I can't stand her.

BACK THEN TO FEEL HEALTHY

You're doing 20 minutes, 40 minutes.
Now.

SHE SAID UM NO NO

She's gone.

WE'RE NOT LOOKING BACK

We're looking forward.

SUPER EASY

Very cool.

WINNING IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING

Defeating an opponent is simply a means to an end.

WELL WE'RE NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT

Until after we get back from India.

LIKE I SAID

That's behind us.

I THINK WHITE LOOKS CHEAP

If you want to know the truth.

WHICH HE'S JUST SO SHIPS

Docking and ships sailing.
They spent all their money.

DOGS ARE WEIRD LIKE PEOPLE

They kind of get along better
If they think life is fair.

I AM *NOT* WRONG

It looks cheap.

WOMEN ARE SMARTER THAN MEN

In fact my brother is trying
To keep up with his daughter.
She's too smart for him.
And she's only 4.
Of course I have to factor in
My brother's a dumb-ass.

THAT REMINDS ME

How old is your dog?

IT WILL LOOK LIKE THE CABINETS

In your mother's hallway.

HE'S THE TYPE OF DOG

He has hella energy.
A nice shiny coat.

IT'S WOMEN'S SOCCER

Followed by women's volleyball.

YES THEY WILL

They look cheap.
And ugly.

WE LIKE RESCUED HIM

He's ridiculous though.

HALF THE SAND IS ORANGE

Half the sand is blue.

WE WERE AT DOLPH'S PARENTS'

In Seaside Heights.

WE WERE HOW MANY?

Adults and kids and dogs.

HE NEEDS NEW SHOES

They *all* need new shoes.

THEY NEED SOMEONE WHO'LL SAY

OK you know what?

IT WAS LIKE WOW

She was like yeah.

BECAUSE AGAIN

Speaking of.
Hopefully.

I'LL NEVER FORGET

I can't remember which one but.

THEN OF COURSE

We always.

THE WAY SHE DESCRIBES IT

I was thinking about that this morning.

THE SORT OF SENSE IS

A month or so ago.
Two months.

YEAH NO ABSOLUTELY

The room lit up.

IF LIEDER WERE HORSES

Schubert would have taken the bus.

NEESHA IS SO DAMN HOT

I can't stress this enough.

THAT'S BUTTER MAMA

That's syrup baby.

BUT ANYWAY I DECIDED

Um no, that's Jalee.

ANYTIME ANYTHING GOES WRONG

Something's in retrograde.
Something about ions.

I TELL YOU WHAT THOUGH

That's the one thing.

IT'S GOING TO COST

What'd they say?

SIMONE

Holy shit.

HOURLY

Plus a hair differential.

WITH HER

It was *7 Year Bitch* or nothing.

AND THE ELEVATED LEVELS

But I mean.

SHE COULD ACCESS THE SWISS EMBASSY

From the third base side of the rubber.

SHOPPED AT THE OUTLETS

Saved \$6 trillion.

IT WAS LIKE WOW

She was like yeah.

THEY LOOK ALIKE

Their smiles and stuff.

I'M HALF THINKING

What exists exists.

GREETINGS FROM DENIAL

Wish you were here.

CAUTION TAPE

Thrown to the wind.

YEAH MY DAD

I get so frustrated

AND THE THING IS THAT

A few years back.

SETTLES TAB, ENTERS SCRUM

(Blames it on the boogie.)

THEY LOOK AT HIM LIKE HUH?

No no no no.
That's not your name.

HE TOTALLY DOES THIS

Which I will say I understand.

SUNSHINE

Moonlight.
Good times.
Boogie.

HE THINKS OF HIMSELF AS AN ARTIST OF THE AVANT-GARDE

In reality he's a courier.

MY MOTHER USED TO MAKE

What are they called?
Buttered something.

EVERY YEAR

Grandkids.
Great grandkids.

THEY GET GOOD GRADES

They play sports.
They're in ASB.

YEAH I DON'T KNOW

Like I said.
I heard this over the years.
And I guess.

IT'S BETTER IF

I mean you *can* do it like this.
But then I heard.

POET-INVOLVED SHOOTING

Sequences have consequences.

COMMITTING A FELONY WHILE ON PROBATION

Bankruptcy.
Divorce.
Boogie.

YOU KNOW HOW LIKE THE WATER IS TAKEN ABACK WHEN A NARWHAL YAWNS?

I made a bunch of phone calls yesterday.

BUT YEAH YOU

Not only that.

YOU KNOW LIKE WHAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT EARLIER

Boundaries.

THAT'S WHAT I WOULD SAY

I'd tell her straight up.

NOPE

Per their request.

WHAT'S THE GUY'S NAME

Who lived by you there in.

I KIND OF NOTICED

I figure they must.

I HAVE A KEY

But don't tell anybody.

WE CALLED MY COUSIN TO THANK HER

For the chocolate covered strawberries.

WOLVERINE YEAH

That guy was a stud.

WHY AREN'T YOU USING THE THING?

The top part.

SHE SAID BASICALLY

The same thing.

HE MARRIED THIS CHICK NAMED DEBBIE

Well my first wife was named Debbie.

OH WAIT

Today's Tuesday?
Then never mind.

SO SHE TOLD ME YESTERDAY SHE SAID

Go ahead.

YOU KNOW THEN LIKE

Trishawna and her two boys.

BETWEEN THE MUSIQUE CONCRETE SCENE IN NOWHERESVILLE AND THE
INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

Say goodbye to stubborn fat.

I TOLD HIM I SAID YOU KNOW

Not to give too much away but
I was *born* outside of the box.

WHAT NO

Wull.
Oh my gosh.

IT'S SNOWING KNEE AND HIP REPLACEMENTS

It's all over the news.

HE LOOK LIKE MY *TEACHER*

Is my teacher house a *strip* club?

OR A RIDGE OF HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

Or the Lord is my shepherd.

HOW BAD DOES IT HAVE TO GET?

I *said* how *bad* does it have to *get*?

NOW WHERE'S FUCKING SAHIR?

Come *on* Sahir let's *go*.

WHICH I WENT OUT

Which I shouldn't have done.

A BAD DAY

Oh, the darksome snakes!

Oh, the mental shorepound!

DOOMED BUT COMPULSIVE

Trishawna calls me and she says Mom are you ok?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP REMINDING ME

I know I know.

Get in the car.

LEFTOVER SLOWING

East side, North end, the Valley.

WHICH THE OTHER THING TOO IS

The crumble doesn't go with the dish.

AND SUDDENLY THEY'RE SENDING ME BACK

To the independent testing lab with drop cloths and a stool kit.

I SAID MAYBE IT'S NONTHREATENING

Open your fucking ears.

THEY HAVE A LITTLE LIKE TABLET

And then they just like do a little drawing.

MY HEART IS BROKEN

On so many levels.

A MASKED BALL ADVISORY REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL DAWN

And I'm thinking.

SUPER MEGA FANTASY POWER

Play your lucky numbers.

NOW IT'S EASIER THAN EVER

To get the pain relief you need.

ABLUTIONS

Walk-ins welcome.

ONE GUY MUSTAFAA

He's a senior requisition analyst.

IS THAT THE ONE

Or the other one.

IT ROCKS

It *so* does.

I TOLD HER

I said I mean.

HE JUST KIND OF HAS THIS

Sort of inner understanding.

YEAH ACTUALLY

Well because you know.

OH WELL OK

I'll reach out to him.

SURE WHAT OH

I thought.

WE I AM THIS

You know where uh.

DO YOU SEE

The other one.

Oh OK then.

IT WHIPPED SOMETHING UP INSIDE ME

Not sure what.

THAT ONE LOOKS NICE, TOO

Kind of a little.

SHE'S CRAZY

She's in theatre.
So she's not.

I SEE HER ON FACEBOOK

She's a busy bee.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

Zong, do you sense anything weird?

AND THEN TO BE HONEST

I read the first two back to back.

NO BUT UM

Oh what's his name.
He's fond of hermits.

I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE

With the dinner plate
Button on the microwave.

TWO OR THREE OUNCES

I don't know.
Of killer bud.

YEAH BUT EVEN THEN NO

So I asked Damaris.

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE IN THE TUB HONEY

The wine is chilling.

ME AND HER

Enough to last us.

I WANT YOU TO HELP ME

Pick out some pillows.

WE WERE EXCHANGING LIKE

Creepy guy stories.
And there was this one.

IT'S THE YEAH

It makes you like huh?

BY THE SAME TOKEN

Eight French horns.

SOME RANDOM ASSOCIATE

In small appliances.

IF YOU EVER TRIED TO DO STAIRS IN A STRAIGHT LEG CAST

It's like.

I DON'T KNOW WHERE HE'S FROM

Greece or somewhere.

BUT THE DEAL OF IT IS

She said her thing was this.

YOU UBERED YOUR ASS OVER THERE

You can Uber your ass home.

I HAVE THE ANSWER

Fuck what you heard.

WHEN SHE SAID THAT YOU KNOW

I said honey.

NO LIKE

I mean right?

THREE WORDS

Smart bonus cash.

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE

I wonder.

AND HER MOTHER

So OK.

ARE THEY MADE IN L.A.?

Like by a company?

I SAID YOU KNOW WHAT

That's between you and her.

I'M SOMEBODY WHO IS

But I have never been one to.

MY CLINICAL TRIAL COORDINATOR

Is the cutest thing ever.

I FEEL LIKE HEY

Don't think just because.

YEAH YOU'RE JUST SITTING THERE

And you're like not even there.

SO THEN ANYWAYS SO

Air France to Moscow.

I WAS THERE OR

Was I there?

I'VE HEARD OTHER PEOPLE SAY THAT

I'm like OK cool.

TRACKING SHOT

Casinos, libraries, old men driving old women great distances.

ALL OF A SUDDEN IT'S LIKE

Blurhg blurhg blurhg.

And I'm like wait a minute.

WHEN GERRY GETS HOME

Alan goes Gerry there's pizza right there.

THE THING IS

Who is Alan?

Who is Gerry?

But yeah.

SKIPPING TO 7

You already know how to do 6?

Then let's skip to 7.

¡HOLA Y'ALL!

I'm the Identity Management administrator.

WELL WHAT I DID

I went and I took.

KICKING OFF AT A SPECIAL TIME

Shoulder wink.

SO WHAT'S HE UP TO

Wait you know what.

BUT I THINK THAT'S ACTUALLY A SUPER INTERESTING POINT YOU RAISE

That I just want to.

WAS IT?

No I mean.

I SUPER SUPER LOVE

That certain slant of light shit.

YOUR HAIR

I *love* your roots.

End