

SWORDFISH TROMBONE

TOM WAITS

Am

WELL HE CAME HOME FROM THE WAR

E

WITH A PARTY IN HIS HEAD

E

Am

AND MODIFIED BROUGHAM DEVILLE

Am

AND A PAIR OF LEGS THAT OPENED UP

e

LIKE BUTTERFLY WINGS

E

Am

AND A MAD DOG THAT WOULDN'T SIT STILL

Dm

Am

HE WENT AND TOOK UP WITH A SALVATION ARMY BAND GIRL

Dm

Am

WHO PLAYED DIRTY WATER ON A SWORDFISH TROMBONE

Dm

Am

HE WENT TO SLEEP AT THE BOTTOM OF TENKILLER LAKE

B

E7

AND HE SAID "GEE, BUT IT'S GREAT TO BE HOME."

WELL HE CAME HOME FROM THE WAR

WITH A PARTY IN HIS HEAD

AND AN IDEA FOR A FIREWORKS DISPLAY

AND HE KNEW THAT HE'D BE READY WITH

A STAINLESS STEEL MACHETE

AND A HALF A PINT OF BALLENTINE'S EACH DAY

AND HE HOLED UP IN ROOM ABOVE A HARDWARE STORE

CRYIN' NOTHING THERE BUT HOLLYWOOD TEARS

AND HE PUT A SPELL ON SOME POOR LITTLE CRUTCHFIELD GIRL

AND STAYED LIKE THAT FOR 27 YEARS

WELL HE PACKED UP ALL HIS

EXPECTATIONS HE LIT OUT FOR CALIFORNIA

WITH A FLYSWATTER BANJO ON HIS KNEE

WITH A LUCKY TIGER IN HIS ANGEL HAIR

AND BENZEDRINE FOR GETTING THERE

THEY FOUND HIM IN A EUCALYPTUS TREE

LIEUTENANT GOT HIM A CANARY BIRD

AND SHAKED HER HEAD WITH EVERY WORD

AND CHESTERFIELDED MOONBEAMS IN A SONG

AND HE GOT 20 YEARS FOR LOVIN' HER FROM SOME OKLAHOMA GOVERNOR
SAID EVERYTHING THIS DOUGHBOY DOES IS WRONG

NOW SOME SAY HE'S DOING
THE OBITUARY MAMBO
AND SOME SAY HE'S HANGING ON THE WALL
PERHAPS THIS YARN'S THE ONLY THING
THAT HOLDS THIS MAN TOGETHER
SOME SAY HE WAS NEVER HERE AT ALL

SOME SAY THEY SAW HIM DOWN IN BIRMINGHAM,
SLEEPING IN A BOXCAR GOING BY
AND IF YOU THINK THAT YOU CAN TELL A BIGGER TALE
I SWEAR TO GOD YOU'D HAVE TO TELL A LIE...

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