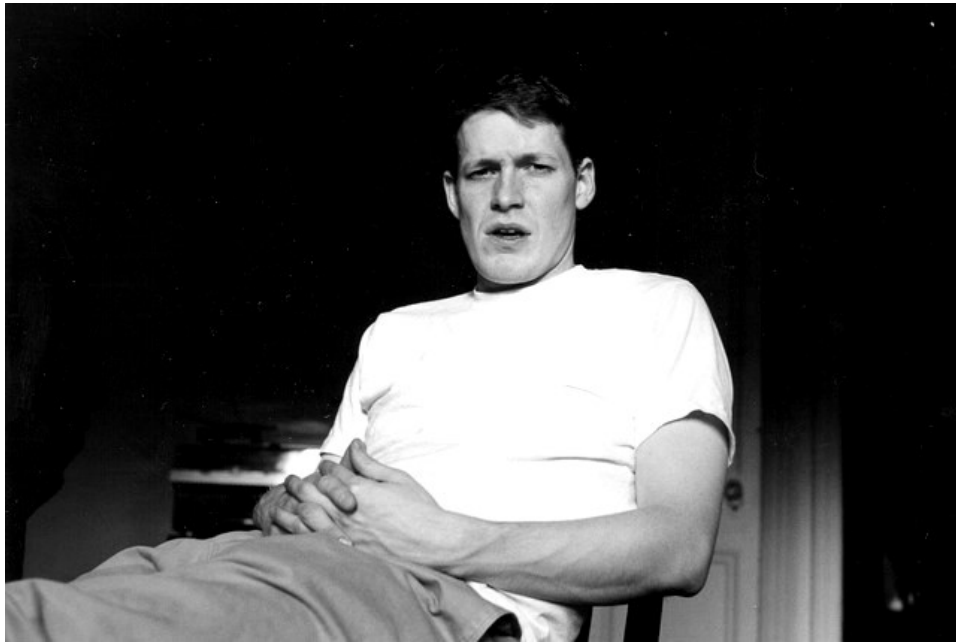


# **Alex Battles**



## **Rocketships & Jars of Beer**

**All songs by Alex Battles (BMI) Copyright, 2009**

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**Alex Battles, vocals, guitar, & production**

**Special thanks to Dock Oscar**

**Cover photo by Nathan J. A. Humphrey**

## **Off The Wagon**

**I gave up smoking cigarettes the day you said to me  
Oh honey I know you like 'em but I got this allergy  
And then I quit my boozin' when you found me in the gutter  
The look on that sad face of yours it made me start to stutter**

**So I cut out all my wicked ways my lyin' and my thievin'  
Then I come home and find a note that tells me that you're leaving  
Now this is not a point of pride so don't you think I'm braggin  
But when you put me out last night you knocked me off the wagon.**

**I'm off the wagon and I'm going back to drinking  
I'm off the wagon and I'm going back to thinking  
For sin is the sword and your memory is the dragon  
Oh I got to get you offa my mind you knocked me off the wagon**

**Now when I met you baby you was pure as driven snow  
You told me that you loved me but my habits had to go  
So I went through every single step from one on up to twelve  
And now you find another man and put me on the shelf**

**I'm off the wagon and I'm going back to whoring  
I'm off the wagon and I'm going back to snoring  
Oh this is not a point of pride so doing you think I'm braggin'  
But when you put me out last night you knocked me off the wagon**

**I'm going back to drinking in this big old empty house  
Your leavin's all it took to go from sober man to souse  
For sin is the sword and your memory is the dragon  
When you put me out last night you knocked me off the wagon**

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## **Turn the Other Cheek**

**I tried whisky, and I tried roses to make you understand  
If you just kissed me, my heart supposes you just might leave your man  
But at your front door and in your parlour, you keep your sweet lips dry  
Oh I guess I should try harder, as I keep wondering why**

**Why do you turn the other cheek  
I'm not trying to start a fight  
Don't you know that all I seek  
Is just a kiss goodnight**

**For some reason I keep trying. Whereas a smarter man  
Would say you're teasing, cause you keep frying my huevos in your pan  
But when you're smiling and watching fireworks on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July  
At Coney Island oh how my heart hurts, as I keep wondering why**

## **Chorus**

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## **Queen of Ogallala**

**Casey was a princess  
Discovered at the mall  
From the Ogallala fashion show  
She followed New York's call**

**Casey and her mother  
Took a room near Times Square  
New York is a fine place to visit  
But don't leave your daughter there**

**Take your daughter back to Nebraska  
Don't leave her in this town  
She's the Queen of Ogallala  
But the city will steal her crown**

**Casey walked the runways  
Her mother went back home  
Her beauty sleep was restless  
She hit the town alone**

**To the wolves who live on Wall St.  
She was just a one night prize  
They crushed a flower of the prairie  
Now she sits at St. Patrick's and cries**

**Chorus**

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## **Changin' My Change**

**Well last week I ran out of credit  
Chase Visa ain't having me no more  
I got a few guitars  
and a few receipts from bars  
But other than that, I'm just poor**

**And I've got a girl coming over  
Whom I'd like to offer a nightcap  
But she won't get loose  
if I aint' got no booze  
Now where can I get the money for that?**

**I'm changin' my change into whisky  
I'm turning my coins into rye  
I cracked my piggy bank  
And I cranked up old Hank  
I'm broke but I'll be flying high**

**Well we ripped through that bottle in a jiffy  
For this great night I would like to thank  
My mamma and my papa for raising me so well  
And for buying me a piggy bank**

**Now she's sleeping in my bedroom  
And I fear that I am out of luck  
'Cause if she wants breakfast in the morning  
I'm 'a have to go fishing in my truck**

**Chorus**

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## **Half of What I Need**

**I got coffee, but no cream  
I got a bed to sleep in but no dreams  
I got dumplings, but no stew  
I got half of what I need, but not you.**

**I got bacon, but no eggs  
I got a Lite Brite board but no pegs  
I got an unmade model airplane but no glue  
I got half of what I need, but not you.**

**I got pretzels, but no beer.  
I got a hamper full of laundry, but no Cheer.**

**I got cereal but no milk.  
I got caterpillars but no silk.  
I got a fondue pot, but no fondue.  
I got half of what I need, but not you.**

**I got Scrabble, but no Clue.  
I got half of what I need, but not you.**

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## **Bonnie Tyler**

**She took her eyebrow piercing out  
the summer before she went to work at the agency  
Now the battles she fights under fluorescent lights  
Smack of complacency**

**What happened to the girl in the punk rock group  
Was she meant for a life in a cube  
Working late, just a dot in the Manhattan night  
Squeezing toothpaste into a tube**

**But she's still Bonnie Tyler on a Saturday night  
At the karaoke bar  
Booze swirls round her brain like a Lionel train  
As she sings "Total Eclipse of the Heart"**

**Her face is reflected in her computer screen  
As she turns to the spreadsheet at hand  
She ain't got a co-op or a 401K  
But she's thinking about starting a band**

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## **Community Property (aka This Bar Is Mine)**

**I was drinking in my favorite bar when my ex walked in the door  
I said 'honey I thought I told you not to come around here no more  
When you left I told you just where I drew the line  
I said you can have everything but babe this bar is mine**

**I gave you the TV I left you with the cat  
I said keep your Joy of Cooking and my Cleveland Indians hat  
And in the fridgerator was a jug of Gallo wine  
I said drink that anywhere you want, except the bar, that's mine.**

**Why must you disrespect our divorce settlement  
I've been following all the rules like a perfect gentleman  
You got my toaster oven and my sofa that reclines  
And I druther you were sitting there eating toast  
Cause babe this bar is mine**

**You got get your own bar. I like this one here.  
This is where my friends hang out and drink Pabst Blue Ribbon beer.  
And I can't pitch a perfect game if you're stealing all my signs  
I told you once I told you twice, hey babe this bar is mine.**

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## **Honky Tonk Radio Girl**

**Turn your radio on, her program is a starting  
Her voice is as smooth as a pearl  
Introducing Hank and Buck and Dolly Parton  
She's your Honky Tonk Radio Girl**

**Hear that vinyl popping on the airwaves  
From the signal tower into your little world  
Lord knows all the hopeless hearts that she saves  
She's your Honky Tonk Radio Girl**

**She's been known to take requests  
and have on some special guests  
Can't you see those dancing skirts a twirl?**

**A man sits at home alone on Christmas  
She brings him Patsy Cline and Merle  
With her gifts of country gold, you know who this is  
She's your Honky Tonk Radio Girl**

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### **Old Blue Pickup**

**I wish I was an old blue pickup  
Who could take you where you want to go  
We'd bump along on the highway  
Singing songs on my AM radio**

**We could get hitched out in Vegas  
Hitched up to an old RV  
Or we could find an old horse trailer  
Somewhere in the hills of Tennessee**

**Maybe one day we'd be our riding  
I'd find you an old gold mine  
We'd fill the bed up with nuggets  
And trade it for a cellar full of wine.**

### **Chorus**

**Baby we could head out to Wyoming  
The land you love so much  
It's a long lonely drive and not too hilly  
It's oh so easy on my clutch**

### **Chorus**

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## **Last Thing I Needed**

**When you walked into the bar, I was drinking from a jar  
And I knew then that I was defeated  
Because I remembered how someone like you had brought me down  
Oh darling you're the last thing I needed**

**The last thing I needed was a girl that I could love  
Someone who would leave me feeling cheated  
Every time I give my heart, somebody breaks it all apart  
Oh darlin' you're the last thing I needed**

**I decided to stop thinking so I just kept on drinking  
More whisky as you drank more wine  
Underneath the weather pine our hands intertwined  
Still that thought kept on running through my mind**

**The last thing I needed was a girl that I could love  
Someone who would leave me feeling cheated  
Every time I give my heart, somebody breaks it all apart  
Oh darlin' you're the last thing I needed**

**Now the years have gone by and I still don't know why  
Our romance has thus far succeeded  
Still I guess that I was right when I said that first night  
Oh darlin' you're the last thing I needed**

**The last thing I needed was a girl that I could love  
But you didn't leave me feeling cheated  
Once you gave me your heart, girl I knew from the start  
That you were the last thing I needed  
It turned out you were the last thing I needed**

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## **Jesus Wore Flip Flops**

**Soaking in my kiddie pool, drinking Chardonnay  
The old lady's hollering, you're gonna waste your day  
Then a radio preacher starts talking 'bout sin  
And working for Salvation and all the trouble I'm in**

**Well Jesus wore flip flops and Jesus drank wine  
I get more like Jesus all of the time  
He didn't have much money, but he had good friends  
He did a whole lot of fishing on his weekends**

**Once I quit shaving, I grew myself a beard.  
The boss man told me, son you look real weird  
Our company policy, says no facial hair  
Then they went and fired me, but I don't care**

### **Chorus**

**My revelations about my heavenly ways  
Revealed my inclination to go fishing all day  
In my leaky bass boat, I started talking 'bout sin  
Then my best buddy Judas, he went and pushed me in.**

### **Chorus**

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## **Empire State**

**Can you see me at the top of the Empire State  
The view is oh so great from here  
Do you remember our little southern place  
We flew in Peaceful grace my dear**

**I'm on top of the city and it's such a pity  
I cannot enjoy the view  
I've got cool clear weather, so I'll drop a feather  
In memory of you**

**We'd look through windows, living on windowsills  
Huddled up from chills and rain  
Until the morning I left you sleeping tight  
I only said goodnight, but not goodbye**

**I'd give up my flying and crawl for a lifetime  
To have our home back again  
In the darkest night, it shone like a beacon  
And guided me home like a friend**

**Repeat first verse**

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## **Ice Cream Social**

**I opened up my freezer to get my beer some ice  
And what I found in there brought tears to my eyes  
The Chunky Monkey looked at me, as did the sorbet  
They both said we're sorry that she left you that way**

**Now we're having an ice cream social  
on my kitchen floor  
We're having an ice cream social  
She cleaned out her half 'a drawer**

**They said it's cold in here please let us go  
We're truly sorry you're no longer her beau  
And 9 out of 10 doctors agree that it's so  
Ice cream makes you happy in case you didn't know**

**Well I still miss that girl but I can put you guys out of your misery  
Because I'm just a little messed up and a little more hungry  
They were smiling as I ate 'em. That's the one thing I could tell  
Free as they were to be covered in Magic Shell.**

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