

## Joe Ely "Standin' at the Big Hotel"

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I was standin' at a big hotel  
Wishin' everybody well  
But if anybody paid me, any mind it was hard to tell

A big policeman on his beat  
Pulled his pistol and he pointed at me  
Lookin' down the barrel I could see the gates of hell  
Standin' at a big hotel

So I went walkin' down the avenue  
Lookin' for someone who looked like you  
But I never saw a face that seemed to ring a bell

I stopped beside the five and dime  
Just window shoppin' and wastin' time  
When along came a gal who sold me all she had to sell  
She left me standin' at a big hotel

I lost my mind in the wilds of Hollywood  
And I did some time in the shadows where I stood  
I let the cards fall where they fell  
And then I found myself standin' at a big hotel

A blind lady with a old tin cup  
Had her pencils all sharpened up  
She was standin' in the door just to see what she could  
sell

But nobody bought a thing all night  
They just thought she was a pitiful sight  
Now the Lord helps the gal who helps herself  
Standin' at a big hotel

Oh, but I know what you're thinkin' today  
I can feel it though I'm miles away  
Everybody knows I love my southern belle

But from the east to the wild, wild west  
They say a bird in the hand is best  
Here I am with a bird dog and a bottle of muscatel  
Standin' at a big hotel

I lost my mind in the wilds of Hollywood  
And then I did some time in the shadows where I stood  
I let the cards fall where they fell  
And then I found myself standin' at a big hotel  
Yeah, I found myself standin' at a big hotel

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