

The Hold Steady

"Spectres"

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Projectionists and publicists, athletes and comedians
Photographers and columnists, subscribers and
enthusiasts
Participants and spectators, the ragers and the clever
kids
We're all actors and actresses

I want to thank you all for having me
A special thanks to the academy
for birthing me and blessing me
with this fantastic opportunity
to let the light shine down on me
Now let us grieve for dead celebrities
We know them all from all the magazines

We photograph the carcasses,
We hang them up on canvasses
We're all actors and actresses

Maybe our anxiety
lives in the spaces in between
who we really are
and what we want to be
and the things that we let other people see
when all we really want
is to be in magazines

Found dead on dirty mattresses, bleeding through the
bandages
Cops are surveying the damages and sending out for
sandwiches
They photographed the carcasses and hang them up
on canvasses
We're all actors and actresses

I guess we all got pretty close
I guess we all got pretty close
I guess we all got pretty close to the roles we chose to
play
I guess we all got pretty close, I swear I saw him right
by 7A

We see our friends six pages and right behind the
president
(We're actors and we're actresses)
The office girls are offering their take on what went
wrong with him
(We're actors and we're actresses)
They're covering the carcass, they're bleeding and
remembering
(we're actors and we're actresses)
We're all actors and actresses, we're all actors and
actresses
(We're actors and we're actresses)

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