

# The Last Man Standing

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## The Last Man Standing

Entering the booming club  
**Mirrorshades and leather**  
Blonde tied back tight ponytail  
**Doc Martins and red lips**

Black jeans torn and fashion ripped  
**Trenchcoat hiding her form**  
Silence her attribution  
**So young and cold and hip**

Loud bass beating down the youth  
**Assaulting the senses**  
Budweiser dominating  
**Cards falling into place**

The Marks were in force and warm  
**Rough lot of burly flesh**  
Spending their hard earned dollar  
**Praying for a slight taste**

The elemental trickster  
**Magic with jade cards**  
I con the hopeful helpless  
**To grift and steal and lie**

The first game quickly began  
**The cards openly dealt**  
Losing winning losing win  
**Building up, bleeding dry**

Time passes - club falls silent  
**Five am - early light**  
Red rimmed eyes of my rivals  
**All eyes upon my cards**

She sat there on the barstool  
**Motionless and silent**  
Cigarette between her lips  
**Her face still cold and hard**

The Ben Franklins are stacked high  
**The Marks took their chances**  
Deceiving them one and all  
**Quartet of aces mine**

Luckless bastards, took them all  
**Pay soon in my pocket**  
Count it later - time to leave  
**Before they see the signs**

Rough hands dump the stained table  
**Bens vanish from my hands**  
Shattered glass upon the floor  
**Anger reddened faces**

Cold steel appeared in their hands  
**Flash into existence**  
Wicked line of cruel edges  
**Grabbed from hiding places**

Cocking of a brutal gun  
**Appears o'er my shoulder**  
Her breath upon my chilled neck  
**Her presence now handy**

Sixteen shots, one up the pipe  
**Nine mill black Beretta**  
They knew now why she was here  
**Defense, not eye candy.**

Emotionless composure  
**Cools their impotent rage**  
Force them to decide the loss  
**Their lives or their money**

I walk away, fearless free  
**Pockets thousands richer**  
She's cooler than an ice box  
**Smooth and sweet as honey**

Blinding bright the burning globe  
**Sleep calling on the train**  
Never second-guess the Mark  
**Guilt is weak, do you see?**

I watch the black clad goddess  
**White mane glints from the sun**  
Shimmer of her mirrorshades  
**My face stares back at me**

Hiding behind her black frames  
**Cold towards the outer world**  
From what, I'm afraid to ask  
**She's impenetrable**

Legs boundless beneath the coat  
**Shadows stretching back to me**  
As we ascend to the flat  
**Home sweet home – bearable**

Smelling stale like stagnation  
**Tap of water dripping**  
No bigger than a matchbox  
**Bed, a sink, a bureau**

Coat thrown, naked in moments  
**Dual holsters on her hips**  
The shades never leave her eyes  
**She's so calm and thorough**

Lock goes click, I shuck my clothes  
**Franklins bulge my pockets**  
Count them later – oh my yes  
**Join her she beckons me**

She demands my submission  
**Engulfing me wholly**  
Relinquish control to her  
**Selfish intimacy**

Intrusion, confusion, door  
**Hinges snap, open eyes, fear**  
Mirrorshades above – fearless  
**Marks in her silent eyes**

Bang, bang, coughs a sound I know  
**Onto her back she falls**  
Believe death has come to her  
**Streams of steel screams by**

Phoenix rises above me  
**Twin nine mills in her hands**  
Barking like dogs, triggers flutter  
**Hot casings dance around**

Screams of pain, moans of fading  
**Dealing death from both hands**  
Thirty-two spent in a moment  
**Righteous judgment of sound**

I cry out in senseless fear  
**Each shot clamps down on me**  
My cohort climaxes with  
**Each pull of the trigger**

Burning acrid fills the room  
**Distress overcomes me**  
The blank smile on her face  
**Something didn't figure**

Rising, arms outstretched towards  
**Anguished voice - not dead yet**  
Bang! Bang! Avenging angel  
**Cold violent murdering**

Her armor returns – boots, coat  
**I leap, hearing sirens**  
But she's gone, leaving me there  
**As the last man standing**

end