

Arthur "Stag" Garrard – 90-second monologue

fName~~s~~.Arthur.Garrard;j;j.but.everyone.calls.me.Stag;j.Probably.because.I~~n~~.too.
stubborn.to.know.when.I~~ve~~.lost;jf

See, I worked on the surface at the mine. Didn't go underground, but I saw what the miners went through every day. So when they went on strike for better pay and safer conditions, I thought, ~~f~~air.enough~~?~~and I joined 'em.

Well... the strike finished, I went back to work... and the boss says, fYou~~ve~~.sacked*f

The miners heard about it and marched straight back out on strike. fNo.Stag?no.work*f
Now that's what I call good mates.

The boss finally gave in... but only because he reckoned he'd found the perfect way to make a fool of me.

fRight.then?Stag;j.Every.day.you~~x~~.push.a.wheelbarrow.full.of.coal.three.miles.uphill.into.
Korumburra;j;j.then.bring.back.chaff.for.the.pit.ponies;jf

I said, fOnly.one.barrow?.You~~ve~~.going.easy.on.me*f

Next thing I know, the whole town's waiting for me! They're cheering, buying me beers, patting me on the back. The newspapers got hold of it, and suddenly I'm famous... all because I had a wheelbarrow!

Now the boss wasn't too pleased about that.

One night my barrow disappeared.

So I did the sensible thing—I reported it stolen to the police.

They found it all right...

...in the **mine manager's own backyard!**

Best part?

He thought I was going to be the joke.

Turns out... the only thing he managed to push downhill... was his own reputation!