

Ragtown

Rod Clements

Rod Clements was a member of the U.K. band Lindisfarne. This is a solo song from decades

later about the building of the Hoover (Boulder) Dam in the 1930s. Odd Man Out Album/CD 2006.

References to his work:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rod_Clements

<http://www.rodcléments.com/lf.html>

<http://www.allmusic.com/artist/rod-cléments-mn0000291833/biography>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQM5XLYGHMQ>

Well I m working in the canyon, I ve got a shovel in my hand
To put a dam across the river, bring power to the land
The sun s beating like a hammer, everyday it s the same
Then I lay me down in Ragtown, beneath a blanket on a frame

Well I was tunneling the bedrock, I thought I had it made
But the heat got to me, they sent the ice brigade
They brought water and a stretcher, layed me up all day
Then they sent me back to Ragtown, I got no pay

Well there s a jumbo drilling, and a spoil leak filling
It s 97 in the shade, there s a great day coming
When the turbines are humming, if we only get the damn thing made

Sometimes I get to wonder, if I can make it through
I hear the dynamite thunder, I see the wrecking crew
St. Peter don t you worry, send me anywhere

Long as it ain't Ragtown, then I don't care

F#m

There's a scaldman swinging, and a pickhead ringing

A Don't it look a long way down, keep your hat on tight

D **E**

You're gonna be all right, if you only keep your feet on the ground

A **D**

Come on little honey, come on and say you will

A I got enough to get a house built, up in Boulderville

A I'll pay a quarter on the dollar, to the company man

A **E** **A**
And if it gets us out of Ragtown, I'll do it if I can

A **E** **A**
And if it gets us out of Ragtown, I'll do it if I can

A **E** **F#m**

D A E A

And if it gets us out of Ragtown, I'll do it if I can