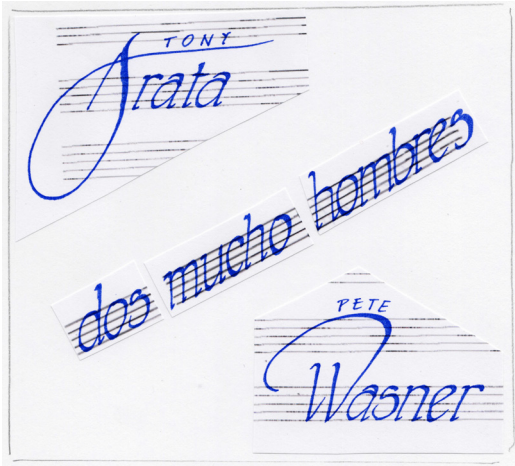


Pete WASNER • Tony Arata



*For reasons I still wonder about, Pat Alger gave me a stage to play on when nobody else would, and Jellyroll Johnson used to back me up at every open-mic night. Regardless of reason, I am grateful to still be in their company. They don't make better players than these two, nor friends. I thank them for helping me out with this and several other songs. I also have to say that nothing can top the first time I heard Patty Loveless sing this. I rode around with the tape in my truck for hours.*

## Here I Am

(Tony Arata)

Don't do it darling—don't you dare look in there  
You said you didn't want to see me  
But you've been looking for me everywhere  
And you know that you're gonna find me  
If you keep on drinkin' fast  
'Cause honey I'm right there waiting for you  
At the bottom of your glass

*Here I am*

*Here I am*

*In the bourbon and the water  
that burn you just like a brand*

*Here I am*

It ain't working darling  
Hard as you may try  
You keep hearing the words you told me  
In every man's good-bye  
And you know that you're just one step  
From another one being gone  
I know I've seen them all unravel  
I've been watching you all along

*Here I am*

*Here I am*

*In every lie you're hearing  
that burn you just like a brand*

*Here I am*

Darling I got over you passing me over  
a long time ago  
And my pride was stronger  
when I was younger  
Now I'd rather have you know

*That here I am*

*Here I am*

*I still carry a flame for you  
Burning me like a brand*

*Here I am*