

## The Stand-Up Doc

By Rand Higbee

Rand.Higbee@Yahoo.com

(The DOC is a youngish male, in his 30s or so, Doctor. He is just sitting down to talk to a patient.)

DOC

Ralph, brace yourself. You've only got three months to live.

(A beat, then he bursts out in laughter.)

No, no. It's only indigestion. Here, I'll write you up a prescription.

(Gets out a notepad, but then laughs some more.)

I tell you, buddy. You should have seen the look on your face! It was priceless! You were like "Ahhhhh! I'm going to die! I'm going die!"

(He laughs some more.)

All in good fun. You know what they say the best medicine is, right? Laughter! That's me! I provide the laughter! Of course, your blood pressure just shot way up so maybe that's not such good medicine, but I sure got a kick out of it. I hadn't laughed that hard in a long time. So thank you. Thank you. I'm here all week!

(Laughs.)

So I'm going to write a prescription for some Omeprazole. It'll cure your stomach problems right up. But no refills! Because you'll be dead in three months!

(Laughs some more, then quickly sobers up.)

Okay, Ralph. Put it down. Put it down! Put down the jar of tongue depressors!