

# Stone For Bessie Smith

## Dory Previn

isn't it amazing  
shakes you to the bone  
she bought a stone  
for bessie smith  
she bought bessie smith  
a stone  
she got it for  
her grave-site  
on a temporary loan  
but she forgot  
she had not paid  
for her own  
she forgot she had not paid  
she forgot she had not paid  
after all the contracts  
and arrangements had been made  
she went to bessie's grave  
and marked it with a stone  
but she still  
had to pay for her own  
she went home  
to her class reunion  
where a class-mate  
he confessed  
she wouldn't want this  
getting out  
but she used to be the best  
in school she was a nice girl  
as descent as the rest  
though she never was  
conservatively dressed  
isn't it amazing  
you think she could've known  
she bought a stone  
for bessie smith  
she bought bessie smith  
a stone  
she got it for  
her grave-site  
on a temporary loan  
but she forgot

she had not paid  
for her own  
she forgot she had not paid  
she forgot she had not paid  
no sooner had the letters  
on the deed begun to fade  
when her ashes had been scattered  
been battered and been blown  
she still had to pay  
for her own  
she knew  
miss gloria swanson  
on a tv show they met  
they talked across  
a hundred years  
miss gloria's with us yet  
but janis was a gambler  
who'd already lost a bet  
and the time had come  
to settle up  
her debtisn't it amazing  
shakes you to the bone  
she bought a stone  
for bessie smith  
she bought bessie smith  
a stone  
she got it up  
for bessie  
on a temporary loan  
but she forgot  
she had not paid  
for her own.

Song Discussions is protected by U.S. Patent 9401941. Other patents pending.

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