

# I've Got What It Takes, But It Breaks My Heart To

## Bessie Smith

Oh, stingy Ginny saved up all her pennies  
Straight to the bank she would go  
The sharks would have their hands around her  
But none could get her dough

Ginny's fellow was a slick high yeller  
Sent away to jail one day  
He cried for bail then turned real pale  
When I heard Ginny say

I've got what it takes  
But it breaks my heart to give it away

It's in demand, they want it everyday  
I've been saving it up for a long, long time  
To give it away would be more than a crime

Your eyes may roll, your teeth may grit  
But none of my money will you get  
You can look at my bank book  
But I'll never let you feel my purse

Oh the one woman  
Who believes in safety first, safety first  
And if you want my money, here's my plan  
I'm saving it up for a real good man

I've got what it takes  
But it breaks my heart to give it away  
I've got what it takes  
But it breaks my heart to give it away

It's in demand, folks crying for it every day  
I've been saving it up for a long, long time  
To give it away would be more than a crime

Your eyes may roll, your teeth may grit  
But none of this small change will you get  
You can look at my bank book

But I'll never let you put your hands on my purse

Lord, I'm one woman  
Who believes in safety first, safety first  
And if you want my money, here's my plan  
I'm not saving it up for those naked man

I've got what it takes  
But it breaks my heart to give it away

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written by C. WILLIAMS, H. JENKINS

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