

Up On Cripple Creek

The Band (1970)

[Verse 1]

A D
When I get off of this mountain, you know where I want to go?
A D E
Straight down the Mississippi River to the Gulf of Mexico.
A D
To Lake Charles, Louisiana, little Bessie, a girl who I once knew.
A D E
She told me just to come on by if there's anything that she could do.

[Chorus]

A
Up on Cripple Creek, she sends me.
D
If I spring a leak, she mends me.
E
I don't have to speak, she defends me.
F#m G
A drunkard's dream if I ever did see one.

[Verse 2]

A D
Good luck had just stung me, to the race track I did go.
A D E
She bet on one horse to win and I bet on another to show.
A D
The odds were in my favor, I had 'em five to one.
A D E
That nag to win came around the track, sure enough she had won.

[Chorus]

[Verse 3]

A D
I took up all of my winnings and I gave little Bessie half.
A D E
She tore it up and threw it in my face a just for a laugh.
A D
And there's one thing in the whole wide world I sure would like to see.
A D E
that's when that little love of mine dips her doughnut in my tea.

[Chorus]

[Verse 4]

A D
Me and my mate we were back at the shack, we had Spike Jones on the
box.
A D E
She says, "I can't take the way he sings, but I love to hear him talk."
A D
Now that just gave my heart a throb to the bottom of my feet.
A D E
And I swore as I took another pull, my Bessie can't be beat.

[Chorus]

[Yodel over]

|A |D |A |D |

|A |D |A |D |

[Verse 5]

There's a flood out in California and up north it's freezing cold.

And this living off the road is getting pretty old.

So I guess I'll call up my big mama, tell her I'll be rolling in.

But you know, deep down, I'm kind of tempted

To go and see my Bessie again.

[Chorus]

[Yodel over]

|A |D |A |D |

and fade