

# Stars

Janis Ian

I was never one for singing  
what I really feel  
Except tonight, I'm bringing  
everything I know that's real

Stars, they come and go  
They come fast or slow  
They go like the last light  
of the sun, all in a blaze  
and all you see is glory  
But it gets lonely there  
when there's no one here to share  
We can shake it away  
if you'll hear a story

People lust for fame  
Like athletes in a game  
we break our collarbones  
and come up swinging  
Some of us are downed  
Some of us are crowned  
and some are lost  
and never found  
But most have seen it all  
They live their lives in  
sad cafes and music halls  
They always have a story

Some make it when they're young  
before the world has  
done its dirty job  
and later on, someone will say  
"You've had your day  
You must make way"  
But they'll never know the pain  
of living with a name you never owned  
or the many years forgetting  
what you know too well

The ones who gave the crown  
have been let down  
You try to make amends  
without defending

Perhaps pretending  
you never saw the eyes  
of grown men of twenty five  
that followed as you walked  
and asked for autographs  
or kissed you on the cheek  
and you never could believe  
they really loved you

Some make it when they're old  
(Perhaps they have a soul  
they're not afraid to bare  
Or perhaps there's nothing there)

Some women have a body  
men will want to see,  
so they put it on display  
Some people play a fine guitar  
I could listen to them  
play all day  
Some ladies really  
move across a stage  
and gee, they sure can dance  
I guess I could learn how  
if I have it half a chance

but I always feel so funny  
when my body tries to soar  
and I seem to always worry  
about missing the next chord

I guess there isn't anything  
to put up on display  
except the tunes  
and whatever else I say  
Anyway, that isn't really  
what I meant to say  
I meant to tell a story  
I live from day to day

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So if you don't lose patience  
with my fumbling around,  
I'll come up singing for you  
even when I'm down