

## Abbey Lincoln

# "You Gotta Pay the Band"

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Oh, it really isn't easy  
Just to let the good times roll  
Everything is measured at a cost  
Everybody living  
Pays their share of dues  
And sometimes what you think you got  
You lost

So ring a ding-ding  
Do your thing  
But remember, darling

When you give a dance  
You gotta pay the band  
The band that played your song the whole night  
through  
When you give a dance  
It's better if you try  
To pay the piper what the piper's due

The moves were free and easy  
As we danced across the floor  
The spins and the exchanges  
Being what the music's for

But when the party's over  
And the revelry is done  
You gotta pay the band that played your song

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