

Mississippi John Hurt

"Frankie"

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(spoken introduction:

"Frankie and Albert", the same thing as "Frankie and Johnnie")

Frankie was a good girl, everybody know,
she paid one hundred dollars for Albert's suit of
clothes
He's her man, but he did her wrong

Frankie went down to the corner saloon, she ordered
her a glass of beer,
she asked the barkeeper, "Gas my lovin' Albert been
here?"
"He been here, but he's gone again"

"Ain't gonna tell you no story, Frankie, I ain't gonna tell
you no lie"
Says, "Albert a-passed about a hour ago, with a girl you
call Alice Frye
He's your man, and he's doin' you wrong

Frankie went down to the corner saloon, she didn't go
to be gone long
She peeked through keyhole in the door, spied Albert
in Alice's arm
He's my man, and you's doin' me wrong

Frankie called Albert, she shot him three or four times,
says, "Stand back, I'm smokin' my gun, let me see is
Albert dyin'
He's my man, and he did me wrong"

Frankie and the judge walked outta the stand, and
walked out side by side
The judge says, "Frankie, you're gonna be justified,
killin' a man, and he did you wrong"

Frankie was a good girl, everybody know,
she paid one hundred dollars for Albert's suit of
clothes
He's her man, but he did her wrong

Said, "Turn me over, mother, turn me over slow,
it may be my last time, you won't turn me no more
He's my man, and he did me wrong"

Says, Frankie was a good girl, everybody know,
she paid one hundred dollars for Albert's suit of
clothes
He's her man, but he did her wrong

Note: perhaps unintentionally, this song expresses a part of cynical wisdom once current among blues singers. The wisdom that betrayal of a "hustlin' woman" who fosters a love affair with material gifts is suicidal. The same point of view seems to underlie Robert Johnson's "Kindhearted Woman Blues"

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