

Small White Stone

June-July 2011

- A. She gets off of the Greyhound bus in Nashville
With a suitcase and a battered old guitar
She's staying near the action in a broke down hotel
With a blinking neon sign and a whisky bar
D G D
G D A
G A D G
G D A
- B. She's got memories in the case and a ring on her hand
That makes her feel a little less alone
She touches it for luck when she gets up on the stand
It's silver with a small white stone
D G D
G D A
G Bm D G
D A D
- She's gonna be a singer, she's gonna be a star
Someday she won't be alone
She's working out the changes on that battered old guitar
Like silver and a small white stone
G D G D
G D A
G D (G) Bm
D A D
- A. If you ask about it, she'll say "Just a souvenir.
I got it from somebody I once knew."
She might tell you when that was and maybe even where
But she'll just smile if you ask her who
- B. She plays a little Tammy, a little Patsy Cline
Them old songs that cut you to the bone
She's stretching for the chord and reaching for a line
Like silver and a small white stone
- A. If you see her on the corner or in some noisy bar
Take a minute of your time to hear her play
Take a dollar from your pocket for the old tip jar
And keep her dream alive for one more day

A tip of the hat to those young hopefuls who breeze into music towns dreaming of sequins and pour out their hearts for pocket change while—as John Fogarty put it in “Lodi”—“people sit there drunk.” Opals, which come in many colors including white, are related in folklore to memory, hope, and love.