

Burnt Sugar Is So Bitter
Elvis Costello

Written by Carole King & Elvis Costello

[Intro]

Dm E (x2)

[Verse 1]

Am G F
She said, what is it that I've done that you want me to be punished
Am G F
As she woke up one day to find he had started to vanish
G
If you overhear voices
Dm G
Perhaps you should not be listening
Dm F
Twitch the vigilant lace,
G
Make a sly, sour face,
Asus4 A
Set the scandalous whispering

[Chorus]

Em D A
She's out on her own with the rest of her riches
Em D A
As the kids paint him out of their refrigerator pictures
Dm
She picks up the bills
Em
Pays off the babysitter
F F Dm E
Cause everybody knows burnt sugar is so bitter

[Instrumental]

Dm E (x3)

[Bridge]

Bm Em7
Once there was a time
Bm Em7
Before he turned strange
Am C
She thought they would be together for more than a lifetime
Bm Em7
Look at him now
Bm Em7
My, how things have changed

F **Em**
He could tear the sweetheart out of any girl

Bm **E7**
On just a whim

C **Am**
And turn it from a candy to a caramel

Bm **Em**
Then make her hate the silly way she used to feel

Cmaj7 **Fmaj7** **F**
And say, I know nothing about him

[Instrumental]

Dm **E** (x2)

[Verse 2]

Am **G** **F**
Now what's left of the birthday cake is very beautifully frosted

Am **G** **F**
An absent father picks up the phone to find the number's unlisted

G
And while the kids are distracted

Dm **G** **Dm**
They don't notice she's nervous at all

F
But how long it will take

G
Not to make a mistake

Asus4 **A**
When a gentleman comes to call

[Chorus 2]

Em **D** **A**
She's out on her own with the rest of her riches

Em **D** **A**
As the kids tear down their refrigerator pictures

Dm **Em**
They already know how a woman may advance

F **Em**
From a pretty picture hat to a supermarket trance

Dm **Em**
But if he's unkind he might as well forget her

F
Cause everybody knows

F **Dm** **E**
burnt sugar is so bitter

Dm **E** **Dm** **E**
Burnt sugar is so bitter

Dm **E**
Burnt sugar

[Outro]

Dm **E**