

YOU SHOOK ME

(Led Zeppelin)

Written by Willie Dixon and J.B. Lenoir

When the Yardbirds broke up in 1968, guitarist Jimmy Page assembled a band to fulfill some of their concert commitments. The New Yardbirds consisted of Jimmy Page (guitar), Robert Plant (vocals), John Paul Jones (bass), and John Bonham (drums). After they fulfilled the dates, the band was renamed Led Zeppelin. Manager Peter Grant (who had also managed The Yardbirds) negotiated a recording contract with Atlantic Records, and they recorded their first self-titled release. The album contained "Communication Breakdown," "Good Times Bad Times," "You Shook Me," and "I Can't Quit You Baby"—the latter two written by Willie Dixon. Released in early 1969 after their first U.S. tour, the album kicked off a stream of hits throughout their career, including "Whole Lotta Love," "Livin' Lovin' Maid (She's Just a Woman)," "Black Dog," "Stairway to Heaven," and "Rock and Roll," to name a few.

On September 25, 1980, John Bonham was found dead, apparently due to excessive drinking. Page, Plant, and Jones were obviously devastated and dissolved Led Zeppelin in December of that year.

"You Shook Me" is a cover of an old blues tune in E. There are subtle harmonic variations that can occur in a blues progression, but they do not alter the basic blues form. In this case, the song has been notated in 12/8; the eighth notes look exactly like they feel.

Figure 54—Chorus

Following a short intro, the first chorus of the blues progression begins. The entire line is constructed around the triad chord tones of each chord. The last two measures are called a turnaround (to signal the end of the first chorus and prepare the listener for the next chorus), and here there is a short departure from the main groove.

78 Full Band

Fig. 54

Chorus

Slow Blues ♩ = 53

1 E7

shook me, _ you shook me all _ night long. _

0 0 4 4 7 7 4 3 | 0 0 4 4 7 7 5 6 7