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Rasputin Dating

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Heston: Rasputin Dating

RASPUTIN DATING

**BRIAN PATRICK
HESTON**

"Millions of dancing skeletons,"
says Rasputin.

"And still centuries before

all the corpses are to be counted."

The woman listens, pulls
a callused foot from her boot,

moves her toes up and down
his chalky calf.

He yearns to peer inside her heart,

tries not to think of worms
peeking from her skull
or his young daughter

tugging at his beard
as he sings her to sleep.

"How about my place?" the woman asks.

Frigid mother Russia howls
at the door.

Hooves clop

on the shit-smeared cobbles
outside, a scream
on the wind of what

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He watches the tavern keeper's
cat devour a mouse

and his heart aches, aches
with what he tells her
is love.

BRIAN PATRICK
HESTON

RASPUTIN
DATING

"Millions of dancing skeletons,"
says Rasputin.
"And still centuries before"

all the corpses are to be counted.
The woman listens pale
a cultured foot from her seat.

moves her face up and down
his chafly call.
He seems to peer inside her heart.

tries not to think of worms
peeking from her skirt
or his young daughter

lugging in his heart
as he urges her to sleep
"How about my place?" the woman asks

Fright another Russian bows
at the door
hovers close

on the old square outside
outside a woman
on the wind to wait