Big banks no longer measure up

t's been a rough couple of years for banks. The mortgage crisis revealed billions of dollars of toxic assets on thei ooks. Weaker banks started to fail. The venerable Bear Stearns was sold for pennies on the dollar. Lehman Brot iled for bankruptcy. Confidence waned. Stock prices plunged. Government bailout money and emergency merg ittle to stem the bleeding. Today, the banks are shells of what they used to be. In January 2007, the ones listed b vere worth almost $2 trillion — when measured by market capitalization. Today, it's more like $350 billion.

