

The Streets of Laredo (aka The Cowboy's Lament)

3/4 time: A slow drawl, y'all!

Intro: [F] [G7] [C] [G7]

[C] As I walked [F] out on the [C] streets of La-[G]redo.

[C] As I walked [F] out on La-[C]redo one [G] day,

I [C] spied a poor [F] cowboy [C] wrapped in white [G] linen,

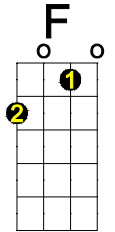
[C] Wrapped in white [F] linen as [G7] cold as the [C] clay. [C]

"I can [C] see by your [F] outfit that [C] you are a [G] cowboy."

These [C] words he did [F] say as I [C] boldly walked [G] by.

"Come an' [C] sit down be-[F]side me an' [C] hear my sad [G] story.

"I'm [C] shot in the [F] breast an' I [G7] know I must [C] die." [C]

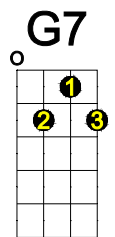


"It was [C] once in the [F] saddle, I [C] used to go [G] dashing.

[C] "Once in the [F] saddle, I [C] used to go [G] gay.

[C] "First to the [F] card-house and [C] then down to [G] Rose's.

"But I'm [C] shot in the [F] breast and I'm [G7] dying to-[C]day." [C]

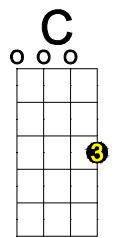


"Get [C] six jolly [F] cowboys to [C] carry my [G] coffin.

[C] "Six dance-hall [F] maidens to [C] bear up my [G] pall.

"Throw [C] bunches of [F] roses all [C] over my [G] coffin.

[C] "Roses to [F] deaden the [G7] clods as they [C] fall." [C]



"Then [C] beat the drum [F] slowly, [C] play the Fife [G] lowly.

[C] "Play the dead [F] march as you [C] carry me a-[G]long.

"Take me [C] to the green [F] valley, [C] lay the sod [G] o'er me,

[C] "I'm a young [F] cowboy and I [G7] know I've done [C] wrong." [C]

"Then [C] go write a [F] letter to [C] my grey-haired [G] mother,

An' [C] tell her the [F] cowboy that [C] she loved has [G] gone.

But [C] please not one [F] word of the [C] man who had [G] killed me.

Don't [C] mention his [F] name and his [G7] name will pass [C] on." [C]

When [C] thus he had [F] spoken, the [C] hot sun was [G] setting.

The [C] streets of La-[F]redo grew [C] cold as the [G] clay.

We [C] took the young [F] cowboy down [C] to the green [G] valley,

And [C] there stands his [F] marker, we [G7] made, to this [C] day. [C]

We [C] beat the drum [F] slowly and [C] played the Fife [G] lowly,

[C] Played the dead [F] march as we [C] carried him a-[G]long.

Down [C] in the green [F] valley, [C] laid the sod [G] o'er him.

Rallentando on last line:

He [C] was a young [F] cowboy and he [G7] said he'd done [C] wrong.