

THE GAMBLER

1.

(default = 2 beats)

E - A - E - A

E E A E
On a warm summer's evenin' on a train bound for nowhere,

E E E B7
I met up with the gambler; we were both too tired to sleep.

E E A E
So we took turns a starin' out the window at the darkness

A E B7 E
'til boredom overtook us, and he began to speak.

E E A E
He said, "Son, I've made a life out of readin' people's faces,
E E E B7
and knowin' what their cards were by the way they held their eyes.

E E A E
So if you don't mind my sayin', I can see you're out of aces.
A E B7 E E
For a taste of your whiskey, I'll give you some advice."

E E A E
So I handed him my bottle and he drank down my last swallow.
E E E B7

Then he bummed a cigarette and asked me for a light.
E E A E
And the night got deathly quiet, and his face lost all expression.
A E B7 E
Said, "If you're gonna play the game, boy, ya gotta learn to play it right.

E E A E
You got to know when to hold 'em, know when to fold 'em,
A E E B7
know when to walk away and know when to run.

THE GAMBLER

2.

E A E A E
You never count your money when you're sittin' at the table.
E A E B7 E E E E
There'll be time enough for countin' when the dealin's done.

F F Bb F
Ev'ry gambler knows that the secret to survivin'
F F F C
is knowin' what to throw away and knowing what to keep.
F F Bb F
'Cause ev'ry hand's a winner and ev'ry hand's a loser,
Bb F C F
and the best that you can hope for is to die in your sleep."

F F Bb F
And when he'd finished speakin', he turned back towards the window,
F F F C
crushed out his cigarette and faded off to sleep.
F <> Bb <>| F <>|
And somewhere in the darkness the gambler, he broke even.
Bb <>| F <>| C <>| F
But in his final words I found an ace that I could keep.

F F Bb F
}: You got to know when to hold 'em, know when to fold 'em,
Bb F F C
know when to walk away and know when to run.
F Bb F Bb F
You never count your money when you're sittin' at the table.
F Bb F C F
There'll be time enough for countin' when the dealin's done :}

(3 times: normal / a capella / normal + end on F<>)