

# Pancho And Lefty

Written By Townes Van Zandt

Performed By Willie Nelson and Merle Haggard



<sup>D</sup> Living on the road my friend,  
<sup>A</sup> is gonna keep you free and clean  
<sup>G</sup> Now you wear your skin like iron,  
Your <sup>D</sup> breath as hard as <sup>A</sup> kerosene.  
<sup>G</sup> You weren't your mama's only boy,  
but her <sup>D</sup> favorite one it <sup>G</sup> seems  
<sup>D</sup> She began to cry when you <sup>G</sup> said <sup>D</sup> good <sup>A</sup> bye,  
And <sup>G</sup> sank into your <sup>Bm</sup> dreams. <sup>Bm A D</sup>

<sup>D</sup> Pancho was a bandit boy,  
<sup>A</sup> his horse was fast as polished steel  
<sup>G</sup> He wore his gun outside his pants  
For <sup>D</sup> all the honest world to <sup>A</sup> feel.  
<sup>G</sup> Pancho met his match you know,  
on the <sup>D</sup> deserts down in <sup>G</sup> Mexico  
<sup>D</sup> Nobody heard his <sup>G</sup> dy <sup>D</sup> ing <sup>A</sup> words,  
ah but <sup>G</sup> that's the way it <sup>Bm</sup> goes. <sup>Bm A G</sup>

<sup>G</sup> All the Federales say  
<sup>D</sup> they could have had him <sup>G</sup> any day  
<sup>D</sup> They only let him <sup>G</sup> slip <sup>D</sup> aw <sup>A</sup> ay  
out of <sup>G</sup> kindness, I sup <sup>Bm</sup> pose.

<sup>Bm A D</sup>

<sup>D</sup> Lefty, he can't sing the blues  
<sup>A</sup> all night long like he used to.  
<sup>G</sup> The dust that Pancho bit down south  
<sup>D</sup> ended up in <sup>A</sup> Lefty's mouth

<sup>G</sup> The day they laid poor Pancho low,  
<sup>D</sup> Lefty split for <sup>G</sup> Ohio

<sup>D</sup> Where he got the <sup>G</sup> bread <sup>D</sup> to <sup>A</sup> go,  
there <sup>G</sup> ain't nobody <sup>Bm</sup> knows

<sup>Bm A G</sup>

<sup>G</sup> All the Federales say  
<sup>D</sup> they could have had him <sup>G</sup> any day  
<sup>D</sup> They only let him <sup>G</sup> slip <sup>D</sup> aw <sup>A</sup> ay  
out of <sup>G</sup> kindness, I sup <sup>Bm</sup> pose. <sup>Bm A D</sup>

Instrumental (Repeat above verse)

<sup>D</sup> The boys tell how Pancho fell,  
and <sup>A</sup> Lefty's living in cheap hotels  
<sup>G</sup> The desert's quiet, Cleveland's cold,  
<sup>D</sup> And so the story <sup>A</sup> ends we're told

<sup>G</sup> Pancho needs your prayers it's true,  
but <sup>D</sup> save a few for <sup>G</sup> Lefty too  
<sup>D</sup> He only did what he <sup>G</sup> had <sup>D</sup> to <sup>A</sup> do,  
and <sup>G</sup> now he's growing <sup>Bm</sup> old

<sup>Bm A G</sup>

<sup>G</sup> All the Federales say  
<sup>D</sup> they could have had him <sup>G</sup> any day  
<sup>D</sup> They only let him <sup>G</sup> go <sup>D</sup> so <sup>A</sup> long  
out of <sup>G</sup> kindness, I sup <sup>Bm</sup> pose.

<sup>Bm A G</sup>

<sup>G</sup> A few gray Federales say  
<sup>D</sup> they could have had him <sup>G</sup> any day  
<sup>D</sup> They only let him <sup>G</sup> go <sup>D</sup> so <sup>A</sup> long  
out of <sup>G</sup> kindness, I sup <sup>Bm</sup> pose. <sup>A D</sup>