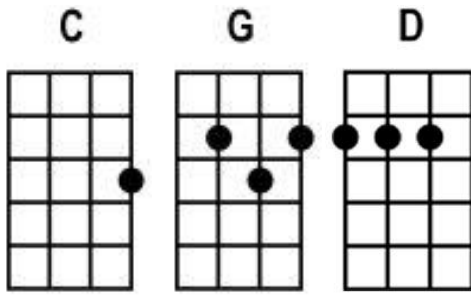


The Gambler



[G] On a warm summer's evenin'
on a [C] train bound for [G] nowhere,
[C] I met up with the [G] gambler;
we were [C] both too tired to [D] sleep.
So we [G] took turns a starin' out
the [C] window at the [G] darkness
'till [C] boredom over [G] took us,
[D] and he began to [G] speak.

He said, [G] "Son, I've made a life
out of [C] readin' people's [G] faces,
and [C] knowin' what their cards [G] were
by the [C] way they held their [D] eyes.
And if [G] you don't mind my sayin',
I can [C] see you're out of [G] aces.
For a [C] taste of your [G] whiskey
I'll [D] give you some [G] advice."

So I [G] handed him my bottle
and he [C] drank down my last [G] swallow.
Then he [C] bummed a [G] cigarette
and [C] asked me for a [D] light.
And then it [G] got deathly quiet,
and his [C] face lost all [G] expression.
Said, "If you're [C] gonna play the [G] game,
boy ya gotta [D] learn to play it [G] right.

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

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

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

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

[Clap in time]

**You got to know when to hold 'em,
know when to fold 'em,
know when to walk away and know when to run.**

**You never [G] count your money
when you're [C] sittin' at the [G] table.
There'll be [C] time enough for [G] countin'
when the [D] dealin's [G] done.**