

# Pancho And Lefty by Townes Van Zandt

[Verse]

C  
Living on the road my friend  
G  
Is gonna keep you free and clean  
F  
Now you wear your skin like iron  
C G  
Your breath as hard as kerosene  
F  
Weren't your mama's only boy  
C F  
But her favorite one it seems  
Am / F C / G  
She began to cry when you said good - bye  
F Am  
And sank into your dreams

[Verse]

C  
Pancho was a bandit, boys, his  
G  
horse was fast as polished steel  
F  
He wore his gun outside his pants  
C G  
For all the honest world to feel  
F  
Pancho met his match you know on the  
C F  
deserts down in Mexico  
Am / F C / G  
And nobody heard his dying words  
F Am  
That's the way it goes

[Chorus]

F  
And all the Federales say  
C F  
They could have had him any day  
Am / F C / G  
They only let him hang around  
F Am

out of kindness I suppose

[Verse]

C  
Well, Lefty he can't sing the blues  
G  
all night long like he used to  
F  
The dust that Pancho bit down south  
C G  
ended up in Lefty's mouth  
F  
The day they laid poor Pancho low  
C F  
Lefty split for Ohio  
Am / F C / G  
And where he got the bread to go  
F Am  
Ah, there ain't nobody knows

[Chorus]

F  
And all the Federales say  
C F  
They could have had him any day  
Am / F C / G  
They only let him slip a-way  
F Am  
out of kindness I suppose

[Solo]

| C - - - / - - - - / G - - - / - - - - /  
| F - - - / - - - - / Am - - - / - - - - /

[Verse]

C  
Well, the poets tell how Pancho fell and  
G  
Lefty's living in a cheap hotel  
F  
The desert's quiet and Cleveland's cold,  
C G  
And so the story ends we're told  
F  
Pancho needs your prayers it's true but  
C F

save a few for Lefty too  
Am / F C / G  
He just did what he had to do  
F Am  
and now he's growing old

[Chorus]

F  
A few gray Federales say  
C F  
We could have had him any day  
Am / F C / G  
We only let him go so wrong  
F Am  
out of kindness I suppose

F  
A few gray Federales say  
C F  
They could have had him any day  
Am / F C / G  
They only let him go so wrong  
F Am  
out of of kindness I suppose

Am