

THE BALLAD OF "BILLY THE KID"

Words and Music by
Billy Joel

Moderately

F/G

C/G

G

F/G

C/G

The piano introduction consists of two staves in 4/4 time. The right hand features a melody of eighth notes, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment of eighth notes. Chord diagrams for F/G, C/G, G, F/G, and C/G are placed above the first five measures.

G

G

Em

From a town known as Wheel - ing West Vir - gin -

The first line of lyrics is set to music. The vocal line is on a single staff, and the piano accompaniment is on two staves. Chord diagrams for G, G, and Em are placed above the first three measures.

F

G

Em

ia

rode a boy with a six - gun in his hand,

The second line of lyrics is set to music. The vocal line is on a single staff, and the piano accompaniment is on two staves. Chord diagrams for F, G, and Em are placed above the first three measures.

F C D G Em

And his dar - ing life of crime_ made him a

F C G Am7 D7(sus4)

le - gend in his time_ east and west_ of the Ri - o Grande.

F/G C/G G

Well he

G Em F

2. start - ed with a bank_ in Col - o - ra - do, in the
4. One cold day a pos - se cap - tured Bil - ly, and the

G Em F C D

pock - et of his vest a Colt he hid, And his
 judge said string 'im vest up for what he did, And the

G Em F C G

age cow - boys and their size kin took the tell - er by sur - prise and
 and his and their kin like the sea came pour - in' in to watch

Am7 D7(sus4) F/G C/G G

the word spread of Bil - ly the Kid. Well he
 the hang - in' of Bil - ly the Kid.

C D Em Bm

nev - er trav - elled heav - y, yes he al - ways rode a - lone, and he

C C/D G7(sus4)

soon put man - y old - er guns_ to shame. Well he

C D Em Bm

nev - er had a sweet - heart, and he nev - er had a home, but the
 tho' he fin - ally found a home un - der -

C D(sus4) D

cow - boys and the ranch - ers knew_ his name. 3. Well he
 neath the boot - hill grave_ that bears_ his name. 5. From a

G Em F

robbed his way from U - tah to O - kla - hom - a and the
 town known as Oy - ster Bay, Long - Is - land rode a

G Em F C D

law just could-n't seem_ to track him down, And it
 boy_ with a six - pack in his hand, And his

G Em F C G

served his leg - end well, - made for the folks they love_ to tell_ 'bout -
 dar - ing life of crime_ made him a leg - end in_ his time_ east and

Am7 D7(sus4) To Coda F/G C/G G D.S. al Coda

when Bil - ly the Kid_ was in town.
 west of the Ri - o

Coda F/G C/G G F/G C/G G

Grande.