

The Gambler – Kenny Rogers

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

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

So I (C) handed him my bottle and he (F) drank down my last (C) swallow
(F) Then he bummed a (C) cigarette and (F) asked me for a (G) light
And the (C) night got deathly quiet, and his (F) face lost all ex(C)pression
Said, "If you're (F) gonna play the (C) game, boy,
Ya gotta (G) learn to play it (C) right ...

Chorus:

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

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

And (C) when he'd finished speakin', he (F) turned back towards the (C)
window, (F) crushed out his cig(C)arette and (F) faded off to (G) sleep
And (C) somewhere in the darkness the (F) gambler, he broke (C) even But
(F) in his final (C) words I found an (F) ace that (G) I could (C) keep

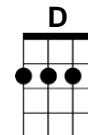
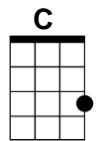
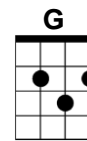
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[Shakers ONLY, no Ukes]

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Chords



Notes

/ = Single strum