

Coward Of The County

Red=Spoken

[C] Everyone considered him the [F] coward of the [C] county
He'd never stood one single time to prove the county [G] wrong
His [C] mama named him Tommy but [F] folks just called him [C] yellow
Something always told me they were [G7] reading Tommy [C] wrong

He was only ten years old when his [F] daddy died in [C] prison
I looked after Tommy 'cause he was my brother's [G] son
I [C] still recall the final words my [F] brother said to [C] Tommy
"Son, my life is over, but [G7] yours has just be[C]gun."

Promise me, son, not to [F] do the things I've [C] done
[F] Walk away from [C] trouble if you [G] can
Now it [C] won't mean you're weak if you [F] turn the other [C] cheek
I hope you're old e[F]nough to under[G]stand
Son, you don't have to [G7] fight to be a [C] man

[C#] There's someone for everyone and [F#] Tommy's love was [C#] Becky
In her arms he didn't have to prove he was a [G#] man
One [C#] day while he was working the [F#] Gatlin boys came [C#] calling
They took turns at Becky [G#7] and there was three of [C#] them

Tommy opened up the door and [F#] saw his Becky [C#] crying
The torn dress, the shattered look was more than he could [G#] stand
He [C#] reached above the fireplace took [F#] down his daddy's [C#] picture
As his tears fell on his daddy's face [G#7] he heard these words [C#] again

Promise me, son, not to [F#] do the things I've [C#] done
[F#] Walk away from [C#] trouble if you [G#] can
Now it [C#] won't mean you're weak if you [F#] turn the other [C#] cheek
I hope you're old e[F#]nough to under[G#]stand
Son, you don't have to [G#7] fight to be a [C#] man

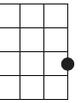
The [D] Gatlin boys just laughed at him when he [G] walked into the bar [D] room
One of them got up and met him half way across the [A] floor
Tommy [D] turned around they said hey, [G] look, old yellow's [D] leavin'
You could've heard a pin drop when Tommy [A7] stopped and locked the [D] door

Twenty years of crawling was [G] bottled up inside [D] him
He wasn't holding nothing back he let 'em have it [A] all
When [D] Tommy left the bar room not a [G] Gatlin boy was [D] standing
He said, "This one's for Becky," as he [A7] watched the last one [D] fall
N' I heard him say

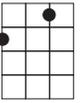
I promised you, Dad not to [G] do the things you've [D] done
I [G] walk away from [D] trouble when I [A] can
Now [D] please don't think I'm weak I didn't [G] turn the other [D] cheek
And Papa, I sure hope you under[A]stand
Sometimes you gotta [A7] fight when you're a [D] man

Everyone considered him the [G] coward of the [D] county

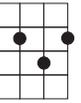
C



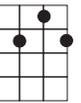
F



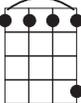
G



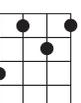
G7



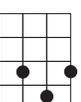
C#



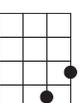
F#



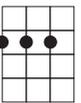
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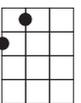
G#7



D



A



A7

