

Pancho and Lefty

Townes Van Zandt

C C G G
...Living on the road my friend... was gonna keep you free and clean
F F C G
...And now you wear your skin like iron... and your breath as hard as kerosene
F F C F
 You weren't your mama's only boy, but her favorite one it seemed
Am F C G G7 F Am Am
She began to cry when you said---- goodbye... and sank into your dreams
C C G G
...Pancho was a bandit boys... his horse was fast as polished steel
F F C G
...He wore his gun outside his pants... for all the honest world to feel
F F C F
...Pancho met his match you know, on the deserts down in Mexico
Am F C G G F Am
...Nobody heard his dying words.... oh, but that's the way it goes

Chorus:

F C F
..All the Federales say... they could have had him any day
Am F C G G F Am
...They only let him slip a-way, out of kindness I suppose

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

Chorus

C C G G
...The poets tell how Pancho fell... and Lefty's living in cheap hotels
F F C G
...The desert's quiet, Cleveland's cold... and so the story ends we're told
F F C F
...Pancho needs your prayers, it's true... but save a few for Lefty too
Am F C G F Am
...He only did what he had to do..... and now he's growing old

Chorus and then:

F C F
...A few grey Federales say... they could have had him any day
Am F C G F Am
...They only let him go so long, out of kindness I suppose