

The Mexicali Blues

Tab Chords And Lyrics

By The Grateful Dead

Intro – D-A-D

A C B7 Em
Layin' back in an old saloon with a peso in my hand
A7 D
Watchin' flies and children on the street
A C B7 Em
And I catch a glimpse of black-eyed girls who giggle when I smile
A7 D
There's a little boy who wants to shine my feet
G B7 Em
And it's three days ride from Bakersfield and I don't know why I came
A7 D
I guess I came to keep from payin' dues
G B7 Em
But instead I've got a bottle and a girl who's just fourteen
A7
And a damn good case of the Mexicali Blues, yeah

D
Is there anything a man don't stand to lose
A7
When the devil wants to take it all away?
Cherish well your thoughts, keep a tight grip on your booze
Em A7
'Cuz thinkin' and drinkin' are all I have today.

Break D-A-D

A C B7 Em
She said her name was Billie Jean; she was fresh in town
A7 D
I didn't know a stage line ran from hell
A C B7 Em
She had raven hair, a ruffled dress, a necklace made of gold
A7 D
All the french perfume you'd care to smell

G B7 Em
She took me up into her room and whispered in my ear
A7 D
Go on my friend do anything you choose.
G B7 Em
Now I'm paying for those happy hours I spent there in her arms
A7
With a lifetime case of the Mexicali Blues, yeah.

Ch

Break D-A-D

A C B7 Em
Then a man rode into town; some thought he was the law
A7 D
Billie Jean was waiting when he came
A C B7 Em
She told me he would take her if I didn't use my gun
A7 D
And I'd have no one but myself to blame

G B7 Em
I went down to those dusty streets; blood was on my mind
A7 D
I guess that stranger hadn't heard the news.
G B7 Em
"Cuz I shot first and killed him. Lord he didn't even draw.
A7
And he made me trade the gallows for the Mexicali Blues.

D
Is there anything a man don't stand to lose
A
When he lets a woman hold him in her hand?
You just might find yourself out there on horseback in the dark
Em A7 D
Just ridin' and runnin' across those desert sands.