Night Riders Lament
Tab Chords And Lyrics
By Jerry Jeff Walker

Intro  -- D

D   G   D                      A7
While I was out - a ridin' - graveyard shift, midnight 'till dawn
G   D
The moon was as bright as a readin’ light
A7                      D
For a letter - from an old friend back home
D7   G   A7   D
He asked me - why do you ride for your money
G   A7   D
Why do you rope for short pay
G   A7   D   G   D/Gb   Em
You ain’t getting’ nowhere And you’re losin’ your share
A7   D
You must have gone crazy out there

G   D                      A7
He tells me last night I run onto Jenny - she’s married and has a good life
G   D
Ah, you sure missed the track - when you never come back
A7   D
She’s a perfect - professional’s wife
D7   G   A7   D
She asked him - why does he ride for his money
G   A7   D
Why does he rope for short pay
G   A7   D   G   D/Gb   Em
He ain’t getting’ nowhere and he’s losin’ his share
A7   D
He must have gone crazy out there
D7          G   A7          D
But they ain't never seen the Northern Lights
       G   A7          D
Never seen a hawk on the wing
       G   A7          D   G   D/Gb   Em
Never seen Spring hit the Great Divide
       A7          D
And never heard Ol' Camp Cookie sing

**BREAK** – G-A7-D-G-A7-D-G-A7-D-G-D/Gb-Em-A7-D

       G   D   A7
Well I read up - the last of that letter - and tore off the stamp for Black Jim
       G   D   A7          D
When Billy rode up to relieve me - he just looked at my letter and grinned

       D7          G   A7          D
He said you know I wonder- why do they ride for their money
       G   A7          D
Why do they rope for short pay
       G   A7          D   G   D/Gb   Em
They ain’t getting’ nowhere and they’re losin’ their share
       A7          D
They must have gone crazy out there

       D7          G   A7          D
Cause they ain't never seen the Northern Lights
       G   A7          D
Never seen a hawk on the wing
       G   A7          D   G   D/Gb   Em
Never seen Spring hit the Great Divide
       A7          D
And never heard Ol’ Camp Cookie sing

**BREAK** – G-A7-D-G-A7-D-G-A7-D-G-D/Gb-Em-A7-D