

The Gambler

Kenny Rogers

Capo 2nd fret = original ending key

Intro - D-G... D-G

D G D
On a warm summer's evening - on a train bound for nowhere
A7

I met up with the gambler - we were both too tired to sleep

D G D
So we took turns a-starin' - out the window at the darkness
G D A7 D

The boredom overtook us - and he began to speak

G D
He said, "Son, I've made a life - out of readin' people's faces
A7

Knowin' what the cards were - by the way they held their eyes

D G D
So if you don't mind my sayin' - I can see you're out of aces
G D A7 D

For a taste of your whiskey - I'll give you some advice"

G D
So I handed him my bottle - and he drank down my last swallow
A7

Then he bummed a cigarette - and asked me for a light

D G D
And the night got deathly quiet - and his face lost all expression
G D A7 D

Said, "If you're gonna play the game, boy - you gotta learn to play it right

G D
You've got to know when to hold 'em - know when to fold 'em
G D A7

Know when to walk away - and know when to run

D G D
You never count your money - when you're sittin' at the table
G D A7 D

There'll be time enough for countin' - when the dealin's done

G D
Every gambler knows - that the secret to survivin'

Is knowin' what to throw away - and knowin' what to keep
D G D A7
'Cause every hand's a winner - and every hand's a loser
G D A7 D
And the best that you can hope for is to die in your sleep"

And when he'd finished speakin' - he turned back toward the window
G D
Crushed out his cigarette - faded off to sleep
A7
D G D
And somewhere in the darkness - the gambler he broke even
G D A7 D
But in his final words I found an ace that I could keep

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G D A7
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