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Bobby Bare "The Gambler (Bobby Bare & The Cowboys)"

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On the warm summer's evening on a train bound for nowhere

I met up with a gambler we were both too tired to sleep So we took turns a starin' out window at the darkness Till boredom overtook us and he commenced to speak He said son I made a life out of readin' people's faces And knowin' what the cards were by the way they held their eyes

And if you don't mind my sayin' I can see you're out of aces

And for a taste of your whiskey I would give you some advice

So I handed him my bottle and he drank down my last swallow

Then he'd bummed a cigarette then he bummed a light And the night got deathly quiet and his face lost all expression

He said if you gonna play the game boy you gotta learn to play it right

Now you gotta know when to hold know when to fold Know when to walk away know when to run

And you never count your money when you're sittin' at the table

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

[quitar]

He said every gambler knows that the secret to survival Is knowin' what to throw away and knowin' what to keep Cause every hand's a winner just like every hand's a loser

And the best that you can hope for is to die in your sleep

When he finished speaking he turned back toward the window

Crushed out his cigarette faded off to sleep Somewhere in the darkness the gambler he broke even In his final words I found an ace that I could keep You gotta know when to hold...

You gotta know when to hold...

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

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