

## **John Denver**

### **"El Paso"**

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Out in the West Texas town of El Paso  
I fell in love with a Mexican girl  
Nighttime would find me in Rosa's cantina  
The music would play and Felina would whirl

Black as the night were the eyes of Felina  
Wicked and evil while casting their spell  
My love was deep for this Mexican maiden  
I was in love but in vain I could tell

One night a wild young cowboy came in  
As wild as the West Texas wind  
Dashing and daring, a drink he was sharing  
With wicked Felina, the girl that I loved

So in anger I challenged his right for the love of this  
maiden  
Down went his hand to the gun that he wore  
My challenge was answered in less than a heartbeat  
The handsome young stranger lay dead on the floor

Just for a moment I stood there in silence  
Shocked by the foul evil deed I had done  
Many thoughts raced through my mind as I stood there  
I had but one chance, and that was to run

Out through the back door of Rosa's I ran  
Out where the horses were tied  
I found a good one, it looked like it could run  
Upon his back and away I did ride just as fast as I could

From the West Texas town of El Paso  
Out to the badlands of New Mexico

Back in El Paso my life would be worthless  
Everything's gone in life, nothing is left  
But it's been so long since I've seen my young maiden  
My love is stronger than my fear of death

I saddled up and away I did go  
Riding alone in the dark  
Maybe tomorrow a bullet will find me

Tonight nothing's worse than this pain in my heart

And at last here I am on a hill overlooking El Paso  
I can see Rosa's cantina below  
My love is strong and it pushes me onward  
Down off the hill to Felina I go

Off to my right I see five mounted cowboys  
Off to my left ride a dozen or more  
Shouting and shooting, I can't let them catch me  
I have to make it to Rosa's back door

Something is dreadfully wrong, for I feel  
A deep burning pain in my side  
Though I am trying to stay in this saddle  
I'm growing weary, unable to ride

But my love for Felina is strong though I rise where I've  
fallen  
Though I am weary, I can't stop to rest  
I see the white puff of smoke from the rifle  
I feel the bullet go deep in my chest

From out of nowhere Felina has found me  
Kissing my cheek as she kneels by my side  
Cradled by two loving arms that I'll die for  
One little kiss, and Felina goodbye

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