

Streets of Laredo

Hank Williams Jr.

1. As I walked out in the streets of Laredo, as I walked out in Laredo one day,
I spied a young cowboy wrapped up in white linen-
Wrapped up in white linen as cold as the clay.
"I see by your outfit that you are a cowboy.",
These words he did say as I boldly stepped by.
"Come sit down beside me and hear my sad story.
I'm shot in the chest and I know I must die.
It was once in the saddle I used to go dashin'
It was once in the saddle I used to go gay;
First to the dramhouse and then to the cardhouse,
Got shot in the chest and I'm dying today."

Chorus:

Oh beat the drum slowly play the fife lowly, play the death march as you carry me along.
Take me to the green valley there lay the sod o'er me
For I'm a young cowboy and I know I've done wrong.

2. "Get six jolly cowboys to carry my coffin. Get six pretty maidens to bear up my pall;
Put bunches of roses all over my coffin, put roses to deaden the clouds as they fall.
Then swing your ropes slowly and rattle your spurs lowly,
And give a wild yell as you carry me along.
Then in the grave throw me and roll the sod o'er me,
For I'm a young cowboy and I know I've done wrong.
Go bring me some water, a cup of cold water
To cool my parched lips.", the cowboy then said.
Before I returned his soul had departed and gone to the roundup
- the cowpoke was dead.

Ending Chorus:

We beat the drum slowly, we play the fife lowly. We bitterly weep as we carry him along;
We take him to the green valley there lay the sod o'er him-
Just a young cowboy that surely done wrong.