

# Pride And The Badge

Marty Robbins

All night long I tried to sleep but sleep refused to come  
Cause today I knew I'd either have to fight or run  
Knowin' if I choose to run my mind would never rest  
Cause with so much pride I wear this badge upon my vest

Folks are filled with fear because there's three bad guns in town  
Sheriff Olsen made the wrong move and they shot him down  
One they called Dakota Jack and one El Paso Red  
The other just turned twenty and he's called the Killer Kid

Good advice I get and that's to leave and run away  
But my pride and badge I wear won't let me live this way  
And if I stay the three have bragged they'll add me to their list  
But I have a different aim and I don't aim to miss

From the doorway where I stand I see the outlaws three  
Worried none because they know the town's not helpin' me  
From a hundred yards away I try a lucky shot  
Luck is with me and Dakota Jack dies on the spot

Well a kid runs through the barroom door and Red goes up the stairs  
The Kid is ragin' mad, he's breakin' bottles, kickin' chairs  
And from a roof El Paso Red has vowed to pay me back  
As he views the lifeless body of Dakota Jack

I can see him as he jumps from one roof to the next  
Searchin' for me but he has no idea where I'm at  
But I watch his every move I'm ready when he leaps  
As I shoot him in mid air he crashes to the street

Now there's one against just one I've evened up the score  
Down the street I hear a yell come through the barroom door  
The Kid has screamed, there's no way I can live unless I run  
Said there ain't no lawdog man enough to take his gun

Through the barroom door he walks and steps out on the street  
I can't match his draw, he's much too fast for me to beat  
And as I walk toward him we both grab a forty-five  
Maybe I will die today and he will stay alive

Like a hammer somethin' hits me spinnin' me around  
As I fall I shoot him twice before he hits the ground  
His bullet missed me, still I feel a burnin' in my chest  
His bullet hits the badge I wear with pride upon my vest

As the people view the bodies of the lifeless three  
From their looks I know exactly what they think of me  
To them I'm just a killer and they could not care less  
'Bout my pride or 'bout the badge I wear upon my vest