Stagger Lee met Billy and they go down to gambling Stagger Lee throwed seven Billy said that he throwed eight So Billy said, hey Stagger! I'm gonna make my big attack I'm gonna have to leave my knife in your back

Why do you try to cheat?

And trample people under your feet

Don't you know it is wrong?

To cheat the trying man

So you better stop, it is the wrong 'em boyo

You lie, steal, cheat and deceit In such a small, small game Don't you know it is wrong

Billy Boy has been shot
And Stagger Lee's come out on top
Don't you know it is wrong
To cheat the trying man
To cheat Stagger man
You'd better stop
So you must start all over again—all over again
You got to play it, Billy, play, you got to play it, Billy, play
And you will find it is the right 'em boyo

But if you must lie and deceit And trample people under your feet Don't you know it is wrong It is the wrong 'em boyo