

# Streets Of Laredo

Tom Jones

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 in white linen as cold as the clay

"Oh, beat the drums slowly and play the fife lowly  
Sing the Death March as you carry me along  
Take me to the valley; there lay the sod o'er me  
I'm a young cowboy and know I've done wrong"

"I see by your outfit that you are a cowboy"  
These words he did say as I boldly walked by  
"Come sit down beside me and hear my sad story  
Got shot in the breast and I know I must die"

"My friends and relations they live in the Nation  
They know not where their dear boy has gone  
I first came to Texas and hired to a ranchman  
Oh, I'm a young cowboy and I know I've done wrong"

"It was once in the saddle I used to go dashing  
It was once in the saddle I used to go gay  
First to the dram house and then to the card house  
Got shot in the breast and I'm dying today"

"Get six jolly cowboys to carry my coffin  
Get six pretty maidens to sing me a song  
Put bunches of roses all over my coffin  
Put roses to deaden the sods as they fall"

"Go gather around you a group of young cowboys  
And tell them the story of this my sad fate  
Tell one and the other before they go further  
To stop their wild roving before it's too late"

"Oh, bury me beside my knife and my shooter  
My spurs on my heels, my rifle by my side  
And over my coffin put a bottle of brandy  
That the cowboys may drink as they carry me along"

"Go fetch me some water, a cool cup of water  
To cool my parched lips," the poor cowboy then said  
Before I returned, his spirit had left him  
Had gone to his Maker--the cowboy was dead

We beat the drum slowly and played the fife lowly  
And bitterly wept as we bore him along  
For we all loved our comrade, so brave, young, and handsome  
We all loved our comrade although he'd done wrong