

PRETTY BOY FLOYD

by Woody Guthrie

(this is a regular I - IV - V song. Just fool around with it, in your favorite key, until you get it.)

IF YOU'LL GATHER 'ROUND ME CHILDREN
A STORY I WILL TELL
ABOUT PRETTY BOY FLOYD THE OUTLAW
OKLAHOMA KNEW HIM WELL

IT WAS IN THE TOWN OF SHAWNEE
ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON
HIS WIFE BESIDE HIM IN THEIR WAGON
AS INTO TOWN THEY RODE

THERE A DEPUTY SHERIFF APPROACHED THEM
IN A MANNER RATHER RUDE
USING VULGAR WORDS OF LANGUAGE
AND HIS WIFE SHE OVERHEARD

WELL PRETTY BOY GRABBED A LONG CHAIN
AND THE DEPUTY GRABBED HIS GUN
AND IN THE FIGHT THAT FOLLOWED
HE LAID THAT DEPUTY DOWN

WELL HE TOOK TO THE TREES AND TIMBER
TO LIVE A LIFE OF SHAME
EVERY CRIME IN OKLAHOMA
WAS ADDED TO HIS NAME

YES HE TOOK TO THE TREES AND TIMBER
BY THAT CANADIAN RIVER SHORE
BUT PRETTY BOY FOUND A WELCOME
AT MANY A FARMER'S DOOR

YES THERE'S MANY A STARVING FARMER
THE SAME OLD STORY'S TOLD
HOW THAT OUTLAW PAID HIS MORTGAGE
AND SAVED THEIR LITTLE HOME

OTHERS TELL YOU OF A STRANGER
THAT CAME TO BEG A MEAL
AND UNDERNEATH HIS NAPKIN
LEFT A THOUSAND DOLLAR BILL

IT WAS IN OKLAHOMA CITY
IT WAS ON A CHRISTMAS DAY
THERE CAME A WHOLE CARLOAD OF GROCERIES
WITH A LETTER THAT DID SAY

"WELL THEY SAY THAT I'M AN OUTLAW
THEY SAY THAT I'M A THEIF

WELL HERE'S A CHRISTMAS DINNER
FOR THE FAMILIES ON RELIEF"

NOW AS THROUGH THIS LIFE I'VE RAMBLED
I'VE SEEN LOTS OF FUNNY MEN
SOME WILL ROB YOU WITH A SIX-GUN
AND SOME WITH A FOUNTAIN PEN

BUT AS THROUGH THIS WORLD YOU RAMBLE
AND AS THROUGH THIS WORLD YOU ROAM
YOU WON'T NEVER FIND AN OUTLAW
THAT'D DRIVE A FAMILY FROM THEIR HOME

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