BILLY THE BUM
John Prine

[Bb] [F] [C] [F]  
F C
BILLY THE BUM LIVED BY THE THUMB AND SANG OF THE HOBO'S DELIGHT
C  
[F] C
HE'D PROVE HE COULD RUN TWICE AS FAST AS THE SUN
C  
[F]
BY LOSING HIS SHADOW AT NIGHT
C  
[F]
NOW HE LOVED EVERY GIRL IN THIS CURLY HEADED WORLD
Bb  
F
BUT NO ONE WILL KNOW IT SEEMS
Bb  
F
FOR TWO TWISTED LEGS AND A CHILDHOOD DISEASE
C  
F
LEFT BILLY JUST A BUM IN HIS DREAMS

Chorus:
Bb F C F
AND HE WAS JUST A GENTLE BOY A REAL FLORESCENT LIGHT
Bb F C
CRIED PENNIES ON SUNDAY MORNING; LAUGH NICKELS ON SATURDAY NIGHT
F F7 Bb
AND YOUR BULLETS THEY CAN'T HARM HIM NOR YOUR KNIVES TEAR HIM APART
F C F Bb, F, C, F
HUMILIATION KILLED HIM; GOD BLESS HIS LITTLE HEART

F
NOW HE LIVED ALL ALONE IN A RUN DOWN HOME
C
NEAR THE SIDE OF THE OLD RAILROAD TRACK
C C
WHERE THE TRAINS USED TO RUN CARRYING FREIGHT BY THE TON
C C
AND BLOW THE WHISTLE AS BILLY'D WAVE BACK
F F
BUT THE CHILDREN AROUND BILLY'S HOMETOWN
F Bb
SEEMED TO HAVE NOTHING BETTER TO DO
Bb F
THAN TO RUN AROUND HIS HOUSE WITH TONGUES FROM THEIR MOUTH
C F
AND MAKE FUN OF THAT CRIPPLED OLD FOOL

Repeat Chorus:
F C
NOW SOME FOLKS THEY WAIT AND SOME FOLK THEY PRAY FOR JESUS TO RISE UP AGAIN
C C
BUT NONE OF THESE FOLKS IN THE HOLY CLOAKS EVER TOOK BILLY ON AS A FRIEND
F F F BB
FOR PITY'S A CRIME AND IT AIN'T WORTH A DIME TO A PERSON WHO'S REALLY IN NEED
F
JUST TREAT 'EM THE SAME AS YOU WOULD YOU OWN NAME
C F
NEXT TIME THAT YOUR HEART STARTS TO BLEED  Repeat chorus:
If you have corrections, or the chords to any of these songs, please send an e-mail and we will make the changes as soon as possible. Thank you. This song chart was provided for your personal enjoyment by SPIKE'S MUSIC COLLECTION; http://spikesmusic.spike-jamie.com  SHALOM, from SPIKE & JAMIE