

Pancho and Lefty

Townes Van Zandt

C (2)

Living on the road my friend

G (2)

Is gonna keep you free and clean

F (2)

Now you wear your skin like iron

C

G

Your breath as hard as kerosene

F (2)

Weren't your mama's only boy

C

F

But her favorite one it seems

Am

/ F

C /

G (2)

She began to cry when you said good - bye

F

Am (2)

And sank into your dreams

C (2)

Pancho was a bandit, boys, his

G (2)

horse was fast as polished steel

F (2)

He wore his gun outside his pants

C

G

For all the honest world to feel

F (2)

Pancho met his match you know on the

C

F

deserts down in Mexico

Am

/ F C / G (2)

Nobody heard his dying words

F

Am (2)

but that's the way it goes

CHORUS:

F (2)

All the Federales say they

C **F**
could have had him any day
Am / **F C** / **G** (2)
They only let him slip a - way
F **Am** (2)
out of kindness I suppose

C (2)
Lefty he can't sing the blues
G (2)
all night long like he used to
F (2)
The dust that Pancho bit down south
C **G**
ended up in Lefty's mouth
F
The day they laid poor Pancho low
C **F**
Lefty split for Ohio
Am / **F C** / **G** (2)
Where he got the bread to go
F **Am** (2)
there ain't nobody knows

CHORUS

C (2)
Poets tell how Pancho fell and
G (2)
Lefty's living in a cheap hotel
F (2)
The desert's quiet and Cleveland's cold,
C **G**
And so the story ends we're told
F (2)
Pancho needs your prayers it's true but
C **F**
save a few for Lefty too
Am / **F C** / **G** (2)
He only did what he had to do

F **Am** (2)
and now he's growing old

OUTRO CHORUS:

F (2)
All the Federales say
C **F**
could have had him any day
Am / **F C** / **G** (2)
We only let him slip a - way
F **Am** (2)
out of kindness I suppose
F
A few gray Federales say
C **F**
could have had him any day
Am / **F C** / **G** (2)
We only only let him go so long
F **Am** (2)
out of of kindness I suppose

End on **Am**

Pancho & Lefty in "D" 1/6/2

Dc

Living on the road, my friend

~~A7G~~

Was gonna keep us free and clean

~~F~~

But now you wear your skin like iron

~~Dc~~

~~D/C#~~

~~D4~~

Your breath's as hard as kerosene

~~F~~

You weren't your mama's only boy

~~C~~

~~D/C#~~

~~D4~~

But her favorite one it seems

~~C~~

She began to cry

~~D/G~~

~~D4~~

~~C~~

~~G~~

When you said good bye

~~F~~

~~C~~

~~AM~~

And sank into your dreams

(same chords as first verse)

Pancho was a bandit boys

His horse was fast as polished steel

Wore his guns outside his pants

For all the honest world to feel

Pancho met his match you know

On the deserts down in Mexico

No one heard his dying words

That's the way it goes

Chorus (words change slightly, each time)

~~G~~

And all the federales say

~~Dc~~

~~D/C#~~

~~D4/B~~

They could have had him any day

~~C~~

~~D/C#~~

~~F/R~~

~~G~~

They only let him slip away

~~F~~

~~AM~~

Out of kindness I suppose

Lefty he can't sing the blues

All night long like he used to

The dust that Pancho bit down South

Ended up in Lefty's mouth

The day they laid old Pancho low

Lefty split for Ohio

Where he got the bread to go

[Ah] there ain't nobody knows

All the federales say

They could of had him any day

They only let him slip away

Out of kindness I suppose

[Well] poets sing how Pancho fell

Lefty's livin' in a cheap hotel

The desert's quiet and Cleveland's cold

And so the story ends we're told

Pancho needs your prayers it's true,

But save a few for Lefty too

He only did what he had to do

D A7 G D A7

G D G D A7

G B m

G D G D A7

G B m

C G7 F C G7

F C F C G7

F AM

[Ah] Now he's growin' old

All the federales say
They could of had him any day
They only let him go so long
Out of kindness I suppose

A few gray federales say
They could of had him any day
They only let him go so wrong
Out of kindness I suppose