

Streets of Laredo

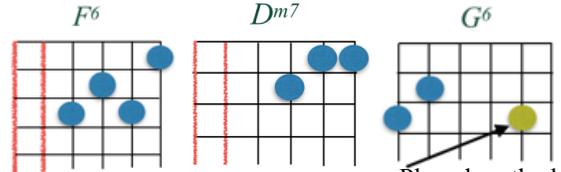
Words & Music by Frank H. Maynard as close as anybody knows

C *F6* *Dm7* *C* *G6*
As I walked out in the streets of Laredo;

C *Dm* *C* *G6*
As I walked out in Laredo one day;

C *F6* *Dm7* *C* *G6*
I spied a young cowboy all wrapped in white linen;

C *Dsus2* *Dm7* *C* *F6/9* *C*
Wrapped up in white linen as cold as the clay.



Played on the last syllable of the 2nd sentence in each verse; on the words "day", "along", "by" & "said".

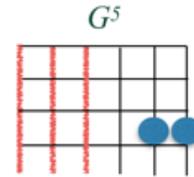
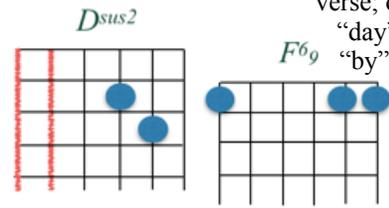
CHORUS

G5 *C* *F6* *G7* *C* *G6*
Oh, beat the drum slowly and play the fife lowly.

C *Dm* *C* *G6*
Sing the dead march as you carry me along.

C *G7* *G* *G7* *C* *G6*
Take me to the green val-ley there lay the sod o'er me.

C *Dm* *C* *F6/9* *C*
For I'm a young cowboy and know I've done wrong.



C *F6* *Dm7* *C* *G6*
I see by your outfit that you are a cowboy;

C *Dm* *C* *G6*
These words he did say as I boldly stepped by.

C *F6* *Dm7* *C* *G6*
Come sit down beside me and hear my sad story;

C *Dsus2* *Dm7* *C* *F6/9* *C*
I'm shot in the breast and I know I must die.

C *F6* *Dm7* *C* *G6*
Go fetch me some water a cool cup of water;

C *Dm* *C* *G6*
To cool my parched lips then the poor cowboy said.

C *F6* *Dm7* *C* *G6*
Before I returned his spirit had left him;

C *Dsus2* *Dm7* *C* *F6/9* *C*
Had gone to his maker the cowboy was dead.

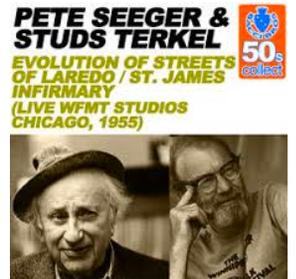
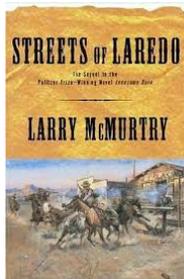
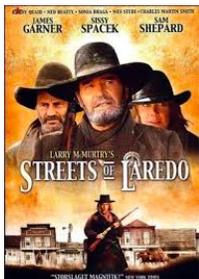
CHORUS

Cowboy Songs as you go

History

"Streets of Laredo" (Laredo, TX) also known as the "Cowboy's Lament", is a famous American cowboy ballad. Members of the Western Writers of America chose it as one of the Top 100 Western songs of all time.

Derived from the English folk song "The Unfortunate Rake", the song has become a folk music standard, and as such has been performed, recorded and adapted numerous times, with many variations. And it has been an irresistible theme for many artist over the years.



Frank H Maynard
from Wikipedia

The old-time cowboy Frank H. Maynard (1853–1926) of Colorado Springs, CO, claimed authorship of the revised *Cowboy's Lament*, and his story was widely reported in 1924 by the journalism professor Elmo Scott Watson then on the faculty of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Wikipedia, <https://mypoeticside.com/poets/frank-maynard-poems>, and Rick Larson