

EL PASO

written and recorded by Marty Robbins (1970)

WH&DE 06/24

Key: C **Start Note:** C **Time:** 6/8 **Strum:** D_ d_ d_ D_ d_ d_
Or: alt. bass & down strums

Intro: C // // // Dm // // // G7 // // // C // // //

C Dm
1. Out in the West Texas town of el Paso,
G7 C
I fell in love with a Mexican girl.
C Dm
Night-time would find me in Rosa's cantina,
G7 C
Music would play and Felina would whirl.
C Dm
Blacker than night were the eyes of Felina,
G7 C
Wicked and evil, while casting a spell
C Dm
My love was deep for this Mexican maiden,
G7 C C7
I was in love but in vain, I could tell.

F Bb F
One night a wild young cowboy came in,
C C7 C7
Wild as the West Texas wind.....
C
Dashing and daring, a drink he was sharing with
C7 / / F G7
Wicked Felina, the girl that I loved..... So in anger I:

C Dm
2. Challenged his right for the love of his maiden,
G7 C
Down went his hand for the gun that he wore
C Dm
My challenge was answered in less than a heart-beat,
G7 C
The handsome young stranger lay dead on the floor.
C Dm
Just for a moment I stood there in silence,
G7 C
Shocked by the foul evil deed I had done

Dm

Many thoughts raced through my mind as I stood there,
G7 C C7
I had but one chance and that was to run.

F Bb / / F
Out through the back door of Rosa's I ran,
C C7 C7
Out where the horses were tied.....

I caught a good one, it looked like it could run,
C7 / / F G7
Up on its back and away I did ride..... just as fast as I:

C Dm
3. Could from the West Texas town of El Paso
G7 C
Out to the bad-lands of New Mexico
C Dm
Back in El Paso my life would be worthless,
G7 C
Everything's gone in life, nothing is left.
C Dm
It's been so long since I've seen the young maiden,
G7 C C7
My love is stronger than my fear of death

F C7 F C C7 C7
I saddled up and away I did go, riding alone in the dark.....
C
Maybe tomorrow a bullet may find me, tonight nothing's
C7 / / F G7
Worse than this pain in my heart..... And at last here I:

C Dm
4. Am on the hill over-looking El Paso,
G7 C
I can see Rosa's cantina below
C Dm
My love is strong and it pushes me onward
G7 C
Down off the hill to Felina I go.
C Dm
Off to my right I see five mounted cowboys,

G7 C
 Off to my left ride a dozen or more
 C Dm
 Shouting and shooting, I can't let them catch me
 G7 C C7
 I have to make it to Rosa's back door

F Bb / / F
Something is dreadfully wrong for I feel...
C C7 C7

A deep burning pain in my side.....
C

Though I am trying to stay in the saddle,
C7 / / F G7
I'm getting weary, unable to ride.... but my love for:

C Dm
 5. Felina is strong, and I rise where I've fallen,
 G7 C
 Though I am weary I can't stop to rest.
 C Dm
 I see the white puff of smoke from the rifle,
 G7 C
 I feel the bullet go deep in my chest.
 C Dm
 From out of nowhere Felina has found me,
 G7 C
 Kissing my cheek as she kneels by my side
 C Dm
 Cradled by two loving arms that I'll die for,
 G7 C C(arp)
 One little kiss and Felina, g-o-o-d b-y-e.
 -----S----L-----O-----W-----