

The Cowboy's Lament

1. As/I walked/out in the/streets of Laredo  
As/I walked/out in Laredo one/day /  
I/spied a young/cowboy all/wrapped in white/linen  
All/wrapped in white/linen and/cold as the/clay /
2. I/see by your/outfit that/you are a/cowboy  
These/words he did/say as I/boldly stepped/by /  
Come/sit down beside me and/hear my sad/story  
I was/shot in the/breast and I/know I must/die /
3. It was/once in the/saddle I/used to go/dashing  
It was/once in the/saddle I/used to go/gay / /  
First to the/dram house and/then to the/card house  
Got/shot in the/breast, I am/dying today /
4. Get me/six handsome/cowboys to/carry my/coffin  
Get/six pretty/maidens to/sing me a/song /  
Put/bunches of/roses all/over my/coffin /  
Roses to/deaden the/clods as they/fall /
5. Oh/beat the drum/slowly and/play the fife/lowly /  
Play the death/march as you/carry me along /  
Take me/to the green/valley and/lay the sod/o'er me  
For/I'm a young/cowboy and I/know I've done/wrong /
6. Go/fetch me a/cup, a/cup of cold/water  
To/cool my parched/lips, the/cowboy then/said /  
Before I returned, the/spirit had/left him  
And/gone to its/Maker, the/cowboy was/dead /
7. We/beat the drum/slowly and/played the fife/lowly  
And/bitterly/wept as we/bore him along /  
For we/all loved our/comrade, so/brave. young. and/handsome