

THE GAMBLER - Kenny Rogers

INTRO: / [G] / [C] / [G] /

On a [G] warm summer's evenin', on a [C] train bound for [G] nowhere
I met up with the gambler, we were both too tired to [D7] sleep
So [G] we took turns a-starin', out the [C] window at the [G] darkness
Till [C] boredom over-[G]took us, [D7] and he began to [G] speak

He said [G] "Son I've made a life, out of [C] readin' peoples' [G] faces
And knowin' what their cards were, by the way they held their [D7] eyes
So if [G] you don't mind my sayin', I can [C] see you're out of [G] aces
For a [C] taste of your [G] whiskey, I'll [D7] give you some ad-[G]vice"

So I [G] handed him my bottle, and he [F] drank down my last [G] swallow
Then he bummed a cigarette, and asked me for a [D7] light
And the [G] night got deathly quiet, and his [C] face lost all ex-[G]pression
Said "if you're [C] gonna play the [G] game boy, ya gotta [D7] learn to play it [G] right

You gotta [G] know when to hold 'em, [C] know when to [G] fold 'em
[C] Know when to [G] walk away, and know when to [D7] run
You never [G] count your money, when you're [C] sittin' at the [G] table
There'll be time e-[C]nough for [G] countin', [D7] when the dealin's [G] done
/[A]/[A]/

[A] Every gambler knows, that the [D] secret to sur-[A]vivin'
Is knowin' what to throw away, and knowin' what to [E7] keep
'Cause [A] every hand's a winner, and [D] every hand's a [A] loser
And the [D] best that you can [A] hope for is to [E7] die in your [A] sleep."

And [A] when he'd finished speakin', he [D] turned back toward the [A] window
Crushed out his cigarette, and faded off to [E7] sleep
And [A]↓ somewhere in the darkness, the [D]↓ gambler he broke [A]↓ even
But [D]↓ in his final [A]↓ words I found an [E7]↓ ace that I could [A] keep

CHORUS:

You gotta [A] know when to hold 'em, [D] know when to [A] fold 'em
[D] Know when to [A] walk away, and know when to [E7] run
You never [A] count your money, when you're [D] sittin' at the [A] table
There'll be time e-[D]nough for [A] countin', [E7] when the dealin's [A] done

You gotta [A] know when to hold (*when to hold 'em*)
[D] know when to [A] fold (*when to fold 'em*)
[D] Know when to [A] walk away, and know when to [E7] run
You never [A] count your money, when you're [D] sittin' at the [A] table
There'll be time e-[D]nough for [A] countin', [E7] when the dealin's [A] done

There'll be time e-[D]nough for [A] countin', [E7] when the dealin's [A] done.....