

Stagger Lee

Delbert McClinton

The night was clear
And the moon was yellow
And the leaves came tumbling down

I was standing on the corner
When I heard my bulldog bark
He was barkin' at the two men who were gamblin'
In the dark

It was Stagger Lee and Billy
Two men who gambled late
Stagger Lee threw seven
Billy swore that he threw eight

Stagger Lee told Billy
I can't let you go with that
'Cause you have won all my money and my brand new
Stetson hat

Stagger Lee went home
Got his forty-four
He said, I'm goin' to the barroom
Debt I owe

Stagger Lee went to the barroom
And he stood across the barroom door
He said, now don't nobody move and he pulled his
Forty-four

Stagger Lee, cried Billy
Oh, please, don't take my life
I've got three little children and a very
Sickly wife

Stagger Lee shot Billy
Oh, he shot that poor boy so bad
The bullet went through Billy and
It broke the bartender's glass