

ODE TO BILLIE JOE

Bobby Gentry

It^was^the

E7

Bm7

E7

	: Third of^June e^an oth^er	sleep^y dust^y Del ta^day	y^y^y^y yy /
	: Pa^pa said^to Ma^ma as^he	passed^a round^the black eyed^peas	s^s^s^s ss /
	: Bro^ther said^he re^col lect^ed	when^he and^Tom and^Bill ie^Joe	e^e^e^e ee /
	: And^Ma ma^said to^me Child	what's^hap pened^to your^ap pe^tite	e^e^e^e ee /
	: A year^has come^and gone^since	we^heard the^news bout^Bil ly^Joe	e^e^e^e ee /

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		I^was	ou^t chop^ping cot^ton and^my	^broth er ^was bal ing^hay
		Well	Bill^y Joe^ne ver^had a^lick of^sense	^pass the ^bis cuits please
		Put^a	frog^down my^back at^the Car^roll	^Coun ty ^pict ure show
		Ive^been	cook^ing all^morn ing^and you^have	n't touched a^sin gle^bite
		Broth^er	mar^ried Beck^y Thomp^son they	bought a^store in^Tu pe^lo

E7

A7

y^y^y^y yy /			And^at	din^ner time^we ^stopped and ^walked
e^e^e^e ee /			There^s	five^more acr^es in^the lo^wer
w^w^w^w ww /			And^was	n't ^I talk^ing to^him af^ter
e^e^e^e ee /			That^nice	young preach^er Bro^ther Tay^lor
o^o^o^o oo /			There^was	a^vi rus^go ing^round Pa^pa

back^to the^house ee e^to	e^a tt			~ And^Ma^ma
for^ty I've^got tt t^to	p^l ow			~ And^Ma^ma
church last Sun day	ni^g ht			~ I'll^have^an
dropped by yy to	d^a yy			~ Said^he'd^be
caught^it and^he died last	Spr^in gg			~ And^now

E7

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hol^lered at^the back^door y'all^re	^mem ber ^to wipe your^feet
said^it was a^ shame a^bout	^Bil ly ^Joe an y^how
o^ther piece^of ap^ple pie	you^know it^don't seem right
pleased to^have din^ner on^Sun	day oh by the^way
Ma^ma does^not seem^to wan^na	^do much ^of an^y thing

E7

A7

t^t^t^t tt /			Then^she	said^I^got^some news this^morn
w^w^w^w ww /			Seems^like	noth^ing ev^er comes to^no
t^t^t^t tt /			I	saw^him at^the saw mill^yes
y^y^y^y yy /			~ He^said^he	saw^a girl^that looked^a lot^like
g^g^g^g gg /			And^me	I^spend a^lot of^time pick^ing

n ing from^Choc taw ^Ri	d^g ee ee ee			~ To^da^y
^good up on^Choc taw ^Ri	d^g ee ee ee			/ And^now
^ter day on^Choc taw ^Ri	d^g ee ee ee			/ And^now
^you up on^Choc taw ^Ri	d^g ee ee ee			~ And^she^and
flo^wers^up on^Choc taw ^Ri	d^g ee ee ee			/ And^drop

E7

D7

E7

Bil^ly Joe^Mac Al^lis ter^jumped	off^the Tal^la ^hat chee ^Bridge										:										
Bil^ly Joe^Mac Al^lis ter^jumped	off^the Tal^la ^hat chee ^Bridge										:										
You^tell me^Bil lie^Joe's jumped	off^the Tal^la ^hat chee ^Bridge										:										
Bil^ly Joe^was throw^ing some^thing	off^the Tal^la ^hat chee ^Bridge										:										
them^in to^the mud^dy wat^er	off^the Tal^la ^hat chee ^Bridge																				