

Mexicali Blues
Grateful Dead

A **G** **B** **Em**
Layin back in an old saloon with a peso in my hand
A **D**
Watchin flies and children on the street
A **G** **B** **Em**
And I catch a glimpse of black-eyed girls who giggle when I smile
A **D**
There s a little boy who wants to shine my feet

G **B** **Em**
And it s three days ride from Bakersfield and I don t know why I came
A **D**
I guess I came to keep from payin dues
G **B** **Em**
But instead I ve got a bottle and a girl who s just fourteen
A
And a damn good case of the Mexicali Blues, yeah

D
Is there anything a man don t stand to lose
A
When the devil wants to take it all away?

Cherish well your thoughts, keep a tight grip on your booze
G(open) **A**
Cuz thinkin and drinkin are all I have today.

A **G** **B** **Em**
She said her name was Billie Jean; she was fresh in town
A **D**
I didn t know a stage line ran from hell
A **G** **B**
She had raven hair, a ruffled dress, a necklace made of gold
A **D**
All the french perfume you d care to smell

G **B** **Em**
She took me up into her room and whispered in my ear
A **D**
Go on my friend do anything you choose.
G **B** **Em**
Now I m paying for those happy hours I spent there in her arms
A **D**
With a lifetime case of the Mexicali Blues, yeah.

Is there anything a man don t stand to lose

A

When the devil wants to take it all away?

Cherish well your thoughts, keep a tight grip on your booze

G(open) A

Cuz thinkin and drinkin are all I have today.

A G B Em
Then a man rode into town; some thought he was the law

A D
Billie Jean was waiting when he came

A G B Em
She told me he would take her if I didn t use my gun

A D
And I d have no one but myself to blame

G B Em
I went down to those dusty streets; blood was on my mind

A D
I guess that stranger hadn t heard the news.

G B Em
Cuz I shot first and killed him. Lord he didn t even draw.

A D
And he made me trade the gallows for the Mexicali Blues.

D
Is there anything a man don t stand to lose

A

When he lets a woman hold him in her hand?

You just might find yourself out there on horseback in the dark

G(open) A

Just ridin and runnin across those desert sands.