

Billy Dee
Kris Kristofferson

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***** BILLY DEE *****

written and performed by Kris Kristofferson

Verse 1:

G **C/G** **G**
Billy Dee was seventeen when he turned twenty-one
D
Fooling with some foolish things he could ve left alone
G **C/G** **G**
But he had to try to satisfy a thirst he couldn t name
D **G**
Driven towards the darkness by the devil in his veins
C/G **G**
All around the honky tonks,searching for a sign
D
Gettin by on gettin high on women,words and wine
G **C/G** **G**
Some folks called him crazy, Lord,and others called him free
D **G**
But we just called us lucky for the love of Billy Dee

Verse 2:(Three and a half tones lower)

C/G **F** **C/G**
Busy goin his own way and speakin his own words
G
Facin and forgettin every warnin that he heard
C/G **F** **C/G**
Makin friends and takin any crazy chance he could
G **C/G**
Gettin busted for the bad times and believin in the good
F **C/G**
Billy took a beatin from a world he meant no harm
G
The score was written in the scars up on his arm
C/G **F** **C/G**
Some felt he was payin for the life he tried to lead
G **C/G**
But all we felt was sorry for our good friend Billy Dee

Verse 3:(Four and a half tones higher)

A **D** **A**
It may be his soul bigger than a body s oughta be
E
Singin songs and bringin laughter to the likes of you and me
A **D** **A**
Cause the world he saw was sadder than the one he hoped to find
E **A**
But it wasn t near as lonesome as the one he left behind
D **A**
Yesterday they found him on the floor of his hotel
E
Reachin towards the needle, Lord, that drove him down to hell
A **D** **A**
Some folks called it suicide, others blame the speed
E **A**
But we all called it crucified when Billy Dee O.D. d

Thanks to Jan Ekeland for the lyrics.

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