

The Stanger Song
Leonard Cohen

The Stranger

Chords:

Intro: **Em**

C **Bb** **C** **G**
It s true that all the men you knew were dealers

D
Who said they were through with dealing

Em
Every time you gave them shelter

D
I know that kind of man

Em
It s hard to hold the hand of anyone

D **Em**
Who is reaching for the sky just to surrender

D **Em**
Who is reaching for the sky just to surrender

C **Bb** **C** **G**
And then sweeping up the jokers that he left behind

D
You find he did not leave you very much

Em
Not even laughter

D **Em**
Like any dealer he was watching for the card

D
That is so high and wild

Em
He ll never need to deal another

D **Em**
He was just some Joseph looking for a manger

D **Em**
He was just some Joseph looking for a manger

C **Bb** **C**
And then leaning on your window sill

G
He ll say one day you caused his will

D **Em**
To weaken with your love and warmth and shelter

D

And then taking from his wallet

Em

An old schedule of trains, he ll say

D

Em

I told you when I came I was a stranger

D

Em

I told you when I came I was a stranger

C

Bb

C

But now another stranger seems

G

To want you to ignore his dreams

D

Em

As though they were the burden of some other

D

O you ve seen that man before

Em

His golden arm dispatching cards

D

Em

But now it s rusted from the elbow to the finger

D

Em

And he wants to trade the game he plays for shelter

D

Em

Yes he wants to trade the game he knows for shelter

C

Bb

C

G

Ah you hate to watch another tired man

G

Lay down his hand

D

Em

Like he was giving up the holy game of poker

D

And while he talks his dreams to sleep

Em

You notice there s a highway

D

Em

That is curling up like smoke above his shoulder

D

Em

It s curling just like smoke above his shoulder

C

Bb

C

You tell him to come in sit down

G

But something makes you turn around

D

Em

The door is open you can t close your shelter

D

You try the handle of the road

Em

It opens do not be afraid

D

Em

It s you my love, you who are the stranger

D

Em

It s you my love, you who are the stranger

C

Bb

C

Well, I ve been waiting, I was sure

G

D

We d meet between the trains we re waiting for

Em

I think it s time to board another

D

Em

Please understand, I never had a secret chart

D

To get me to the heart of this

Em

Or any other matter

D

Em

When he talks like this you don t know what he s after

D

Em

When he speaks like this, you don t know what he s after

C

Bb

C

Let s meet tomorrow if you choose

G

Upon the shore, beneath the bridge

D

Em

That they are building on some endless river

D

Then he leaves the platform

Em

For the sleeping car that s warm

D

Em

You realize, he s only advertising on more shelter

D

Em

And it comes to you, he never was a stranger

D

Em

And you say okay the bridge or someplace later

C

Bb

C

G

And then sweeping up the jokers that he left behind

D

You find he did not leave you very much

Em

Not even laughter

D

Em

Like any dealer he was watching for the card

D

That is so high and wild

Em

He ll never need to deal another

D

Em

He was just some Joseph looking for a manger

D

Em

He was just some Joseph looking for a manger

C

Bb

C

And leaning on your window sill

G

He ll say one day you caused his will

D

Em

To weaken with your love and warmth and shelter

D

And then taking from his wallet

Em

An old schedule of trains

D

Em

He ll say, I told you when I came I was a stranger

D

Em

I told you when I came I was a stranger

D

Em

I told you when I came I was a stranger

D

Em

I told you when I came I was a stranger...

Tab:

Intro:

F#m

D:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2--:

A:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2--:

F:----2-----2-----4-----2-----2-----2-----4-----2-----:

C:-----4-----4-----4-----4-----4-----:

G:-----4-----4-----4-----4-----:

D:--2-----2-----:

F#m

D:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0-----:

A:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0-----:

F:----2-----2-----4-----2-----2-----0-----:

C:-----4-----4-----4-----0-----:

G:-----4-----:

D:--2-----2-----:

Verse:

D

C

D

D:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0-----0-----2-----2---:
A:-----3-----3-----3-----3-----1-----1-----3-----3---:
F:---2-----2-----2-----2-----0-----0-----2-----2-----:
C:-----0-----0-----2-----0-----:
G:--0-----0-----3-----0-----:
D:-----:

A

D:-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0---:
A:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0---:
F:---2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0-----:
C:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0-----:
G:--0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----:
D:-----:

E

D:-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0---:
A:-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0---:
F:---1-----1-----1-----1-----2-----1-----1-----0-----:
C:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0-----:
G:-----2-----2-----2-----:
D:--0-----0-----:

F#m

D:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0---:
A:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0---:
F:---2-----2-----2-----2-----4-----2-----2-----0-----:
C:-----4-----4-----4-----0-----:
G:-----4-----:
D:--2-----2-----2-----:

E

D:-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0---:
A:-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0---:
F:---1-----1-----1-----1-----2-----1-----1-----0-----:
C:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0-----:
G:-----2-----2-----2-----:
D:--0-----0-----:

F#m

D:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0---:
A:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0---:
F:---2-----2-----2-----2-----4-----2-----2-----0-----:
C:-----4-----4-----4-----0-----:
G:-----4-----:
D:--2-----2-----2-----:

E

D:-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0---:
A:-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0---:
F:---1-----1-----1-----1-----2-----1-----1-----0-----:
C:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0-----:
G:-----2-----2-----2-----:

D:--0-----0-----:

F#m

D:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0--:
A:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0--:
F:---2-----2-----2-----2-----4-----2-----2-----0-----:
C:-----4-----4-----4-----4-----0-----:
G:-----4-----:
D:--2-----2-----2-----:

E

D:-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----:
A:-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----0-----:
F:---1-----1-----1-----1-----2-----1-----1-----0-----:
C:-----2-----2-----2-----0-----:
G:-----2-----2-----:
D:--0-----0-----:

F#m

D:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0--:
A:-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----2-----0--:
F:---2-----2-----2-----2-----4-----2-----2-----2-----4-----2-----2-----0-----:
C:-----4-----4-----4-----4-----4-----4-----4-----4-----0-----:
G:-----4-----4-----:
D:--2-----2-----2-----2-----: