

**Ballad Of The Alamo**  
**Marty Robbins**

[Intro]

**Dm**

In the southern part of Texas

**C**

In the town of San Antone

**Dm**

**F**

**A**

**Dm**

There s a fortress all in ruins that the weeds have overgrown

**C**

You may look in vain for crosses and you ll never see a-one

**Dm**

**F**

**C**

**Dm**

But sometimes between the setting and the rising of the sun

[Bridge]

**C**

**Dm**

You can hear a ghostly bugle

**C**

**Dm**

As the men go marching by

**C**

**Dm**

You can hear them as they answer

**A**

**Dm**

To that roll call in the sky

**C** **F** **C** **F**  
Colonel Travis, Davy Crockett, and a hundred eighty more

**E7** **A**  
Captain Dickenson, Jim Bowie

**E7** **A7**  
Present and accounted for

[Verse]

**Dm**

**C**

**Dm**

Back in 1836, Houston said to Travis

**F**

“Get some volunteers and go

**A**

**Dm**

Fortify the Alamo”.

**C**

**Dm**

Well the men came from Texas

**F**

**C**

And from old Tennessee

**Dm**

**C**

And they joined up with Travis

**F**

**C**

**A7**

Just to fight for the right to be free.

[Verse]

**Dm**

Indian scouts with squirrel guns

**C** **Dm**

Men with muzzle-loaders

**F**

Stood together, heel and toe

**A** **Dm**

To defend the Alamo.

**C** **Dm**

“You may ne er see your loved ones,”

**F** **C**

Travis told them that day

**Dm** **C**

“Those who want to can leave now

**F** **C** **A7**

Those who fight to the death let em stay.”

[Verse]

**Dm**

In the sand he drew a line

**C** **Dm**

With his army sabre

**F**

Out of a hundred eighty five

**A** **Dm**

Not a soldier crossed the line

**C** **Dm**

With his banners a-dancin

**F** **C**

In the dawns golden light

**Dm** **C**

Santa Anna came prancing

**F** **C** **A7**

On a horse that was black as the night.

[Verse]

**Dm**

Sent an officer to tell

**C** **Dm**

Travis to surrender

**F**

Travis answered with a shell

**A** **Dm**

And a rousing rebel yell

**C** **Dm**

Santa Anna turned scarlet

**F** **C**

“Play Duguello!” he roared  
Dm C  
“I will show them no quarter  
F C A7  
Every one will be put to the sword!”

[Verse]

Dm  
One hundred and eighty five  
C Dm  
Holding back five thousand  
F  
Five days, six days, eight days, ten  
A Dm  
Travis held and held again

C Dm  
Then he sent for replacements  
F C  
For his wounded and lame  
Dm C  
But the troops that were coming  
F C A7  
Never came, never came, never came...

[Verse]

Dm  
Twice he charged and blew recall  
C Dm  
On the fatal third time  
F  
Santa Anna breached the wall  
A Dm  
And he killed them, one and all  
C Dm  
Now the bugles are silent  
F C  
And there s rust on each sword  
Dm C  
And the small band of soldiers...  
F  
Lie asleep in the arms of the Lord...

[Outro]

Dm  
In the southern part of Texas  
C  
Near the town of San Antone  
Dm F A Dm

Like a statue on his pinto rides a cowboy all alone

**C**

And he sees the cattle grazing where a century before

**Dm**

**F**

**C**

**Dm**

Santa Anna's guns were blazing and the cannons used to roar

**C**

**Dm**

And his eyes turn sorta misty

**C**

**Dm**

And his heart begins to glow

**C**

**Dm**

And he takes his hat off slowly...

**A**

**Dm**

To the men of the Alamo

**C**

**Dm**

To the thirteen days of glory

**A**

**Dm**

At the siege of Alamo...