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Shades Of Gray
Robert Earl Keen
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Capo 5

Am

We made Oklahoma a little after 3

Randy, his brother Bob and my old GMC

We had some moonshine whisky

and some of Bob s homegrown

we were so messed up we didn t know

Am

if we were drunk or stoned

Randy was a sad-sack, tall kinda frail

Bob was a raving maniac, crazier than hell

They been kicked out of high school several years ago

for pushin over port-a-cans at the 4-H rodeo

Since then they we done their little dance

right outside the law

popped twice in Oklahoma, once in Arkansas

and I don t know what possessed me

to want to tag along

Cause I was raised a Christian

and I knew right from wrong

CHORUS:

Right or Wrong, black or white

Cross the line you re gonna pay

In the dawn before the light

G

Live and die by shades of gray

We stole two Charolais heifers from Randy s sweetheart s paw sold them at the livestock sale outside of Wichita
We got \$900 and never did suspect the world of hurt we d be in once we cashed that check next day we heard the story on the local radio made our plans that very night to go to Mexico
I swear we would have made it if it wasn t for that shine
I got sick about the time we crossed that Kansas line

CHORUS

I was laying in the bar ditch prayin I would die when a light come on above us and a voice come from the sky a half a dozen unmarked cars came screeching to a halt They grabbed bob, he started screamin it was all my fault There were men and dogs and helicopter buzzin all around they had the brothers on the pickup hood and me down on the ground Bob flew all to pieces but randy he held tight when a black man in a suit and tie stepped out into the light he told his men to turn us loose they put down their guns he said these are just some sorry kids, they ain t the ones

CHORUS

They left us by the roadside down hearted and alone Randy got behind the wheel said boys I m going home We turned around to face our fate hungover but alive on that mornin in late April, Oklahoma, 1995

F C
Right or Wrong, black or white
G Am
Cross the line you re gonna pay
C G Am

In the dawn before the light

F G Am

Live and die by shades of gray

F G Am

Live and die by shades of gray

repeat intro

Progression:

Verse:

Dm F C Dm

Chorus:

Bb F C Dm

C Dm F C Dm