

Ballad Of Billy Jo Mckay
Shawn Mullins

Shawn Mullins - The Ballad of Billy Jo Mckay
(Souls Core album)

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I just found out recently that Lullaby is not Shawn Mullins only good song and I heard this one and couldn't find a tab for it on the net so I sat down and this is I came up with. He's actually got a couple of brilliant songs. Shimmer, West and In the moonlight are all very cool acoustic songs.

You really have to listen to the song first to be able to use this tab and I think there 2 guitars or more anyway and a few other instruments but I think the songs a great piece, and this is the way I play it:

Capo on 4
Play with plectrum (pick)

Verses: picking/strumming (pick base note of each chord
as you start strumming it)

G ...320033
Cadd9 ...032033
Em7 ...022033
Dsus4 ...xx0233
C ...030210

Chorus: strumming and hammering, The song doesn't really have a chorus but he plays a riff with these chords in between the verses so I'll just call it the chorus.

Em7 ...022033
D ...xx0232 (hammer high e from 2 onto 3 and back)
Cadd9 ...032033 (hammer D string while strumming)

Pattern: Just listen to the song for the correct picking, it's hard to make out cuz he's the whole time but with these chords and a capo on 4 any kind of picking sounds cool. He also mutes the chords a lot between every change but I'm no good at that yet.

Play verses in this order:
G - Cadd9 - Em7 - Dsus4 - Cadd9

and the riff:

Em7 - D - Cadd9

Lyrics:

My names Billy Jo Mckay
I just turned 16 yesterday
Im gonna get the nerve one day to get outa here

My ma passed on 3 years ago
They said it was cancer and it took her slow
Ever since then i been saying no to my daddy and my tears

riff

If you come down our road you gotta watch the bump
Right there across from the garbage dump
You can find me out back jumping on the trampoline

In the spring time well be skipping schoool
Sneak off to the can trail swimming pool
Man you just cant get much cooler, me and my friend Arlene

riff X2

My grandaddy hands are worn
From 50 years of growing corn
Back behind the house where i was born
Before he had to sell

My cousin Eddy
He got shot
In a wallmart parking lot
This little towns changed a lot
He said it hurt like hell

riff X3

Mmmmmhmmmm

My names Billy Jo Mckay
Its a hot Mississippi summer Saturday
Daddys on the front porch with Uncle Dave
Drinking Dixies beer

16 years of being bored
The windows open
Forget the door
Hope theres some gas in the old mans ford
Cuz im outa here

Ah Im outa here
Ah Im out of here

Ooooh Im out of here
Hey Ooooooh im out of here
Hey Ooooooh im out of here
Hey, said im outa here

Picks, hammers and slides the chords here quietly, I can t work it out..
if you can, please let me know how.

then he basically whispers this:

Maybe I ll go down to New Blatski...?? (can t make out words....don t
Maybe to New Orleans know to many US states, lol)
Maybe to Los Angeles...

Yep, its a brilliant song.
Hope this helps you, but please mail me if you ve got any suggestions or
questions.
Fan mails also welcome.
And hate mail as well if you like.
You know, feedback of any sort is cool.

A aight, schweet.
Listen to Counting Crows, theyre a bloody awesome band. And just so you know,
if you didn t...Seether (Saron Gas) are South African!