

Poncho and Lefty - Townes Van Zandt (Nelson and Haggard)

[Verse 1]

D A
Livin' on the road my friend Was gonna keep us free and clean
G D A
But now you wear your skin like iron, And your breath's as hard as kerosene
G D G
You weren't your mama's only boy, But her favorite one, it seems
Bm G A G Bm
She began to cry when you said good bye, And sank into your dreams

[Verse 2]

D A
Pancho was a bandit boys, Rode a horse fast as polished steel
G D A
Wore his guns outside his pants, For all the honest world to feel
G D G
Pancho met his match, you know, On the deserts down in Mexico
Bm G A G Bm
No one heard his dyin' words, But that's the way it goes

[Chorus]

G D G
And all the federales say, They could have had him any day
Bm G A G Bm
They only let him slip away, Out of kindness, I suppose

[Verse 3]

D A
Now Lefty he can't sing the blues, All night long like he used to
G D A
The dust that Pancho bit down South, It ended up in Lefty's mouth
G D G
The day they laid old Pancho low, Lefty split for Ohio
Bm G A G Bm
Where he got the bread to go, Well there ain't nobody 'knows

[Chorus]

G D G
And all the federales say, They could have had him any day
Bm G A G Bm
They only let him slip away, Out of kindness, I suppose

[Verse 4]

D A
Now poets sing how Pancho fell, Lefty's livin' in a cheap hotel
G D A
The desert's quiet and Cleveland's cold, And so the story ends, we're told
G D G
Pancho needs your prayers, it's true, But save a few for Lefty, too
Bm G A G Bm
He only did what he had to do, And now he's growin' old

[Chorus]

(Final Chorus)

G D G
Yes a few old gray federales still say, They could have had him any day
Bm G A G Bm
They only let him go so wrong, Out of kindness, I suppose