Stagger Lee

Wilbert Harrison

1948, Xmas eve, with a full moon over town
Stagger Lee met Billy DeLions and he blew that poor boy down
Do you know what he shot him for?
What do you make of that?
'Cause Billy DeLions threw the lucky dice
Won Stagger Lee's Stetson hat
Bayo, Bayo, tell me how can this be?
You arrest the girls for turning tricks
But you're scared of Stagger Lee
Stagger Lee is a madman and he shot my Billy D
Bayo, go get him or give the job to me
Delia DeLions, dear sweet Delia D
How the hell can I arrest him? He's twice as big as me
Well don't ask me to go downtown, I won't come back alive
Not only is that mother big, he packs a .45
Bayo, Delia said, just give me a gun
He shot my Billy dead now, I'm gonna see him hung
She went into the DeLion's club through Billy DeLions blood
Stepped up to Stagger Lee at the bar
Said, "Buy me a gin fizz, love"
As Stagger Lee lit a cigarette, she shot him in the balls
Blew the smoke off her revolver, had him dragged to city hall
Bayo, Bayo, see you hang him high
He shot my Billy dead and now it's time to die
Delia went a walking down on Singapore Street
With a three piece band on the corner played "Near my God to Thee"
But Delia whistled a different tune, what tune could that be?
The song that woman sung was "Look out Stagger Lee"
The song that Delia sung was "Look out Stagger Lee"
Oh, the song that Delia sung was "Look out Stagger Lee"
Oh, the song that woman sung was "Look out Stagger Lee"

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