Stagger Lee

Professor Longhair

(intro) The night was clear, and the moon was yellow
And the leaves came tumblin' down. . .

I was standing on a corner
When I heard my bull dog bark
He was barking at two men
Who were gambling in the dark

It was Stagger Lee and Billy
Two men who gambled late
Stagger Lee threw a seven
Billy swore that he threw eight

Stagger Lee he told Billy
"I can't let you go with that
You won all o' my money
And my brand new Stetson hat."

Stagger Lee started off walking
Down that old railroad track
He turned and told Billy
"Don't be here when I come back"

Then old Stagger Lee, he went home
And he got his forty-four
He said "I'm going down to the barroom
To pay that debt I owe"

bridge: Go, Stagger Lee!

Stagger Lee went to the barroom
Walked across that barroom floor
He said, "Now, nobody move"
And he pulled out his forty-four

"Oh, Stagger Lee," cried Billy
"Please don't take my life
I got three little children
And a very sickly wife"

Stagger Lee... shot Billy
Oh, he shot that poor boy so bad
Till the bullet went through Billy
And it broke the bartender's glass.

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