

Pride And The Badge

Marty Robbins

All night long, I tried to sleep but sleep refused to come
'Cause today I knew, I'd either have to fight or run
Knowin' if I choose to run my mind would never rest
'Cause with so much pride, I wear this badge upon my vest
Folks are filled with fear because there's three bad guns in town
Sheriff Olsen made the wrong move and they shot him down
One they called Dakota Jack and one El Paso Red
The other just turned twenty and he's called the Killer Kid
Good advice I get and that's to leave and run away
But my pride and badge I wear, won't let me live this way
And if I stay the three have bragged, they'll add me to their list
But I have a different aim and I don't aim to miss
From the doorway where I stand, I see the outlaws three
Worried none because they know, the town's not helpin' me
From a hundred yards away, I try a lucky shot
Luck is with me and Dakota Jack dies on the spot
Well a kid runs through the barroom door and Red goes up the stairs
The Kid is ragin' mad, he's breakin' bottles, kickin' chairs
And from a roof El Paso Red has vowed to pay me back
As he views the lifeless body of Dakota Jack
I can see him as he jumps from one roof to the next
Searchin' for me but he has no idea where I'm at
But I watch his every move, I'm ready when he leaps
As I shoot him in mid air he crashes to the street
Now there's one against just one, I've evened up the score
Down the street I hear, a yell come through the barroom door
The Kid has screamed, there's no way I can live unless I run
Said, 'There ain't no lawdog man enough to take his gun'
Through the barroom door he walks and steps out on the street
I can't match his draw, he's much too fast for me to beat
And as I walk toward him, we both grab a forty five
Maybe I will die today and he will stay alive
Like a hammer somethin' hits me, spinnin' me around
As I fall, I shoot him twice before he hits the ground
His bullet missed me still I feel a burnin' in my chest
His bullet hits the badge I wear with pride upon my vest
As the people view the bodies of the lifeless three
From their looks, I know exactly what they think of me
To them I'm just a killer and they could not care less

'Bout my pride or 'bout the badge, I wear upon my vest

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