

Cattleman's Gun

Dean Brody

He rode into town one dust storm
Sheepskin cloak across his back
A preacher man with kind old eyes
 And a mystery for a past
 He said he'd come to teach
 About the love of God
But he soon learned what they were missing there
 Was justice and the law
There was a cattleman who claimed his clan
 Owned all the land around
 And any brave fool that might dispute
 He was quick to snuff 'em out
 He'd say, "Take my heed
 And you won't pay the price
'Cause honor and a name ain't worth a damn
 If you don't have your life"
He'd say, "Ain't nobody faster than this cattleman's gun
 I'm a rattlesnake on the trigger
 Your last stand will be lyin' in the sand
 Fallin' to the slam of my hammer"
 So one man taught forgiveness
 While the other taught suffering
 Preacher said deliverance
 Could be found out on their knees
 He said, "I know you want justice
 And you want blood
 But believe me when I say to you
 Don't try and be that man's judge"
'Cause ain't nobody faster than that cattleman's gun
 He's a rattlesnake on the trigger
 Your last stand will be lyin' in the sand
 Fallin' to the slam of his hammer
 One day a young farmer
 Brought his sons to town for feed
 And noticed that the streets were quiet
 And he knew what that might mean
 The smoke rose in the distance
 His farm burned to the ground
 He let the fury overtake him

When cattleman came back to town
Those boys ran out from behind the crowd
And watched their daddy die
The big man laughed and said, "Now look at that
Anybody else wanna give it a try?"
Well, the church doors opened with that black cloak
Flowin' behind the preacher's fiery eyes
He said, "Your ticket to hell is a comin' to you
And I got a hollow-point to give you the ride"
And the only thing faster than the cattleman's gun
Was the preacher man's handy finger
He pulled iron from his side and let that bullet fly
Beat the rattlesnake to the hammer
While the preacher embraced forgiveness
Oh, they finally understood
Under that sheepskin cloak of his
Was a history of blood

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