

Don't Take Your Guns To Town

Johnny Cash

A young cowboy named Billy Joe grew restless on the farm
A boy filled with wonderlust who really meant no harm
 He changed his clothes and shined his boots
 And combed his dark hair down
And his mother cried as he walked out
 Don't take your guns to town son
 Leave your guns at home Bill
Don't take your guns to town
 He laughed and kissed his mom
 And said your Billy Joe's a man
I can shoot as quick and straight as anybody can
 But I wouldn't shoot without a cause
 I'd gun nobody down
But she cried again as he rode away
 Don't take your guns to town son
 Leave your guns at home Bill
Don't take your guns to town
 He sang a song as on he rode
 His guns hung at his hips
 He rode into a cattle town
 A smile upon his lips
 He stopped and walked into a bar
 And laid his money down
But his mother's words echoed again
 Don't take your guns to town son
 Leave your guns at home Bill
Don't take your guns to town
 He drank his first strong liquor then to calm his shaking hand
 And tried to tell himself he had at last he had become a man
 A dusty cowpoke at his side began to laugh him down
And he heard again his mothers words
 Don't take your guns to town son
 Leave your guns at home Bill
Don't take your guns to town
 Filled with rage then
 Billy Joe reached for his gun to draw
 But the stranger drew his gun and fired
 Before he even saw
 As Billy Joe fell to the floor
 The crowd all gathered 'round
And wondered at his final words
 Don't take your guns to town son
 Leave your guns at home Bill
 Don't take your guns to town