The Ballad of Billy the Kid

Billy Joel

From a town known as Wheeling, West Virginia

Rode a boy with a six gun in his hand

And his daring life of crime

made him a legend in his time

east and west of the Rio Grande. Well he started with a bank in Colorado

in the pocket of his vest, a Colt he hid

and his age and his size

took the teller by surprise

and, the word spread of Billy the kidWell he never travelled heavy

yes he always rode alone

and he soon put many older guns to shame

and he never had a sweetheart

and he never had a home

but the cowboy and the rancher knew his nameWell he robbed his way from Utah to Oklahoma

and the largest could not seem to track him down

and it served his legend well

For the folks they loved to tell about

When Billy the kid came to town. Well one cold day a posse captured Billy

and the judge said "String him up for what he did."

And the cowboys and their kin

like the sea, came pouring in

to watch the hanging of Billy the kid. Well he never travelled heavy

yes he always rode alone

and he soon put many older guns to shame

and he never had a sweetheart

but he finally found a home

under the boothill grave that bears his name. From a town known as Oyster Bay Long Island

Rode a boy with a six pack in his hand

and his daring life of crime

made him a legend in his time

east and west of the Rio Grande.

Songwriters

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