

Stack O'Lee/ Stackerlee/ Stagolee/ Stagger Lee
Mississippi John Hurt/ Furry Lewis, etc.

I remember one September on one Friday night,
Stagger Lee and Billy de Lyons had a great big fight.
He was a bad man, that cruel Stagger Lee.

Billy de Lyon shot six bits, Stagger Lee said he'd pass,
Stagger Lee out with his forty—five, sayin' you done shot your last
He was a bad man, that cruel Stagger Lee.

Billy de Lyon told Stagger Lee, "Please don't take my life,
I got two little babies, and a darlin' lovin' wife"
That bad man, oh, cruel Stagger Lee

"What I care about you little babies, your darlin' lovin' wife?
You done stole my Stetson hat, I'm bound to take your life"
That bad man, cruel Stagger Lee

Lord, a woman come a-runnin', fell down on her knees,
Cryin' 'Oh Mr. Stagger Lee don't shoot my brother, please.
You're a bad man, cruel Stagger Lee."

Boom boom, boom boom went the forty-four
When I spied Billy de Lyon, he was lyin' down on the floor
That bad man, oh cruel Stagger Lee

Police officer, how can it be?
You can 'rest everybody but cruel Stagger Lee
That bad man, oh, cruel Stagger Lee

Sheriff told the deputy, "We want 'im dead or alive."
"How in hell can we catch hem when he totes a forty-five?"
That bad man, oh, cruel Stagger Lee

"Gentleman's of the jury, what do you think of that?
Stagger Lee killed Billy de Lyon about a five-dollar Stetson hat"
That bad man, oh, cruel Stagger Lee

Standin' on the gallows, Stagolee uttered a curse
Judge said, "better kill him 'fore he kills one of us."
That bad man, oh, cruel Stagger Lee

Standin' on the gallows, his head way up high,
At twelve o'clock they killed him, they's all glad to see him die
That bad man, oh, cruel Stagger Lee

Down in New Orleans, there's a place called the Lion's Club
And every place you step, you step in Billy De Lyons' blood.
He was a bad man, that cruel Stagger Lee.