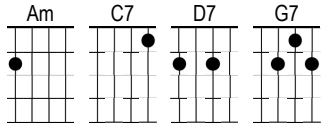


# Ode To Billie Joe

Bobbie Gentry



**D7** |

It was the **D7** third of June, another **Am** sleepy, dusty, Delta **D7** day |  
I was | out chopping cotton, and my **Am** brother was balin' **D7** hay |  
And at **G7** dinner time we stopped and walked | back to the house to | eat |  
And Momma **D7** hollered out the back door, "Y'all | remember to wipe your | feet" |  
And then she **G7** said, I got some news this | mornin' from Choctaw | Ridge |  
Today **D7**↓ Billie Joe MacAllister jumped **C7**↓ off the Tallahatchie **D7** Bridge |

And **D7** Poppa said to Momma as he **Am** passed around the black-eyed **D7** peas |

"Well, Billie | Joe never had a lick of **Am** sense, pass the biscuits **D7** please |  
There's **G7** five more acres in the | lower forty I got to | plow" |  
And Momma **D7** said it was a shame about | Billie Joe any | how |  
Seems like **G7** nothin' ever comes to no | good up on Choctaw | Ridge |  
And now **D7**↓ Billie Joe McAllister jumped **C7**↓ off the Tallahatchie **D7** Bridge |

And **D7** Brother said he recollected **Am** when he and Tom, and Billie **D7** Joe |  
Put a | frog down my back at the **Am** Carroll County Picture **D7** Show |  
And, wasn't **G7** I talkin' to him after | church, last Sunday | night |  
I'll have a **D7** nother piece of apple pie | you know, it don't seem | right |  
I **G7** saw him at the sawmill | yesterday up on Choctaw | Ridge |  
And now you **D7**↓ tell me Billie Joe's jumped **C7**↓ off the Tallahatchie **D7** Bridge |

**D7** Momma said to me, "Child, what's **Am** happened to your appe **D7** tite? |  
Why, I've been | cookin' all morning, and you **Am** haven't touched a single **D7** bite |

That **G7** nice young preacher Brother | Taylor dropped by to | day |  
Said he'd be **D7** pleased to have dinner on | Sunday. Oh, by the | way |  
He **G7** said he saw a girl that looked a | lot like you up on Choctaw | Ridge |  
And she and **D7**↓ Billie Joe was throwin' somethin' **C7**↓ off the Tallahatchie **D7** Bridge |

A **D7** year has come and gone since we **Am** heard the news bout Billie **D7** Joe |  
And | brother married Becky Thompson they **Am** bought a store in Tupte **D7** lo |  
There was a **G7** virus going round Poppa | caught it and he died last | spring |  
And now **D7** Momma doesn't seem to wanna | do much of any | thing |  
And **G7** me, I spend a lot of time | pickin' flowers up on Choctaw | Ridge |  
And drop them **D7**↓ into the muddy water **C7**↓ off the Tallahatchie **D7** Bridge | |  
**D7**↓

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