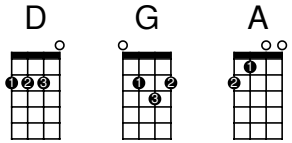
The Gambler



(Intro Finger Picking)

[D] / / / / [G] / / / / [D] / / / / [G] / / / /

(Finger Picking)
On a [D]warm summer's evenin', on a [G]train bound for [D]nowhere,
I met up with the gambler; we were both too tired to [A]sleep.
So [D]we took turns a starin', out the [G]window at the [D]darkness
'til [G]boredom over [D]took us, and [A]he began to [D]speak.

(Single Strums, ukes and bass)
He said, [D]"Son, I've made a [D]life, out of [G]readin' people's [D]faces,
and [D]knowin' what their [D]cards were by the [D]way they held their [A]eyes.
And if [D] you don't mind my [D]sayin', I can [G]see you're out of [D]aces.
For a [G]taste of your [D]whiskey, I'll [A]give you some [D]advice."

(Begin Strumming on D)
So I [D]handed him my bottle, and he [G]drank down my last [D]swallow.
Then he bummed a cigarette and asked me for a [A]light.
And the [D]night got deathly quiet, and his [G]face lost all ex[D]pression.
Said, "If you're [G]gonna play the [D]game, boy, ya gotta [A]learn to play it [D]righ

You got to [D]know when to hold 'em, [G]know when to [D]fold 'em,
[G] know when to [D]walk away and know when to [A]run.
You never [D]count [G]your [D]money, when you're [G]sittin' at the [D]table.
There'll be [G]time enough for [D]countin', [A]when the dealin's [D]done.

[D]Ev'ry gambler knows, that the [G]secret to surv[D]ivin'
is knowin' what to throw away, and knowing what to [A]keep.
'Cause [D]ev'ry hand's a winner, and [G]ev'ry hand's a [D]loser,
and the [G]best that you can [D]hope for, is to [A]die in your [D]sleep."

And [D]when he'd finished speakin', he [G]turned back towards the [D]windo
crushed out his cigarette and faded off to [A]sleep.
And D(Hold)somewhere in the darkness, the G(Hold)gambler, he broke D(Hold
But G(Hold)in his final D(Hold)words, I found an A(Hold)ace that I could D(Hold)ke

(Resume strumming on D)
You got to [D]know when to hold 'em, [G]know when to [D]fold 'em,
[G]know when to [D]walk away and know when to [A]run.
You never [D]count [G]your [D]money, when you're [G]sittin' at the [D]table.
There'll be [G]time enough for [D]countin', [A]when the dealin's [D]done.

(Acapella - w/hand claps or uke taps)
You got to know Xwhen to hold 'em,X know Xwhen to fold 'em,X
know Xwhen to walk aXway and know Xwhen to run. X
You never count Xyour money,X when you're sittin' Xat the table.X
There'll be time Xenough for countin',X when the Xdealin's done.

(Strumming)
You got to [D]know when to hold 'em, [G]know when to [D]fold 'em,
[G]know when to [D]walk away and know when to [A]run.
You never [D]count [G]your [D]money, when you're [G]sittin' at the [D]table.
There'll be [G]time enough for [D]countin', [A]when the dealin's D(Hold) done.