To the town of Talladega rode a stranger one fine day

Hardly spoke to folks around him, didn't have too much to say

No one dared to ask his business, no one dared to make a slip

For the stranger there among them had a big iron on his hip

Big iron on his hip

It was early in the morning when he rode into the town

He came riding from the North side slowly lookin' all around

He's an outlaw loose and running, came the whisper from each lip

And he's here to do some business with the big iron on his hip

Big iron on his hip

In this town there lived an outlaw by the name of Texas Blue

Many men had tried to take him and that many men were dead

He was vicious and a killer though a youth of 21

And the notches on his pistol numbered one and 19 more

One and 19 more

Now the stranger started talking, made it plain to folks around

Was an California ranger, wouldn't be too long in town

He came here to take an outlaw back alive or maybe dead

And he said it didn't matter he was after Texas Red

After Texas Red

Wasn't long before the story was relayed to Texas Red

But the outlaw didn't worry men that tried before were dead

20 men had tried to take him, 20 men had made a slip

21 would be the ranger with the big iron on his hip

Big iron on his hip

The morning passed so quickly, it was time for them to meet

It was 40 past 11 when they walked out in the street

Folks were watching from the windows, everybody held their breath

They knew this handsome ranger was about to meet his death

About to meet his death

There was 50 feet between them when they stopped to make their play

And the swiftness of the outlaw is still talked about today

Texas Red had not cleared leather 'fore a bullet fairly ripped

And the ranger's aim was deadly with the big iron on his hip

Big iron on his hip

It was over in a moment and the folks had gathered round

There before them lay the body of the ranger on the ground

Oh, he might have went on living but he made one fatal slip

When he tried to match the outlaw with the big iron on his hip

Big iron on his hip

Big iron, big iron

When he tried to match the outlaw with the big iron on his hip

Big iron on his hip