

*From: "The Halloween Songbook - 2nd Edition"*

# **(Ghost) Riders In the Sky**

*(A Cowboy Legend)*

by

STAN JONES

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# (GHOST) RIDERS IN THE SKY

(A Cowboy Legend)

from *RIDERS IN THE SKY*

By STAN JONES

Briskly, in 2

Em

Piano introduction in E minor, 2/4 time. The right hand has whole rests for the first three measures. The left hand plays a descending eighth-note pattern: E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3. A piano (*p*) dynamic marking is placed above the first measure of the left hand.

Vocal entry and accompaniment. The right hand has a whole rest in the first measure, followed by a half note G4. The left hand has a whole note E3. The lyrics are: "1. An old cow - poke went rid - ing out one / brands were still on fire and their". A mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking is placed below the first measure of the right hand. A repeat sign is placed after the first measure of the right hand.

Vocal entry and accompaniment. The right hand has a half note G4, followed by a whole note G4. The left hand has a half note E3, followed by a whole note E3. The lyrics are: "dark and wind - y day, / hooves were made of steel.". A G/D chord marking is placed above the first measure of the right hand.

Vocal entry and accompaniment. The right hand has a whole rest in the first measure, followed by a half note G4. The left hand has a whole note E3. The lyrics are: "up - on a ridge he rest - ed as he / Their horns were black and shin - y and their". An E minor (Em) chord marking is placed above the first measure of the right hand.

went a - long his way,  
hot breath he could feel,

when a all bolt at of once fear went might - y herd of  
through him as they

red - eyed cows he saw, thun - dered through the sky, for a - plough - in' through the rid - ers

rag - ged skies com - in' hard and he

Em

up a cloud - y  
heard their mourn - ful

draw. \_\_\_\_\_  
cry. \_\_\_\_\_

Yi - pi - yi - ay, \_\_\_\_\_

Yi - pi - yi -

o, \_\_\_\_\_ the

1-3. C Am

ghost  
ghost

herd  
rid - ers

in  
in

Em

the  
the

sky.  
sky.

4. C

ghost

2. Their  
3. Their  
4. As

Am

herd

in

the

Em

sky.

C Am

Ghost rid - ers in the

Em

sky.

*Additional Lyrics*

3. Their faces gaunt, their eyes were blurred and shirts all soaked with sweat,  
They're ridin' hard to catch that herd but they ain't caught them yet,  
'Cause they've got to ride forever on that range up in the sky  
On horses snortin' fire as they ride on, hear their cry.  
Yi-pi-yi-ay, yi-pi-yi-o, the ghost riders in the sky.
4. As the riders loped on by him he heard one call his name,  
"If you want to save your soul from hell a- ridin' on our range,  
Then cowboy, change your ways today or with us you will ride  
A- try'n to catch the devil's herd across these endless skies."  
Yi-pi-yi- ay, yi-pi-yi-o, the ghost riders in the sky. Ghost riders in the sky.