

ODE TO BILLIE JOE – BOBBY GENTRY

D7

Am7

D7

Twas the third of June another sleepy dusty delta day

D7

Am7

D7

I was out choppin cotton and my brother was balin' hay

G7

And at dinner time we stopped and walked back to the house to eat

D7

And Mama hollered out the back door "y'all remember to wipe your feet

G7

And then she said "I got some news this mornin' from Choctaw Ridge"

D7

C7

D7

"Today Billy Joe MacAllister jumped off the Tallahatchie Bridge"

D7

Am7

D7

And Papa said to Mama as he passed around the blackeyed peas

D7

Am7

D7

"Well, Billy Joe never had a lick of sense, pass the biscuits, please"

G7

"There's five more acres in the lower forty I've got to plow"

D7

And Mama said it was shame about Billy Joe, anyhow

G7

Seems like nothin' ever comes to no good up on Choctaw Ridge

D7

C7

D7

And now Billy Joe MacAllister's jumped off the Tallahatchie Bridge

D7

Am7

D7

And Brother said he recollected when he and Tom and Billie Joe

D7

Am7

D7

Put a frog down my back at the Carroll County picture show

G7

And wasn't I talkin' to him after church last Sunday night?

D7

"I'll have another piece of apple pie, you know it don't seem right"

G7

"I saw him at the sawmill yesterday on Choctaw Ridge"

