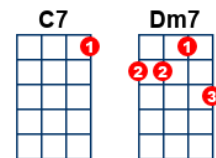


# Ode to Billy Joe

key:G, artist:Bobby Gentry writer:Bobby Gentry

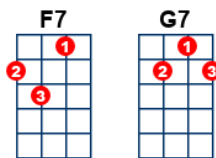
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nv33eaygVDQ>

**G7**



**G7** It was the third of June, another **Dm7** sleepy, dusty, delta **G7** day

**G7** I was out chopping cotton, and my **Dm7** brother was bailing **G7** hay,



And at **C7** dinner time we stopped and walked back to the house to eat.

And Momma **G7** hollered out the back door "Y'all re - member to wipe your feet!"

And then she **C7** said, I got some news this mornin from Choctaw Ridge

Today **G7** Billie Joe MacAllister jumped **F7** off the Tallahatchie **G7** Bridge.

**G7** And Poppa said to Momma as he **Dm7** passed around the blackeyed **G7** peas

**G7** Well Billie Joe never had a lick of sense - **Dm7** pass the biscuits **G7** please

**C7** " There's five more acres in the lower forty - I got to plow.

And Momma **G7** said it was shame - about Billie Joe anyhow,

Seems like **C7** nothing ever comes to no good up on Choctaw Ridge.

And now **G7** Billie Joe McAllister jumped **F7** off the Tallahatchie **G7** Bridge.

**G7** And Brother said he recollected - **Dm7** when he and Tom, and Billie **G7** Joe

**G7** Put a frog down my back at the **Dm7** Carroll County Picture **G7** Show

**C7** And, "Wasn't I talkin' to him after church, last Sunday night.

**G7** I'll have a-nother piece of apple pie, you know, it don't seem right.

**C7**  
I saw him at the sawmill yesterday up on Choctaw Ridge.

And now you **G7** tell me Billie Joe's jumped **F7** off the Tallahatchie **G7** Bridge.

**G7** Momma said to me "Child what's **Dm7** happened to your appe-tite? **G7**

**G7** Why, I've been cookin' all morning, and you **Dm7** haven't touched a single **G7** bite.

**C7**  
That nice young preacher Brother Taylor dropped by today.

**G7** Said he'd be pleased to have dinner on Sunday, **G7** oh, by the way.

**C7**  
He said he saw a girl that looked a lot like you up on Choctaw Ridge.

And she and **G7** Billie Joe was throwing **F7** something off the Tallahatchie **G7** Bridge."

**G7** A year has come and gone since we **Dm7** heard the news bout Billie **G7** Joe

**G7** Brother married Becky Thompson they **Dm7** bought a store in Tupe-lo, **G7**

**C7**  
There was a virus going round Poppa caught it and he died last Spring.

And now **G7** Momma doesn't seem to wanna do much - of anything

And **C7** me, I spend a lot of time pickin flowers up on Choctaw Ridge.

And drop them **G7** into the muddy water **F7** off the Tallahatchie **G7** Bridge. (fade on) **G7**