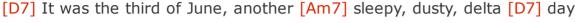
## Ode to Billy Joe

artist:Bobby Gentry, writer:Bobby Gentry

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

## [D7]



[D7] I was out chopping cotton, and my [Am7] brother was bailing [D7] hay, And at [G7] dinner time we stopped and walked back to the house to eat. And Momma [D7] hollered out the back door "Y'all re - member to wipe your feet!" And then she [G7] said, I got some news this mornin from Choctaw Ridge Today [D7] Billie Joe MacAllister jumped [C7] off the Tallahatchie [D7] Bridge.



Am7



[D7] Well Billie Joe never had a lick of sense - [Am7] pass the biscuits [D7] please

"[G7] There's five more acres in the lower forty - I got to plow.

And Momma [D7] said it was shame - about Billie Joe anyhow, Seems like [G7] nothing ever comes to no good up on Choctaw Ridge.

And now [D7] Billie Joe McAllister jumped [C7] off the Tallahatchie [D7] Bridge.



- [D7] And Brother said he recollected [Am7] when he and Tom, and Billie [D7] Joe
- [D7] Put a frog down my back at the [Am7] Carroll County Picture [D7] Show
- [G7] And, "Wasn't I talkin' to him after church, last Sunday night.
- [D7] I'll have a-nother piece of apple pie, you know, it don't seem right.
- I [G7] saw him at the sawmill yesterday up on Choctaw Ridge.

And now you [D7] tell me Billie Joe's jumped [C7] off the Tallahatchie [D7] Bridge.

- [D7] Momma said to me "Child what's [Am7] happened to your appe-[D7]tite?
- [D7] Why, I've been cookin' all morning, and you [Am7] haven't touched a single [D7] bite.
- [G7] That nice young preacher Brother Taylor dropped by today.
- [D7] Said he'd be pleased to have dinner on Sunday, [D7] oh, by the way.
- [G7] He said he saw a girl that looked a lot like you up on Choctaw Ridge.

And she and [D7] Billie Joe was throwing [C7] something off the Tallahatchie [D7] Bridge."

- [D7] A year has come and gone since we [Am7] heard the news bout Billie [D7] Joe
- [D7] Brother married Becky Thompson they [Am7] bought a store in Tupe-[D7]lo,
- [G7] There was a virus going round Poppa caught it and he died last Spring.

And now [D7] Momma doesn't seem to wanna do much - of anything

And [G7] me, I spend a lot of time pickin flowers up on Choctaw Ridge.

And drop them [D7] into the muddy water [C7] off the Tallahatchie [D7] Bridge. (fade on) [D7]