



[Verse]

A D A  
There's someone for ev'ryone and Tommy's love was Becky.

E  
In her arms he didn't have to prove he was a man.

A D A  
One day while he was workin' the Gatlin boys came callin'.

E (Spoken) A  
They took turns at Becky.... There was three of them!

A D A  
Tommy opened up the door and saw his Becky cryin'.

E  
The torn dress, the shattered look was more than he could stand.

A D A  
He reached above the fireplace and took down his daddy's picture.

E A  
As his tears fell on his daddy's face, he heard these words again:

[Chorus]

A D A  
"Promise me, son, not to do the things I've done.

D A E  
Walk away from trouble if you can.

A D A  
It won't mean you're weak if you turn the other cheek.

D E  
I hope you're old enough to understand:

E7 A  
Son, you don't have to fight to be a man."

(Slide capo to 5th fret)

[Verse]

A D A  
The Gatlin boys just laughed at him when he walked into the barroom.

E  
One of them got up and met him halfway 'cross the floor.

A D A  
When Tommy turned around they said, "Hey look! ol' yellow's leavin'."

(Spoken) E A  
But you coulda heard a pin drop when Tommy stopped and blocked the door.

A D A  
Twenty years of crawlin' was bottled up inside him.

E  
He wasn't holdin' nothin' back; he let 'em have it all.

A D A  
When Tommy left the barroom not a Gatlin boy was standin'.

E A  
He said, "This one's for Becky," as he watched the last one fall.

(Spoken)  
And I heard him say,

[Chorus]

A D A  
"I promised you, Dad, not to do the things you done.

D A E  
I walk away from trouble when I can.

A D A  
Now please don't think I'm weak, I didn't turn the other cheek,

D E  
and Papa, I sure hope you understand:

E7 A  
Sometimes you gotta fight when you're a man."

A D N.C. A  
Ev'ryone considered him the coward of the county.

### COWARD OF THE COUNTY

[Verse]

|C | |F |C |  
Ev'ry one con-sidered him the coward of the county  
| | |G |  
He never stood one single time to prove the county wrong  
|C | |F |C |  
His momma named him Tommy the folks just called him yellow  
| | |G7 |C |  
Something always told me they were readin' Tommy wrong

| | |F |C |  
He was only ten years old when his daddy died in prison  
| | |G |  
I looked after Tommy 'cos he was my brothers son  
|C | |F |C |  
I still recall the final words my brother said to Tommy  
| | |G7 |C |  
Son my life is over but yours has just beg-un

[Chorus]

|C | G7 C |F |C |  
Promise me son not to do the things I've done  
|F |C |G |  
walk away from trouble if you can  
|C | |G7 C |F |C |  
Now it won't mean your weak if you turn the other cheek  
|F |G |  
I hope your old enough to under-stand  
|Dm7 |G7 |C |  
you don't have to fight to be a man

[Verse]

|D | |G |D |  
There's someone for every one and Tommys love was Becky  
| | |A |  
In her arms he didn't have to prove he was a man  
|D | |G |D |  
One day while he was workin' the Gatlin boys came callin'  
| | |A7 |D |  
They took turns at Becky There was three of them  
| | |G |D |  
Tommy open up the door and saw his Becky cryin'  
| | |A |  
The torn dress the shattered look was more than he could stand  
|D | |G |D |  
He reached above the fire place and took down his daddys picture  
| | |A |D |  
as the tears fell on his Daddys face he heard these words a-gain

[Chorus]

| | A D |G |  
Promise me son not to do the things I've done  
| |D |  
walk away from trouble if you can

| | A D |G |  
Now it don't mean your weak if you turn the other cheek  
|D |G |A |  
I hope your old en-ough to understand  
| | A7 |D  
Son you don't have to fight to be a man

[Verse]

|D | |C |D  
The Gatlin boys just laughed at him when he walked into the bar room  
| | | |  
one of them got up and met him half way 'cross the floor  
|D |G |D |  
when Tommy turned around they said Hey look ol' Yellows leaving  
| | A7  
But you could-a heard a pin drop when Tommy stopped and blocked the  
door  
|D |G |D |  
Twenty years of crawlin' was bottled up in-side him  
| | |A |  
he wasn't holdin' nothin' back he let 'em have it all  
|D |G |D |  
when Tommy left the Bar room not a Gatlin boy was standin'  
| | A7  
He said this one's for Becky as he watched the last one fall

And I heard him say.

[Chorus]

|D | A7 D |G |D  
I promised you Dad not to do the things you done  
|G |D |A7  
I walk away from trouble when I can  
|D | A7 D |G |D |  
now please don't think I'm weak I did-n't turn the other cheek  
| |G |A |A7 |  
and Poppa I sure hope you understand some-times you've gotta fight  
|D |  
when your a man  
| |G |D  
Everyone considered him the coward of the county