

# SALLY RIDE

YOU HAVE TO WEAR THE BOOTS



## Cast, in order of appearance:

Gramp, a citizen of Dodge  
 Clara, the Cowboy's love.....Cari Ann Kreienhop  
 The Cowboy  
 The Knight's Love, a mildly autistic young man  
 Johnny the Thief, an outlaw  
 The Knight, a vigilante Samurai.....Tara Varney  
 The Barman  
 The Teacher, the Barman's love.....Doug Dodson  
 The Farmer  
 Mae, a miner.....Mary Howard  
 The Lawman of Dodge.....Brendan Scott  
 The Marshall of the West

## Musical numbers:

### Scene I, Summer: The Clouds Fell Down

"Storm & Stake".....Gramp and Company  
 "Easy Kill".....Clara  
 "Iron Horse".....the Knight's Love, Knight, and Company  
 "August Wind".....the Barman and Teacher  
 "Into the Fire".....the Farmer, Mae, and Company

### Scene II, Fall: This City Sleeps until the Alarm

"Have We Forgot the  
 Code of the West?".....Gramp and Company  
 "A Cracked Piece of Sky".....the Cowboy  
 "It Was You, Kid".....the Barman  
 "A Come-On".....Clara  
 "goddamn".....Gramp  
 "Jenny Was a  
 Friend of Mine".....the Cowboy and Lawman

### Scene III, Winter: You've Been a Light

"Johnny Got  
 His Gun".....the Knight's Love, Knight, and Company  
 "Set You Ablaze".....the Cowboy  
 "Harvest Moon".....the Farmer and Mae  
 "Ballad of the Ends of Our Ropes".....Gramp  
 "Pushing Over the  
 Continental Divide".....the Barman and Company

Songs, guitars, vocals.....Howie Howard and Cory Kibler  
 Bass, drums, synth, organ.....Howie Howard  
 Flute.....Tim Gillespie  
 Cover photo.....Kevin Walsh  
 Casting.....Jill Gillespie

## "Storm & Stake"

*Gramp tells a story from his younger days*

The wind, he come like Job's Accuser;  
 All rain and thunder bent to move us  
 I wasn't home  
 I couldn't know, I wasn't home

The lightning broke the heavens open  
 Doused the campfires in a moment  
 Get the children in!  
 Get your brothers in, get your sister in

*Everybody, find your own*

*Hold your tent, weather the storm...*

I wouldn't know until the morning  
 How my family fared in Dudley  
 Those Dakota plains,  
 Killers with no face, erase you in a day

*The storm blew some of us away, but  
 Gram held to the stake*

## "Easy Kill"

*Clara takes a lover*

She had a fit, threw him out of their bed  
 She went and put a crown of horns 'round his head  
 He had the time to think about what it means  
 One million drops of water form to make a stream

"Oh, you wouldn't have known it  
 It was against your will  
 Died twice in the same day  
 You were an easy kill"

His spine has folded and his heart had grown soft  
 You don't lose by giving up something that you don't  
 want  
 He stood outside with his hand upon the door  
 He lost his mind, 'cause he forgot what it was for

*Oh, you wouldn't have known it...*

*Oh you wouldn't have known it  
 It was against your will  
 Died twice in the same way  
 You were an easy kill*

"Iron Horse"

*The Knight's Love discovers Johnny has forged the  
Gun's hammer in secret*

---

I seen the train a-comin'  
The Ninety-Four a-humming down the line  
Lost my mind  
This iron horse of Caesar's  
Beating the earth within an inch of life  
Stain her sky

Brass tacks, we'll save our silver weight, here, tonight  
In God's eyes we bend, but never break

They say *the day is coming*  
*The Lord'll bring His judgment* but I don't mind  
Take my life  
'f I her'n the Story true  
It's Judge enough for you and me to laugh and to cry

*Brass tacks...*

I could say the West is crazy, but  
That would let the men who made it this way...

's that night the Thief rode in  
Ate all our oxygen and left us dry  
Smoke and fire  
I went to take the bridge out  
Punish him with the passengers, but I woke you

Said you, "It's not your time to blame, nor  
Choose whose sacrifice is made."  
In God's eyes I bend. But I won't break

"August Wind"

*The Teacher begins a new school year on the frontier*

---

An August wind whipped the fields  
You were off to school again with the kids  
In your charge  
I guess I'll stay the hell in Dodge, t' keep this bar  
It's honest work, if nothing else

"You know how Bill reads whatev'r I can find?  
His father's sick; they called him home.  
I don't think I can keep on giving while the  
Times are taking back everything, and more besides"

"Hey, the kids and miners need our watchful eyes  
Twenty miles apart,  
Might as well be the Continental Divide"

"Into the Fire"

*The Farmer remembers Mae and the mine collapse*

---

"All around the hills tonight  
Labor on without a sound  
Three days since the sun has shone  
In this quiet hamlet town"

Owing breaths to thoughts of her  
Takes one more and plunges down  
She never wept; she never knew

Once was lost, but now is found

"Oh, your heart leapt out of your mouth and into the fire  
You always did have a time knowing what to desire  
But you, you'll never say it now; your time's expired  
You'd better bite your tongue; don't you make him a liar."

Laying there in golden grass  
Basking in a brilliant sound  
Knowing all the lightness now  
Baking in that fertile ground

*Oh, your heart leapt... don't you make her a liar*

"Have We Forgot the Code of the West?"

*Gramp questions the Code's representatives and calls  
his wife and fellow citizens to resistance*

---

Lawman don't care for the Constitution  
He thinks he's a righteous force  
And I don't care what they're saying to you  
He's lost his ground, he's lost his word  
Lawman's paradigm made this war seem right, and I'm  
off

*Hey, this city sleeps until the alarm  
Hey, we'll come back in our time*

Lord, there's a crisis in our city  
Barmy Lawman brought the Marshall to town  
Love, we're alone and fighting a coterie  
Now, friends, we take the Lawman down  
His "New Paradigm" made this war seem right, and  
we're off

*Hey, we'll wake up in our own sweet time  
Nothing wrong with hands over our eyes  
This hasn't been on TV  
It's too early, we're asleep*

"A Cracked Piece of Sky"  
*The Cowboy attempts to repent*

---

You were waiting  
For something to happen  
Your hands covered in dust  
From a land that wasn't yours

You felt moved by a  
Cracked piece of sky  
Your heart sped up; feeling the beginnings

"How were you torn apart?  
Separated from the other branches of the tree, you  
Thought you'd live your own way"

The clouds fell down in front of the sun  
A jagged piece of metal  
Ripping through light

"You fell down  
Clutching your bent cross, your  
Face all covered in dust  
All for something you couldn't own"

"It Was You, Kid"

*The Teacher loves to hear the Barman tell their story*

---

There was one from the coach  
With his eyes like a storm  
Children leaving the fields for his school

We were two in a year  
Your lessons and my beer  
And I'm always amazed we got here  
You said "It was love..."

Oh Christ, who would change my life...

Now you've moved a day's ride  
Only see you a night in a month to get  
Blown by those eyes  
What can we do?

Oh Christ,  
Who would change my life?  
Was you, kid,  
It was you

"A Come-On"

*Clara explains her leaving to the Cowboy*

---

In the March of sunken suddenness  
Caught a drift of something blue  
And quiet, ultimate surroundedness  
Gave its gift I give to you

When we came together Sunday  
Dying to repeat our new mistakes  
Observation and the abstinence  
Can believe behind your face

Baby, baby, don't you cry  
I can't love you all my life  
We don't really say what we mean  
What we say

Who knows you went to sleep last night?  
Walking on our broken summer?  
Lay your doll's head on a vacuum tube  
Let its temperature sing comfort through to you

Baby, baby...

"goddamn"

*Alone, Gramp responds to the Code's corrupt keepers*

---

Driven grace is all I am  
Old beginnings and this broken land (goddamn)  
I'm 'bout mad enough to get my six  
Let the Lawman feel we're suffering

We heard about Ohio in *Rolling Stone*  
Marshall's party stole their state for George  
Death by a thousand cuts and no one cares  
The streets 're empty

This calls everything into question  
My faith, my life, my love, my lessons  
I'm taking off for higher ground to burn it all back down

Maybe you can have me when my body's in the ground  
Take me back and break me when I've given up on  
sound  
Riding empty, living to embrace him by my end  
Maybe I will die to sing again

"Jenny Was a Friend of Mine"

Written by Flowers/Stoermer, original version published by The Killers Publishing  
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*The Lawman interrogates the Cowboy*

---

We took a walk that night but it wasn't the same  
We had a fight on the promenade, out in the rain  
She said she loved me, but she had somewhere to go  
She couldn't scream while I held her close,  
I swore I'd never let her go

Tell me what you want to know, Oh come on  
There ain't no motive for this crime  
Jenny was a friend of mine so come on, Oh come on

I know my rights, I've been here all day and it's time  
For me to go, so let me know if it's alright  
I just can't take this, I swear I told you the truth  
(She couldn't scream while I held her close,  
I swore I'd never let her go)

Tell me what you want to know, Oh come on  
And then you whisper in my ear,  
"I know what you're doing here  
So come on, Oh come on"  
There ain't no motive for this crime...

"Johnny Got His Gun"

*The Knight's Love recounts the battle with Johnny*

---

As you took off your armor,  
Crawled to bed, topple to sleep  
Half-dead if you're honest, but notice how you look at me  
And I said, Love how could you fight this way?  
Y' said "Johnny's got his Gun today."

So what are we doing? in this town? of  
Swords and plows?  
'Cause Johnny'll use it; shoot us down or make us bow  
Come what may, you'll armor up, you know you should  
But I'm wondering 'bout leaving while the leaving's good

From up in the mountains, I heard a crack! that  
Pierced my heart  
I knew they'd be coming, and you'd be there to do your  
part -

But I had to know. Arrived,  
Surprised!  
They told me how you rushed in;  
He took your arm. You took him down

So what, in honor, made you stand?  
"Oh Love, my love for you"  
*Now carry you the Gun for us?*  
"Oh no, tonight we burn it up"  
So what, in honor, made you stand?  
"Oh Love, my love for you, for you, for you..."

"Set You Ablaze"

*The Cowboy chases Clara across the desert*

---

I numbered the days  
Riding back the road you'd long gone  
Surrounded in sage and  
The open land. My broken heart  
You always said of indiscretions  
You couldn't know whose fire it was  
Would set you ablaze

Been measuring love as a  
Carpenter to a stone  
So when I catch up don't cry at all  
We both know  
I roped us down  
Lust's history will pass from me in the smoke

I set you ablaze

"Harvest Moon"

*The Farmer's unrequited love appears in spirit*

---

We buried Mae last harvest moon  
So when she came into my room  
I crossed myself and cried;  
Father, please deliver me tonight!

"Don't be afraid," the spirit says  
"You can't imagine where I've been" and I  
Don't doubt  
I could not forget the soundless voice she used

I never married, ne'r did you  
And in this dusty town, who knew? the love  
We didn't speak? haunted me  
Through the winter, saying the strangest things

How could I live without your ghost?  
You told me what I needed most to hear  
You've been a light I lost my heart to  
Now you want my life?

Is that you calling, darling?  
Please say you'll stay awhile  
I've been alone too long without ever knowing why  
I want to know

"Yes, I'm calling, darling; Come out into the night  
You say you love me truly, but you're afraid to die!

"Why aren't you coming, Farmer?  
Why aren't you satisfied?  
In death you'd have me true as you never had in life  
I want to know"

"Ballad of the Ends of Our Ropes"

*Gramp is arrested for treason*

---

Rode to town, after noon, just like any Sunday  
T' look for a stranger and drink for awhile  
Talk about how the Marshall's betrayed us  
Nothing seditious; just idling time  
Looking back, should've known it was something  
The barman was nervous, didn't look in my eye

The future lies dead and gone  
There's nothing to see here, move along  
Marshall's side has almost won  
I can't believe it, what this old cowboy's seeing

So this is where I'm left standing  
Alone on the prairie, his rope at my side  
Called a liar! traitorous! dissident! caught and brand'd  
with a heresy;  
Consent of the governed and Liberty's pride  
And here's the choice we're faced with;  
To hang by his "honor" and watch the West die, or  
Stand with each other, pick up our side

The future...

I can't believe it. It's the fight that is freeing.

"Pushing Over the Continental Divide"

*The Barman sets off beyond the West*

---

*Living in the West the way we have was  
Bound to take its toll  
Who ever thought that we could keep our  
Campfire bright? warm our souls? doesn't know.*

When a man has done the things that I have  
Done, on his own  
There comes a heartbreak and a  
Wanderlust that drives him from home

It feels like you've been gone so long  
And it's taking everything I've got to  
Stay here. I think it's over now

So darling, you can follow in the spring 'f you think the  
weather's fine  
I'll post a letter from Colorado Springs  
It'll reach you in time

'Cause it feels like I have lost my road while  
You've been teaching. I got the urge to go  
Far as this town, I think it's over now.

It feels like you've been gone so long...

*You say it's over now, and plan to leave tomorrow  
You say that it's been time enough to know*