

# The Gambler chords by Kenny Rogers

## [Verse 1]

Bb Bb Eb Bb  
On a warm summer's evenin' on a train bound for  
nowhere,

Eb Bb Bb F  
I met up with the gambler; we were both too tired  
to sleep.

Bb Bb Eb Bb  
So we took turns a starin' out the window at the  
darkness

Eb Bb F Bb  
'til boredom overtook us, and he began to speak.

## [Verse 2]

Bb Bb Eb Bb  
He said, "Son, I've made a life out of readin'  
people's faces,

Eb Bb Bb F  
and knowin' what their cards were by the way they  
held their eyes.

Bb Bb Eb Bb  
And if you don't mind my sayin', I can see you're  
out of aces.

Eb Bb F Bb  
For a taste of your whiskey I'll give you some  
advice."

## [Verse 3]

Bb Bb Eb Bb  
So I handed him my bottle and he drank down my  
last swallow.

Eb Bb Bb F  
Then he bummed a cigarette and asked me for a  
light.

Bb Bb Eb Bb  
And the night got deathly quiet, and his face lost  
all expression.

Eb Bb F Bb  
Said, "If you're gonna play the game, boy, ya gotta  
learn to play it right.

## [Chorus]

Bb Bb Eb Bb  
You got to know when to hold 'em, know when to  
fold 'em,

Eb Bb Bb F  
know when to walk away and know when to run.

Bb Bb Eb Bb  
You don't count your money when you're sittin' at  
the table.

Eb Bb F Bb Bb C  
C

There'll be time enough for countin' when the  
dealin's done.

## [Verse 4]

C C F C  
Ev'ry gambler knows that the secret to survivin'

F C C G  
is knowin' what to throw away and knowing what  
to keep.

C C F C  
'Cause ev'ry hand's a winner and ev'ry hand's a  
loser,

F C G C  
and the best that you can hope for is to die in your  
sleep."

## [Verse 5]

C C F C  
And when he'd finished speakin', he turned back  
towards the window,

F C C G  
crushed out his cigarette and faded off to sleep.

C C F C  
And somewhere in the darkness the gambler, he  
broke even.

F C G C  
But in his final words I found an ace that I could  
keep.

## [Chorus]

