"The Gambler" written by Don Schlitz performed by Kenny Rogers - V1 from www.doctoruke.com

INTRO F C G7 C (last two lines of verse)

On a **[C]** warm **[Csus]** summer's **[C]** evening
On a **[F]** train bound for no-**[C]**where
I met up **[Csus]** with a **[C]** gambler
We were both too tired to **[G7]** sleep
So **[C]** we took **[Csus]** turns a-**[C]** starin'
Out the **[F]** window at the **[C]** darkness
Till **[F]** boredom over **[C]** took us
And **[G7]** he began to **[C]** speak

He said, **[C]** "Son, I've **[Csus]** made a **[C]** life
Out of **[F]** readin' people's **[C]** faces
And knowin' **[Csus]** what their **[C]** cards were
By the way they held their **[G7]** eyes
So if **[C]** you don't **[Csus]** mind my say**[C]** in'
I can **[F]** see you're out of **[C]** aces
For a **[F]** taste of your **[C]** whiskey
I'll **[G7]** give you some ad **[C]** vice."

So I han **[C]** ded **[Csus]** him my **[C]** bottle
And he **[F]** drank down my last **[C]** swallow
Then he **[Csus]** bummed a ci **[C]** garette
And asked me for a **[G7]** light
And the **[C]** night got **[Csus]** deathly **[C]** quiet
And his **[F]** face lost all ex- **[C]** pression
Said, "If you're **[F]** gonna play the **[C]**game, boy,
You gotta **[G7]** learn to play it **[C]** right. NO PAUSE

Chorus

You got to **[C]** know when to hold 'em, **[F]**
Know when to **[C]** fold 'em, **[F]**
Know when to **[C]** walk away,
And know when to **[G7]** run.
You never **[C]** count **[F]** your **[C]** money
When you're **[F]** sittin' at the **[C]** table.
There'll be time e **[F]** nough for **[C]** countin' **[G7]**

When the dealing's [C] done.

[C] Every [Csus] gambler [C] knows
That the sec[F] ret to sur- [C] vivin'
Is knowin' [Csus] what to [C] throw away
And knowin' what to [G7] keep.
'Cause [C] every [Csus] hand's a win- [C]ner,
And [F] every hand's a [C] loser,
And the [F] best that you can [C] hope for
Is to [G7] die in your [C] sleep."

And [C] when he fin[Csus] ished spe [C]akin'
He tur [F] ned back toward the win [C] dow
Crushed [Csus] out his [C]cigarette
And faded off to [G7] sleep
And [C]/ somewhere [Csus]/ in the [C]/darkness
The [F]/ gambler he broke [C]/ even
And [F]/ in his final [C]/ words
I found an [G7]/ ace that I could [C] keep

Chorus x3 - 2nd unaccompanied Sudden stop on last "done"

You got to [C] know when to hold 'em, [F]
Know when to [C] fold 'em, [F]
Know when to [C] walk away,
And know when to [G7] run.
You never [C] count [F] your [C] money
When you're [F] sittin' at the [C] table.
There'll be time e [F] nough for [C] countin' [G7]
When the dealing's [C] done.