The Gambler – YEAR: 1978 ARTIST: Kenny Rogers

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7hx4gdlfamo

Ukulele Mike: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=__aSiSV_uzc

Intro: [C] [C]

On a [C]warm summer's [C]evening on a [F]train bound for [C]nowhere
I [F]met up with a [C]gambler, we were [F]both too tired to [G7] **sleep**
So [C]we took turns a-starin' out the [F]window at the [C]darkness
'Til [F]boredom over[C]took us [G]and he began to [C]speak [C]

He said, [C]Son, I've made a life out of [F]readin' people's [C]faces
[F]Knowin' what their [C]cards were by the [F]way they held their [G7]eyes
And if [C]you don't mind me sayin', I can [F]see you're out of [C]aces
And for a [F]taste of your [C]whiskey I'll [G]give you some [C]advice [C]

So I [C]handed him my bottle and he [F]drank down my last [C]swallow
[F]Then he bummed a [C]cigarette and [F]asked me for a [G7]light
And the [C]night got deathly quiet, and his [F]face lost all expre[C]ssion
Said "If you're [F]gonna play the game, [C]boy, ya gotta [G]learn to play it
[C]right [C]

CHORUS:
You got to [C]know when to [C]hold 'em, [F]know when to [C]fold 'em
[F]Know when to [C]walk away [F]and know when to [G]run
You never [C]count your money when you're [F]sittin' at the [C]table
There'll be time [F]enough for [C]countin' [G]when the dealin's [C]done [C]
[D] [D]

[KEY CHANGE: UP A FULL STEP]
[D]Every gambler [D]knows that the [G]secret to sur[D]vivin'
Is [G]knownin' what to [D]throw away and [G]knowin' what to [A7]keep
'Cause [D]every hand's a winner, and [G]every hand's a [D]loser,
And the [G]best that you can [D]hope for is to [A]die in your [D]sleep."

And [D]when he finished speakin', he [G]turned back toward the [D]window,
[G]Crushed out his [D]cigarette and [G]faded off to [A7]sleep,
And [D] / somewhere in the darkness, the [G] / gambler, he broke [D] / even,
But [G]in his final [D]words I found an [A]ace that I could [D]keep.

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You got to **[D]**know when to **[D]**hold 'em, **[G]**know when to **[D]**fold 'em
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