

# THE BALLAD OF SPIDER JOHN

By Jimmy Buffett

Intro: Am (pulloff w/ index finger)

1)

Am C  
"SPIDER JOHN" IS MY NAME FRIEND,  
D Am  
I'M IN BETWEEN FREIGHTS AND I SURE WOULD BE OBLIGED  
C G  
IF YOU'D SHARE YOUR COMPANY.  
Am C  
I KNOW THIS MAY SOUND STRANGE TO YOU,  
D Am  
BUT IF YOU WAIT TILL THE SONG IS SUNG AND THE STORY IS TOLD,  
C G  
you might come to understand.  
Am C D G  
OH, I'M OLD AND BENT AND DEVIL SENT; RUNNIN' OUT OF TIME.  
Am C D  
WHEN I LONG AGO HELD A ROYAL FLUSH IN MY HAND...

Chorus:

Em  
OH, I WAS A SUPERMARKET FOOL,  
A7 Em A7  
I WAS A MOTOR BANK STOOL-PIGEON, ROBBIN' MY HOMETOWN.  
Em A7  
I THOUGHT I LOST MY BLUES, YES I THOUGHT I PAID MY DUES,  
F C G  
I THOUGHT I'D FOUND A LIFE TO SUIT MY STYLE.  
G F  
BUT HERE I SIT OLD SPIDER JOHN THE ROBBER-MAN,  
C Am  
LONG, TALL, AND HANDSOME.  
G F C Am  
YES, OLD SPIDER JOHN WITH A LOADED HAND, TAKIN' RANSOM.

2) Am

C  
THEN ONE DAY I MET DIAMOND LIL.  
D Am  
SHE WAS THE SWEETEST THING, I DECLARE,  
C G  
THAT THE SUMMER BREEZE HAD EVER BLOWN MY WAY. (YEA)  
Am C D Am  
BUT LILLY SHE HAD NO IDEA, OF MY ILLUSTRIOUS OCCUPATION,  
C G  
SHE THOUGHT I WAS A SAINT, NOT A SINNER, GONE ASTRAY. (YEA)  
Am C

BUT YOU SEE THAT WORD GOT AROUND AND LILY LEFT TOWN,

**D** **G**  
I NEVER SAW HER AGAIN.

**Am** **C** **D**  
TOSSIN' AND TURNIN', 'CAUSIN' MY HEART TO GRIEVE...

**(repeat chorus)**

**3)**

**Am** **C**  
THAT IS ALL MY STORY;

**D** **Am**  
IT'S BEEN THESE THIRTY YEARS SINCE I TOOK THE ROAD,

**C** **G**  
TO FIND MY PRECIOUS JEWEL ONE.

**Am** **C** **D** **G**  
AND IF YOU SEE MY LILY, WON'T YOU GIVE HER MY REGARDS?

**Am** **C** **G**  
TELL HER OLD SPIDER GOT TANGLED IN THE BLACK WEB THAT HE SPUN.

**Am** **C** **G**  
YOU CAN TELL HER OLD SPIDER GOT TANGLED THE BLACK WEB THAT HE SPUN.