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## The Legend of Kelly

Six steps up to the scaffold Ned, and three more to the rope  
One minute more of precious life before you dance and choke  
Edward Kelly's private war is over now and done  
The hangman pulls the lever down and the legend has begun

Chorus:

For the legend of Kelly lives on  
Though the man is long dead and long gone  
His banner still waves in the dawn  
And the legend of Kelly lives on

In a harsh young land where privilege ruled and rich men pulled the strings  
They used the lawyers and the police to clip young Kelly's wings  
Inside his proud rebellious heart they fanned a bitter spark  
That burst into a bloody flame by a creek called Stringybark

Four policemen rode to Stringybark and Kelly shouted "Yield!"  
But Lonigan drew his gun and Ned's dark fate was sealed  
Three policemen died that cold damp day in a brief and bloody fight  
The noose dropped round Ned Kelly's neck and slowly grew more tight

At Euroa and Jerilderie the noose grew tighter still  
Then at Glenrowan the vengeful traps closed in for the kill  
Joe Byrne and Steve Hart died that day and Ned's young brother Dan  
While Kelly, wounded but alive, was taken and was hanged

The poor man called him hero, the rich man called him thief  
The stations they both held in life dictated their belief  
Hero or villain, sinner or saint, blood-soaked or martyr-clean  
Perhaps the real Ned Kelly lies somewhere in between.