Tom Russell, El Llano Estacado

If I may trust your love, she cried And you would have me for a bride Ride the wild plain and bring A flask of water from the Mustang Spring Fly as o'er the eagle's wing On the Llano Estacado

He smiled and left without a word Grabbed up saddle, bit, and spur Cinched his horse and rode away through prickly pear and old Maguey, vanished with the dying day on the Llano Estacado.

All through the night he gallops on Daylight broke, he rode alone Spurred his horse and drew no rein Across that dry, forsaken plain Until the Mustang Spring he gained On the Llano Estacado.

Crazy with love, in Enamorado! Alone out on the Llano Estacado.

A bitter rest, a few short drinks Across the spring a buzzard waits His flask was full and so he turned To gain the bride he soon would earn But the sky bright red it burned On the Llano Estacado

Oh how this shining desert glow His eyes were burning as he rode Was this the dream or drunken one Or was he really riding on Was that a skull that gleamed and shone On the Llano Estacado

Oh hold onto his horse he cried Ignore the devils in the sky Bear up a little longer yet His cracked lips he longed to wet His mouth was black with blood and sweat On the Llano Estacado

Crazy with love, in Enamorado! Alone out on the Llano Estacado.

Still against his chest he held The water flask for her he filled He longed to drink but well he knew If empty her love he'd lose But his raging thirst it grew On the Llano Estacado

His horse went down he wandered on Dizzy, blinded and alone And you out there with watery eyes Think of how it is to die Beneath the cruel, uncloudy sky Of the Llano Estacado

At last he stumbled, then he fell His race was run he knew full well Raising to his lips the flask His face a blistered, painful mask Drank too, no more could she ask Of the Llano Estacado

Crazy with love, in Enamorado! He died out on the Llano Estacado.

That night at the Presido
Beneath the torchlights way below
She danced and never thought of him
A victim of a woman's whim
Lying with that death like grin
On the Llano Estacado

Crazy with love, in Enamorado! Alone out on the Llano Estacado.

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