

POKE SALAD ANNIE – Tony Joe White (F)

INTRO: opening riff in F ... uptempo 4/4 beat

RECITATION:

If some of y'all never been down south too much,
I'm gonna tell you a little about this so that you'll understand what I'm talkin' about ...
Down there we have a plant that grows out in the woods and in the field
... looks somethin like a turnip green,
And everybody calls it poke salad ... poke salad;
Used to know a girl lived down there and she'd go out in the evenings and pick her a mess of it,
Carry it home and cook it for supper, cause that's about all they had to eat,
But they did alright.

F
Down in Lou'siana, where the alligators grow so mean,

There lived a girl that I swear to the world, Made the alligators look tame,

Bb **F**
Poke Salad Annie, Poke Salad Annie

Ab **F** **Ab** **F**
Everybody said it was a shame, cause her Mama was a workin' on the chain gang
(a mean, vicious woman)

F
Every day 'fore suppertime, she'd go down by the truck patch,

And pick her a mess o' poke salad and carry it home in a tote sack,

Bb **F**
Poke Salad Annie, The gators got your granny,

Ab **F** **Ab** **F**
Everybody said it was a shame, cause her Mama was a workin on the chain gang
(a wretched, spiteful, straight razor totin' woman,
Lord have mercy, pick me a mess of it)

F
Her daddy was lazy and no count, claimed he had a bad back,

And all her brothers were fit for, was stealin' watermelons out of my truck patch,

Bb **F**
Poke Salad Annie, The gators got your granny,

Ab **F** **Ab** **F**
Everybody said it was a shame, cause her Mama was a workin on the chain gang
(sock a little poke salad to me,
you know I need me a mess of it)