

## MAMA TRIED

The first thing I remember knowing was a lonesome whistle blowin'  
D A7  
And a young un's dream of growin' up to ride  
D G D G  
On a freight train leavin' town, not knowin' where I'm bound  
D A7 D  
And no one could change my mind, but Mama tried

[Verse 2]

One and only rebel child, from a family meek and mild  
D A7  
My Mama seemed to know what lay in store  
D G D G  
'Spite of all my Sunday learnin', toward the bad I kept on turnin'  
D A7 D  
'Til Mama couldn't hold me anymore

[Chorus]

And I turned twenty-one in prison doin' life without parole  
Bm A7  
No one could steer me right, but Mama tried, Mama tried  
D G D  
Mama tried to raise me better, but her pleading I denied,  
A7 D  
that leaves only me to blame, 'cause Mama tried

[Verse 3]

Dear old Daddy, rest his soul, he left my mom a heavy load  
D A7  
She tried so very hard to fill his shoes  
D G D G  
Workin' hours without rest, wanted me to have the best  
D A7 D  
She tried to raise me right, but I refused

[Chorus]

And I turned twenty-one in prison doin' life without parole  
Bm A7  
No one could steer me right, but Mama tried, Mama tried  
D G D  
Mama tried to raise me better, but her pleading I denied,  
A7 D  
that leaves only me to blame, 'cause Mama tried

[Outro]

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