

## Letter To Mom

Iris DeMent

I wrote my mother yesterday 'cause I had some things that I had  
to say  
And I know that when she reads them she's gonna cry  
But in the end I hope she sees  
That I'm just trying to break free  
'cause I've been walking 'round with secrets now, too long

Back when I was barely ten Mom brought home a new boyfriend  
And I know that times were bad and he made her feel good  
But one night he climbed into my bed  
And he left me wishing I was dead  
And I've been walking 'round with secrets now, too long

You say I'm digging up the past and it's not wise to go back  
But for me it's just as close as yesterday  
And I'm not the kind for breaking rules  
And I'm not wanting to be cruel  
I've just been walking 'round with secrets now, too long

All my life I've felt ashamed, 'cause I thought I was the one to  
blame  
And I vowed to God that no one else would ever know  
How he crushed my childish pride  
And left me tears that never dried  
And I've been walking 'round with secrets now, too long

You say I'm digging up the past and it's not wise to go back  
But for me it's just as close as yesterday  
And I'm not the kind for breaking rules  
And I'm not wanting to be cruel  
I've just been walking 'round with secrets now, too long  
And I've just been walking 'round with secrets now, too long