

# La Tonya

Paula Cole

Didn't your mama tell you how to behave, girl?  
Didn't your daddy tell you not to wear that little thing?  
Been told you never get something for nothing  
My stepfather Dickie say I just might get hit if I don't give

The girls all whisper 'hind my back  
They try to break me with cruel attacks  
The boys they want only one thing  
And so I give it, don't complain

Daddy's gone, mama lost her job  
Our house ain't a home no more  
Still my faith's unshaken in God

I feel so lonely for hope and company  
I don't take much and I give everything for free  
(So, don't you want me?)

The girls all whisper 'hind by back  
My baby brother's smoking crack  
The boys they want only one thing  
My body is my ...

Daddy's gone, mama lost her job  
Our house ain't a home no more  
Still my faith's unshaken in God

I dream I get a record deal  
I'll buy a way out of here  
Or maybe a new Lexus jeep  
Or just a friend, am I dreamin'? Am I dreamin'?

There's Mr. Roberts, Juan and Paul  
All waiting for me down the hall  
But then tomorrow they don't call  
Still the moment's better than none at all

Daddy's gone  
(My name is La Tonya)  
Mama lost her job  
(I'll be sixteen in August)  
Our house ain't a home no more  
(I am a sophomore)  
Since mama broke her soul  
(I like to sing in chorus)

Daddy's gone  
(My name is La Tonya)  
Mama lost her job  
(I'll be sixteen in August)  
Our house ain't a home no more  
(I am a sophomore)

Still my faith's unshaken  
Lord won't you please save me?  
Is this the new slavery?  
Here on the ghetto pavement?

But I believe in you baby  
Yes, my faith's unshaken in God