

# Mama Tried

The Everly Brothers

First thing I remember knowin' was a lonesome whistle  
blowin'  
And a young'uns dream of growin' up to ride  
On a freight train leavin' town, not knowin' where I'm  
bound  
And no one could change my mind, but Mama tried

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

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

(Instrumental Break)

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

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