Mama Tried

Grateful Dead

The first I remember knowin'
Was that lonesome whistle blowin'
And a youngin's dream
Of growin' up to rideOn a freight train leavin' town
Not knowin' where I was bound
No one could steer me right
But mama triedWas the only rebel child
From a family meek and mild
Mama seemed to know

What lay in storeIn spite of all my Sunday learnin'

For the bad I kept on turnin'

And mama couldn't hold me anymore And I turned 21 in prison

Doin' life without parole

No one could steer me right

But mama tried, mama triedMama tried to raise me better

But her pleadin' I denied

That leaves no one but me to blame

'Cause mama triedDear old daddy rest his soul

Left my mom a heavy load

She tried so very hard

To fill his shoesWorkin' hours without rest

Wanted me to have the best

Oh, she tried to raise me right

But I refused

And I turned 21 in prison

Doin' life without parole

No one could steer me right

But mama tried, mama triedMama tried to raise me better

But her pleadin' I denied

That leaves no one but me to blame

'Cause mama triedAnd I turned 21 in prison

Doin' life without parole

No one could steer me right

But mama tried, mama triedMama tried to raise me better

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That leaves no one but me to blame

'Cause mama tried

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