

**Mamma Tried**  
**Merle Haggard**

\*\*\*\*\*Please forgive me but this had been posted wrong and I corrected a couple of mistakes.\*\*\*\*\*

Mama Tried  
Merle Haggard

**D**                  **G**                  **D**                  **G**  
First thing I remember knowin was a lonesome whistle blowin  
                  **D**                  **G**                  **A7**  
And a young-on s dream of growing up to ride  
                  **D**                  **G**                  **D**                  **G**  
On a freight train leaving town, not knowing where I m bound  
                  **D**                  **A7**                  **D**  
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  
Til Mama couldn t hold me anymore

CHORUS:

**D**  **G**  **D**  
And I turned twenty-one in prison doing 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

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

CHORUS