

**Momma Tried**  
**Merle Haggard**

#-----PLEASE NOTE-----#  
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From: Ken Keefover  
Subject: Momma Tried by Merle Haggard

Momma Tried  
Written & performed by Merle Haggard  
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**D** **G** **D** **G**  
The first thing I remember knowin was a lonesome whistle blowin ,  
**D** **G** **A7**  
And a youngun s dream of growin up to ride,  
**D** **G** **D** **G**  
On a freight train leavin town, not knowin where I m bound.  
**D** **A7** **D**  
And no one could change my mind but Momma Tried.  
**D** **G** **D** **G**  
One and only Rebel child from a fam ly meek and mild  
**D** **G** **A7**  
My momma seemed to to know what lay in store,  
**D** **G** **D** **G**  
Spite all my Sunday learnin towards the bad I kept on turnin ,  
**D** **A7** **D**  
Til momma couldn t hold me anymore.

Chorus

**N.C.** **D** **G** **D**  
And I turned twenty-one in prison doin life without parole,  
**Bm** **A7**  
No one could steer me right but Mamma Tried, Momma Tried  
**D** **G** **D**  
Momma Tried to raise me better but her pleading I denied  
**A7** **D**  
And that leaves only me to blame, cause Momma Tried

Verse 3:

**D** **G** **D** **G**  
Dear ole daddy, rest his soul left my mom a heavy load,  
**D** **G** **A7**  
She tried so very hard to feel his shoes,  
**D** **G** **D** **G**

Workin' hours without rest, wanted me to have the best

**D**

**G**

**A7**

She tried to raise me right but I refused.

Chorus