

Momma Tried
Merle Haggard

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Date: Mon, 15 Jan 1996 09:48:03 -0600
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