**Mama Tried**

**D G**

**The first thing I remember knowing**

**D G**

**Was a lonesome whistle blowing**

**D A7**

**And a young one's dream of growing up to ride**

**D G**

**On a freight train leaving town**

**D G**

**Not knowing where I'm bound**

**D A7 D**

**And no one could change my mind but Mama tried**

**D G**

**One and only rebel child**

**D G**

**From a family meek and mild**

**D A7**

**My mama seemed to know what lay in store**

**D G**

**Despite all my Sunday learning**

**D G**

**Towards the bad I kept on turning**

**D A7 D**

**Til Mama couldn't hold me anymore**

**D G D**

**And I turned twenty-one in prison doing life without parole**

**Bm A**

**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**

**D A7 D**

**That leaves only me to blame cause Mama tried**

**D G**

**Dear old Daddy rest his soul**

**D G**

**Left my mom a heavy load**

**D A7**

**She tried so very hard to fill his shoes**

**D G**

**Working hours without rest**

**D G**

**Wanted me to have the best**

**D A7 D**

**She tried to raise me right but I refused**

**Chorus**