

## Sayri Tupac

### "Dear Mama"

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When I was young me and my mama had beef  
17 years old kicked out on the streets  
Though back at the time I never thought I'd see her  
face  
Ain't a woman alive that could take my mamas place  
Suspended from school, scared to go home  
I was a fool with the big boys, breaking all the rules  
Shed tears with my baby sister  
Over the years we was poorer than the other little kids  
And even though we had different daddies  
The same drama, when things went wrong we blamed  
mama  
I reminisce on the stress I caused, it was hell  
Huggin' on my mama from a jail cell  
And who'd think in elementary, hey I'd see the  
penitentiary  
One day, running from the police that's right  
Mama catch me, put a whoopin' to my backside  
And even as a crack fiend mama  
You always was a black queen mama  
I finally understand for a woman it ain't easy trying to  
raise a man  
You always was committed, poor single mother on  
welfare  
Tell me how you did it, there's no way I can pay you  
back  
But the plan is to show you that I understand  
You are appreciated

(Chorus)

Lady, don't ya know we love ya  
Sweet lady, place no one above ya  
Sweet lady, don't ya know we love ya

Now ain't nobody tell us it was fair  
No love for my daddy 'cos the coward wasn't there  
He passed away and I didn't cry  
'Cos my anger wouldn't let me feel for a stranger  
They say I'm wrong and I'm heartless

But all along I was looking for a father, he was gone  
I hung around with the thugs and even though they  
sold drugs  
They showed a young brother love  
I moved out and started really hangin'  
I needed money of my own so I started slangin'  
I ain't guilty, 'cos even though I sell rocks  
It feels good putting money in your mailbox  
I love paying rent when the rent's due  
I hope you got the diamond necklace that I sent to you  
'Cos when I was low you was there for me  
You never left me alone 'cos you cared for me  
And I can see you coming home after work, late  
You're in the kitchen tryin' to fix us a hot plate  
Just working with the scraps you was given  
And mama made miracles every Thanksgiving  
But now the road got rough, you're alone  
Tryin' to raise two bad kids on your own  
And there's no way I can pay you back  
But my plan is to show you that I understand  
You are appreciated

(Chorus)

Pour out some liquor and I reminisce  
'Cos through the drama, I can always depend on my  
mama  
And when it seems that I'm hopeless  
You say the words that can get me back in focus  
When I was sick as a little kid  
To keep me happy, there's no limit to the things you did  
And all my childhood memories  
Are full of all the sweet things you did for me  
And even though I act crazy  
I got to thank the Lord the you made me  
There are no words that can express how I feel  
You never kept a secret, always stayed real  
And I appreciate how you raised me  
And all the extra love that you gave me  
I wish I could take the pain away  
If you can make it through the night, there's a brighter  
day  
Everything will be alright if you hold on  
It's a struggle, everyday gotta roll on  
And there's no way I can pay you back  
But my plan is to show you that I understand  
You are appreciated

(Chorus)

Sweet lady, lady, lady, lady

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