

## Chino XL

### "Mama Told Me"

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[Refrain: Chino XL & Akili Nickson]

She said she should've done this  
She should've done that  
Pack my bags and never look back  
Some things that I've seen I can't un-see  
I've spent my whole life just trying to get free  
And I'm never gonna be without my pain and  
misery  
But I remember what my mama told me (Mama told  
me)  
Mama told me (Mama told me)  
I remember what my mama told me

[Verse 1: Chino XL]

I scramble to my feet to regain consciousness  
The floor half full of blood, I'm a pessimist  
It makes sense for me to make my exodus  
This scene flashing through child monic movie images  
I was nine years old with spine hemorrhages  
Just me and him was in the house, no witnesses  
All I'm thinking is, how I'm a live through this  
He unclenched his fist, my face grimaces  
I don't reminisce, I remember the stress  
Feeling nervousness when he came home up the steps  
Mom he beatin' me bad first escaped my lips  
She said that I was a fuck up and I deserved this shit  
What could I have possibly done I was only nine  
With fucking stitches in my eye she told me stop crying  
I'm looking for a sign, the sun don't ever shine  
I'm an only child; they say that love is blind

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[Verse 2: Chino XL]

Now in retrospect as a father looking back  
Having my own flesh of my flesh  
There's no excuse for that  
I also have heard that what don't kill us make us  
stronger  
But the abuse that I took, took away my hunger  
Living inside my imagination I learned hate  
Planning my escape, losing my personal faith  
She blamed it on the drugs; she blamed it on the times  
She blamed on her moms, but I'm the one with  
scars  
Staring at that chipped paint wall in my room  
I'm 13 years old now I gotta do something soon  
It was the 6th of June inside my mouth was a bloody  
wound  
My step father vowed to put in me in a tomb  
Momma told me my real daddy didn't want me  
I figured this new man must be special if she let him  
hurt me  
Now I ain't have a mother, and he ain't have no  
mercy  
Why did god curse me? Maybe I'm meant to suffer

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[Verse 3: Chino XL]

I finally decided that I wouldn't take it no more  
I had a steak knife that I've been hiding in my right  
drawer  
He had punch my right jaw just the night before  
I stood silently outside his bedroom door  
But every breath I took I felt like there was angels with  
me  
Soon his death would be a mystery even to me  
I saw a shadow move, he finally coming through  
I swung a knife at dude, if I had only knew

The life slipping out a body was my mom dukes  
I had no idea that she was in the room too  
Wiping tears from my eyes this can't be true  
My step father drunk in the bed still off cheap brew  
I knelled down to momma to hear a last truth  
She said son I never loved him more than you  
I still hate myself, I tried to hang myself  
The leather belt broke, that was 20 years ago

[Chino XL & Akili Nickson]

Refrain x2

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