

# Dear Mama – Tupac Shakur

I love you  
I love you  
You are appreciated

When I was young me and my mama had beef  
Seventeen 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 mama's place  
Suspended from school, and scared to go home, I was a fool  
With the big boys, breaking all the rules  
I shed tears with my baby sister  
Over the years we was poorer than the other little kids  
And even though we had different daddy's, the same drama  
When things went wrong we'd blame mama  
I reminisce on the stress I caused, it was hell  
Hugging on my mama from a jail cell  
And who'd think in elementary?  
Hey! I see the penitentiary, one day  
And running from the police, that's right  
Mama catch me, put a whooping 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  
(I know it ain't easy)  
You always was committed  
A poor single mother on welfare, tell me how ya did it  
There's no way I can pay you back  
But the plan is to show you that I understand  
You are appreciated

Dear mama  
Don't you know I love you?  
Dear mama  
Place no one above you  
(Dear mama) Oh mama, I appreciate you  
Although my shadow's gone  
I will never leave you

Now ain't nobody tell us it was fair  
No love from my daddy cause the coward wasn't there  
He passed away and I didn't cry, cause 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 hanging  
I needed money of my own so I started slanging  
I ain't guilty cause, even though I sell rocks  
It feels good putting money in your mailbox  
I love paying rent when the rent's due

I hope ya got the diamond necklace that I sent to you  
'Cause when I was low you was there for me  
And never left me alone because you cared for me  
And I could see you coming home after work late  
You're in the kitchen trying to fix us a hot plate  
Ya just working with the scraps you was given  
And mama made miracles every Thanksgiving  
But now the road got rough, you're alone  
You're trying 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  
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Dear mama  
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(Dear mama) Oh mama, I appreciate you  
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Pour out some liquor and I reminisce, cause 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 gotta thank the Lord that 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 ya 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  
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Dear mama  
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Oh mama, I appreciate you  
Although my shadow's gone  
I will never leave you

I appreciate you  
I love you  
I need you  
Oh mama

I love you  
Appreciate you  
I need you  
Oh mama

I appreciate you  
I love you  
I need you  
Oh mama  
I love you  
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