

Mama Tried
MAMA TRIED (Merle Haggard)

INTRO

Guitar 1: Nylon string, fingerstyle

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | | |
| -----5-----5----- | -----3-----2-----2----- | -----3-----3-----3----- | -----3-----3-----3----- |
| -----3-----3-----3 | -----3-----3-----3-----3 | -----0-----0-----0----- | -----0-----0-----0----- |
| -----0-----0-----0----- | -----0-----0-----0----- | -----repeat----- | -----repeat----- |
| ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |

Guitar 2:

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| | | |
| (14)---12-----> | (7)---5-----> | ----- |
| ---\--/-----13----- | ---\--/-----5----- | ----- |
| ---R----- | ---R----- | ---7-----7----- |
| ----- | ----- | /5-----/5----- |
| ----- | ----- | /-----/----- |
| ----- | ----- | ----- |

The first thing I remember knowing
 Was a lonesome whistle blowing
 And a young one's dream of growing up to ride
 On a freight train leaving town
 Not knowing where I'm bound
 And no one could change my mind but Mama tried

One and only rebel child
 >From a family meek and mild
 My mama seemed to know what lay in store
 Despite all my Sunday learning
 Towards the bad I kept on turning
 Til Mama couldn't hold me anymore

And I turned twenty-one in prison doing life without parole
 No one could steer me right but Mama tried Mama tried
 Mama tried to raise me better but her pleading I denied
 That leaves only me to blame cause Mama tried

SOLO (see TAB transcription below)

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

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
A
D
 That leaves only me to blame cause Mama tried

SOLO

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