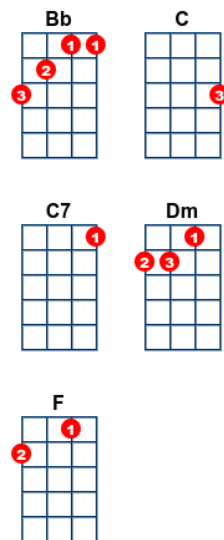


# Mama Tried

key:F, artist:Merle Haggard writer:Merle Haggard

Merle Haggard : [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=loT\\_pYzi3Vw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=loT_pYzi3Vw)  
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[F] The first thing I remember [Bb] knowing  
was a [F] lonesome whistle [Bb] blowing  
And a [F] youngun's dream of [Bb] growing up to [C7] ride  
On a [F] freight train leaving [Bb] town  
not [F] knowing where I'm [Bb] bound  
And [F] no one could change my [C7] mind but Mama [F] tried

One and only Rebel [Bb] child from a [F] family meek and [Bb] mild

My [F] mama seemed to [Bb] know what lay in [C7] store  
Spite [F] all my Sunday [Bb] learning  
with the [F] bad I kept on [Bb] turning  
Till [F] mama couldn't [C7] hold me any[F] more

And I turned twenty-one in prison doing [Bb] life without pa[F]role  
No [Dm] one could steer me right but Mama [C] tried Mama [C7] tried  
Mama [F] tried to raise me better but her [Bb] pleading I de[F]nied  
And that leaves only me to [C7] blame cause Mama [F] tried

Dear ole' daddy rest his [Bb] soul left my [F] mom a heavy [Bb] load  
She [F] tried so very [Bb] hard to feel his [C7] shoes  
Working [F] hours without [Bb] rest wanted [F] me to have the [Bb] best  
She [F] tried to raise me [C7] right but I re[F]fused

And I turned twenty-one in prison doing [Bb] life without pa[F]role  
No [Dm] one could steer me right but Mama [C] tried Mama [C7] tried  
Mama [F] tried to raise me better but her [Bb] pleading I de[F]nied  
And that leaves only me to [C7] blame cause Mama [F] tried