

## 2 Pac - Dear Mama

### [Verse 1: 2Pac]

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 breakin' 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 daddies, the same drama  
When things went wrong we'd blame 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?  
And runnin' 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 tryin' to raise a man  
You always was committed  
A 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: Reggie Green & "Sweet Franklin" + 2Pac]

Lady, don't you know we love ya? (Dear Mama)  
Sweet lady, place no one above ya (You are appreciated)  
Sweet lady, don't you know we love ya?

### [Verse 2: 2Pac]

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 lookin' 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, 'cause even though I sell rocks  
It feels good puttin' money in your mailbox

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I love payin' rent when the rent is due  
I hope you 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 comin' home after work late  
You're in the kitchen, tryin' to fix us a hot plate  
You just workin' with the scraps you was given  
And Mama made miracles every Thanksgivin'  
But now the road got rough, you're alone  
You're 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

### [Hook: Reggie Green & "Sweet Franklin" + 2Pac]

Lady, don't you know we love ya? (Dear Mama)  
Sweet lady, place no one above ya (You are appreciated)  
Sweet lady, don't you know we love ya?

### [Verse 3: 2Pac]

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 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: Reggie Green & Sweet Franklin + 2Pac]

Lady, don't you know we love ya? (Dear Mama)  
Sweet lady, place no one above ya (You are appreciated)  
Sweet lady, don't you know we love ya? (Dear Mama)  
Sweet lady, lady (Dear Mama)  
Lady, lady