

# Shirley Caesar, Don't Throw Your Mama Away

There was a mother that had two sons  
One of the boys was interesting in his self  
This son loved his mother so very much.  
He said mama one day I going to grow up and going to college  
I'll going to be somebody  
I'll going to take care of you mama  
Like you been taking care of me.  
Oh  
That other brother he was no good he stayed in trouble all the time  
Mama always had to go to court and get the boy out of trouble.  
But I am told tonight those boys grew up  
One went to college  
That no good son left home  
That old mother worked her finger to the bone  
And sent that boy to school  
She gets on her knee and scrub floors  
She took in washing and ironing  
I want  
I want  
I want my boy to be somebody  
After about 8 long years  
That some came back home  
He said mama I am a doctor now  
I got MD behind my name  
I want you to meet my wife  
I met her while I was in college  
She is a school teacher mama  
Yes she is  
They told that mama we want you to come and live with us and help us raise our children  
The years went on by  
I wish I had a praying church  
And that the children grew up  
One day that school teacher went to her husband  
She said honey your mama is in the way now  
She gets in the away around the house  
She uses bad English I don't want it to rub off on my little children  
I think you ought to put her in a old folk home  
Somebody say yeah  
Yeah  
Let me tell you what he did  
The doctor went to his poor mama  
He said mama!  
Mama!  
So me and my wife been talking and she seem to feel that  
Mama that you're getting in the way around the house  
We don't have anything else for you to do  
You using bad English we don't want you to rub on our children  
I am going to take you to an old folk home  
Yes I am  
Somebody say yeah  
I got to take you to an old folk home  
Well that mother turn around and went back into her own room  
Tears running down her face  
She began to pack all of her clothes  
The devil came and whisper in her ear  
See there old lady  
Look at all you done for that boy and now he about to throws you out the door  
The mother kept on crying  
Early the next morning the some came and knocks on the door  
He said Mama get your stuff together the limousine is waiting outside  
The mama reaches back and got her hat and coat  
She walked outside the house  
She got in that long long long  
She got in that long limousine

Yes she did  
They started down the road  
Mama just kept on crying  
Every now and then the doctor looked back at mama  
He said, mama in your room out there  
I wish you help me out there  
You're going to have a color TV

You will have nurses around the clock  
You going to have everything that you want  
That mama kept on crying  
Yes  
Mama I'm sorry I got to do this  
Halleluiah  
I go to put you in an old folk home  
The mother turns and said with tears running down her face  
She said son I could understand  
If I was sick and could not help myself  
But there is nothing wrong with me  
Doctor said I know but I got to put you in an old folk home  
You understand me and the wife  
About the time they almost got to the old folk home  
That mama looked down the road  
About the time the car got closer  
That mother said wait a minute wait a minute son  
I believe that I saw my boy going there  
They got out  
Greeted on another with a kiss  
That no good son said mama how have been you doing?  
I was on my way home to see you  
I was on the say to tell you  
I do not do what I use to do  
I stop by a church on night and I got the holy ghost  
Stay in  
Then he turned around and saw his brother  
He said brother where are taking my mama?  
I got to know where you going with mama  
And the doctor said now waits a minute  
After all you've been gone  
And I am the one who been here taken care of mama  
Say, in case if mama did not tell you  
I am a doctor now  
I am somebody  
In just in case if you want to know something else  
I'm tired of mama praying, moaning and groaning in her bedroom  
Every time when my friends com to the house  
Well we on our way to the old folk home  
Yes  
That no good son of said did you say you are taking mama to the old folk home?  
He said yes  
Wait a minute. Mama  
I do not live in fine home  
Listen mama  
I got one good room  
You could have my bed  
But come on and go home with me mama  
Yeah  
Mama I don't eat steaks  
I eat beans and green potatoes and tomatoes  
Yes I do  
If that is alright with you  
You don't have to go the old folk home  
Come on and go home with me mama  
Mama. I am not riding in a long limousine

My car is not much good  
But I got a good seat right by there  
Come on and go home with me mama

God gave you your mama.  
Don't drive her away  
God gave you your mama.  
Don't drive her away  
If you drive her away  
You're gonna need her help one day  
I'm no stranger, don't drive me away. I'm no stranger don't drive me away.  
You're gonna need my help someday  
I'm no stranger, don't drive me away.