

# Mama Says (You Can't Back Down)

(WILLARD, GARVIN, BICKLE, JETER)

CUE:

WILLARD: "Now, Mama says..."

BOYS: "Not Mama again...! Who cares what Mama says...?! Oh, Man...!"

WILLARD: "Now hold on just one minute!"

Freely

2

WILLARD:

1 Ev'ry-thing I ever learned that gets me through the worst I

**ACOUSTIC PIANO**  
solo

*mf* Bb7

*mp* Eb Ab Eb Ab Bb2 Db/Ab Ab

Red

4 learned at my Ma-ma's knee Now an-y-time I'm turned a-round I

5

6

Bb sus Bb Ab3 Eb Eb

7 turn to Ma-ma first and you'd be wise to mem-o-rize What Ma-ma says to me.

8

9

Gm7b5 O Fm Eb2/G Ab/Bb Bb

*mp*

*mf* 3

10

Rock shuffle feel (♩ = 116)

[Laidback New Orleans]

WILLARD:

(sings)

WILLARD: (spoken)

"Mama ain't been wrong yet.  
And I'm the living proof."

JETER: (to REN)

"That's kind of a frightening  
thought, isn't it?"

WILLARD:

"Now listen up!"

Ma - ma

Kbd 2

Handwritten chords: Eb7, A0, Abm, Eb/G

Instruments: + Cl, Gtr 1, Perc, Drs, Bs

14

(WILLARD:)

3

says don't use a toast-er while stand-ing in the shower. Now who can argue with that?—

Handwritten chords: Eb7/Bb, A0, Abm

17

18

19

3

3

Ma - ma says don't hold your breath for long-er than a ho - ur—

Handwritten chords: Eb/G, Eb/Bb, A0

3

(WILLARD:)

22

20 3 3 21 3

The woman know's \_\_\_\_\_ where it's at! \_\_\_\_\_ And Ma-ma says \_\_\_\_\_ it does-n't

Kbd 2 3 3 3 3

*Bb7* *Ab2/C* *Bbm7bs/D* *Bb/D* *Ab* *Db/Ab* *Ab*

+ Cl, Gtr 1, Perc, Drs, Bs + Gtr 2, Drs, Bs

23 3 24 3 25

mat-ter if you're a king \_\_\_\_\_ or you're a clown.

*Eb* *Ab/Eb* *Eb* *Ab* *D/Ab* *Ab/Bb* *Eb* *Ab/Eb* *Eb* *G*

26 3 27 3 28

Once you drive up a mount-ain you can't back \_\_\_\_\_

*Ab* *Ab* *Eb/Ab* *G/B* *C* *F* *Ab/Bb*

+ Cl

29

(WILLARD:)

"Now Ren, you've not yet had the pleasure of meeting my Mama, but these boys have. C'mon

down.  
GARVIN: "You can't back down, Ren!"

Kbd 2

+ Cl, Gtr 1, Perc, Drs, Bs

Handwritten notes: Eb7, A0, Abm

and help me out here, fellas." 33

33

32 34

Don't drink hot cof-fee ly-ing down in bed...

GARVIN / BICKLE / JETER:

Ma-ma says...

Kbd 2

+ Cl, Gtr 1, Perc, Drs, Bs

Handwritten notes: Eb/Bb, A0, Eb/G

(WILLARD:)

35

36

37

3

Don't ev-en give it a thought.\_\_\_\_\_

Nev-er eat an-y-thing that's

(GARVIN / BICKLE / JETER:)

It's a mess! Ma - ma says

Kbd 2

*Abm*

*Eb/G*

*Eb7/Bb*

+ Cl, Gtr 1,  
Perc, Drs, Bs

3

38

3

39

40

3

bigger than your head.\_\_\_\_\_

Is she a whiz\_\_\_\_\_ or what?\_\_\_\_\_

And Mama says\_\_\_\_\_

Oh, yes!

Kbd 2

*Ao*

*Bb7*

*A1/2/C*

*Bb7/5/D*

*F5/D*

41 (WILLARD:)

it does-n't mat-ter if you're a king or you're a

(GARVIN / BICKLE / JETER:)

She says Ma-ma says

Kbd 2

+ Gtrs, Drs, Bs

42 43

Handwritten Chords:  $A\flat^7$ ,  $D\flat/A\flat$ ,  $A\flat^7$ ,  $E\flat$ ,  $A\flat/E\flat$ ,  $E\flat$ ,  $A\flat^7$ ,  $D\flat/A\flat$ ,  $A\flat^6/B\flat$

44 45 46

clown. Once you drive up a moun-tain

Ooh Aah

+ Cl

Handwritten Chords:  $E\flat$ ,  $A\flat/E\flat$ ,  $E\flat$ ,  $G$ ,  $A\flat$ ,  $A\flat^7$ ,  $E\flat/B\flat$ ,  $G/B$ ,  $C^+$

(WILLARD:)

47

48

49

you can't back — down.

Oh,

once

you

(GARVIN / BICKLE / JETER:)

you can't back — down.

Oh,

once

you

Cl, Kbd 2

Kbd 2

(Cl out)

+ Gtrs,  
Drs, Bs

50

51

52

drive up a moun - tain

You can't back — down.

Now,

drive up a moun - tain

You can't back down.

+ Cl

Cl (solo)

53 (WILLARD:)

Mama makes a lot of sense if you know how to lis-ten. She is clear and con-cise.

(GARVIN / BICKLE / JETER:)

Ooh Ooh Ooh

54 55

Handwritten notes: Cm, G7, Ab, Bb

+ Kbd 2, Drs, Bs

56 57 58

Dad-dy says, "I love her son, but she's got marbles mis-sin'." But

She's con-cise. Aah Aah

Handwritten notes: Ab/Eb, Eb, Kbd 2, mf, p, sfz

+ Gtr 2, Drs, Bs



(WILLARD:)

61

59 60

I say, "Hey!— It's free ad-vice,— and what d'you ex-pect at that

(GARVIN / BICKLE / JETER:)

Huh? Aah

Kbd 2

+ Gtr 2,  
Kbd 2,  
Drs, Bs

mp

Rall.

[Dialogue]

"Hear me, now—"

62 63 64

price?—

Ma-ma

[Straight 8ths]

(solo)