

# Letter to Mom

## Iris DeMent

I wrote my mother yesterday 'cause I had some things that I had to say  
and I know that when she reads them she's gonna cry  
    But in the end I hope she sees  
    that I'm just trying to break free  
'cause I've been walking 'round with secrets now, too longBack when I was barely ten Mom brought home a  
    new boyfriend  
and I know that times were bad and he made her feel good  
    but one night he climbed into my bed  
    and he left me wishing I was dead  
and I've been walking 'round with secrets now, too longYou say I'm digging up the past and it's not wise to go  
    back  
    but for me it's just as close as yesterday  
    and I'm not the kind for breaking rules  
    and I'm not wanting to be cruel  
I've just been walking 'round with secrets now, too longAll my life I've felt ashamed, 'cause I thought I was the  
    one to blame  
and I vowed to God that no one else would ever know  
    how he crushed my childish pride  
    and left me tears that never dried  
and I've been walking 'round with secrets now, too long

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