

# Soldier's Last Letter

**Merle Haggard**

I'm writing this down in a trench, mom  
Don't scold if it isn't so neat  
The way that you did when I was a kid  
And I'd come home with mud on my feet  
The captain just gave us our orders  
And mom, we will carry them through  
And I'll finish this letter the first chance I get  
But for now I'll just say I love you  
Then the mother's old hands began to tremble  
And she fought against tears in her eyes  
But they came unashamed, for there was no name  
And she knew that her soldier had died  
Then the mother knelt down by her bedside  
And she prayed "Lord above, hear my plea  
And protect all the sons who are fighting tonight  
And dear God, keep America free"

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