

# Once an Addict

J. Cole

Right, right, right, right  
Something's got a hold on me  
Right, right, right, right  
Sometimes I think pain is just a lack of understanding  
If we could only understand it all, would we feel no pain?  
God must feel no pain  
Something's got a hold on me  
Only joy  
Does this mean even our suffering pleases him?

Lost in a cloud of marijuana  
Young Carolina nigga, fish out of water  
Step-daddy just had a daughter with another woman  
Mama ain't recover yet  
Callin' me at 12 at night  
She drunk as fuck and I'm upset  
'Cause why she always using me for crutch?  
Growin' up I used to always see her up  
Late as shit, cigarette smoke and greatest hits from Marvin Gaye  
She kill a whole bottle of some cheap chardonnay  
I gotta leave this house 'cause part of me dies when I see her like this  
Too young to deal with pain  
I'd rather run the streets than see her kill herself  
So 'Ville became my escape from a feelin' I hate  
Mama cursing me out  
Depression's such a villainous state  
I used to stay out later on purpose  
Subconsciously I was nervous that if I came home early then what would surface was her inner demons  
And then I'd have to end up seein' my hero on ground zero  
Tears flow while Al Green blow  
Love and happiness  
I wish that I could say the right words to cheer her up  
I wish her son's love was enough  
I tell her, "Mama, go to sleep"  
She tell me "Boy, hush. You better pray to God you never get your heart crushed"  
I shake my head in frustration  
Head to my room and I can still hear the tunes of my door shut  
Fuck it though, a couple more months I'll be gone  
Off to college and dorms  
Foolin' myself, thinkin' problems are gone  
But now it's 1 AM and my mama diallin' my phone  
I know she intoxicated and soon this high that I'm on comes crashin' down  
She lit, talkin' drunk shit, I'm pissed  
But I'm still all ears like Basset hounds  
Thinkin' to myself, "Maybe my mama need help  
Don't she got work it the morning?  
Why she do this to herself?  
Hate how she slurrin' her words  
Soundin' so fuckin' absurd  
This ain't the woman I know  
Why I just sit and observe?  
Why don't I say how I feel?  
When I do, she's defensive for real  
Well maybe things get better with time, I heard it heals"  
Little did I know how deep her sadness would go

Lookin' back, I wish I woulda did more instead of running

Something's got a hold on me

I can't let it go

Out of fear I won't be free

Something's got a hold on me

I can't let it go

Out of fear I won't be-

No!

Something's got a hold on me

I can't let it go

Right

Life can bring much pain

There are many ways to deal with this pain (right)

Choose wisely (right)