

# Mama Papa

Joan Armatrading

I was born on an Island  
St. Kitts  
In a little biddy town  
Had a mama and a papa  
Four brothers and a sister

Mama papa told us  
Play hard  
Fight fair  
Live life  
And love the Lord  
I said love the Lord  
Said love the Lord

Their choice was  
The United Kingdom  
Living in Birmingham  
When they wanted to spread their wings  
And fly away

Seven people in one room  
No heat  
One wage  
And bills to pay  
I said bills to pay  
Gotta pay those bills

Now when you're walking on heaven's floor  
Talking in the ear of God  
What you gonna say to the man  
When he asks you what you've done

Can you say you did your very best  
With what you had  
Like my mama and my papa

I know two people who served up love  
And a whole lot more  
They made us hold our sides with laughter all night long  
Oh they made us laugh  
Until we cried  
Till we begged them stop  
Or we'll split our sides

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