

## If I Could

Ray Charles

If I could - I'd protect you from the sadness in your eyes.  
Give you courage in a world of compromise.  
Yes, I would...

If I could - I would teach you all the things I never learned.  
And I'd help you cross the bridges that I burned.  
Yes, I would...

If I could - I would try to shield your innocence from time.  
But, the part of life I gave you isn't mine.  
I watched you grow - So I could let you go...

If I could - I would help you make it through the hungry years.  
But, I know that I could never dry your tears.  
But, I would - If I could...

Yes, if I live - in a time and place where you don't want to be  
,  
you don't have to walk along this road with me.  
My yesterday - won't have to be your way...

If I knew - I would try to change the world I brought you to.  
And there isn't very much that I could do.  
But, I would - if I could...

Oh, baby, Daddy wants to protect you.  
And help my baby through the hungry years.  
'Cause you're a part of me.  
And if you ever, ever need, I said a shoulder to cry on,  
Or just someone to talk to, I'll be there. I'll be there.  
I didn't change the world.  
But, I would - If I could...

(Spoken) "Oh, darlin'. I love ya baby."...