

## Flat Shasta

Ray Vaughn

Mama, I used to watch you scam and sell dope  
But as of now, I don't know what to tell folks when they ask me 'bout you  
Knowing it's been a couple months since we done spoke  
So I try to break the tension with a joke, huh  
Truth is, Mama, you need meds for schizo, but you won't take it  
If you lose all your marbles, you ain't gon' have none to play with  
A black woman who crying for help, and I'm trying to save her  
The last thing you want to be called in this world is crazy  
Aw, poor baby, I just praying that your Shasta ain't flat  
'Cause you say a lot of shit that you could never take back  
Is that the reason why my daddy left? Just tell me the truth  
My sister Brie act just like you  
A whole litter, you pushed seven of us out by the age of twenty-five  
I don't see you when I look you in the eyes  
I'm looking for Aisha, I'm looking for the woman that's inside  
Just let me know when she arrives  
Mouth full of pills in front of us, could've died  
The world on your shoulder, how heavy is suicide?  
If God took you then, I wouldn't wanna be alive  
Shit, if God took you then, I would be at war with God, yeah

I wish I could save your smile  
I wish I could ease your mind like you have done for me  
Mama, just stay a while  
Don't even like the tears that fall from my eyes  
I'm not crazy at all  
I'm not crazy at all  
I'm not crazy at all  
I'm not crazy at all

Sometimes I wonder if the reason I don't treat bitches right  
Is 'cause I never seen you get treated right  
If you pass me the cycle, then I'm fucked up for life  
'Cause every nigga that you get with you fight  
Uh, just let me know what happens when all of the hugs run out  
Mama, what do I do when all the drugs run out?  
Mama, your mind like a drink left in the sun  
The bubbles are gone, the damage is done  
But I keep pouring my love into your glass  
Praying one day this storm gon' pass  
I need you bad, I, I need you bad  
To the woman that smoked weed with my brothers right before class  
To the woman that I love way more than my fucking dad  
Can I borrow one of your laughs and can I steal one of your smile?  
And can I hold on to your joy? 'Cause I ain't felt that since a child  
And if it wasn't for your womb, I wouldn't be breathing right now  
I swear to God, I just need you right now

I wish I could save your smile  
I wish I could ease your mind like you have done for me  
Mama, just stay a while  
Don't even like the tears that fall from my eyes  
I'm not crazy at all  
I'm not crazy at all  
I'm not crazy at all  
I'm not crazy at all

Mama, if you hear me, then I'm still your son  
Even when the darkness comes, I won't run  
I pray one day that you find your way back  
And that your Shasta never goes flat

I'm sorry for not noticing sooner, you know I'm one of your troopers  
Forgave you for everything, you only a fucking human  
Remember we lived on Hoover? On church grounds, hallelujah  
When you beat the shit out me for talking to you like I'm stupid  
Used to work two jobs, but you don't work no more  
I know you hurt but I don't want to see you hurt no more  
I feel like dying or just killing myself  
Watching you lose your mind and can't do shit to help

"Nigga, you done drank all my motherfuckin' Shastas?  
Look at you over here, letting you sleep on the couch, and you in this bitch  
drinking all of my shit?  
Nigga, if you don't go take yo' ass down to the motherfuckin' Dairy"