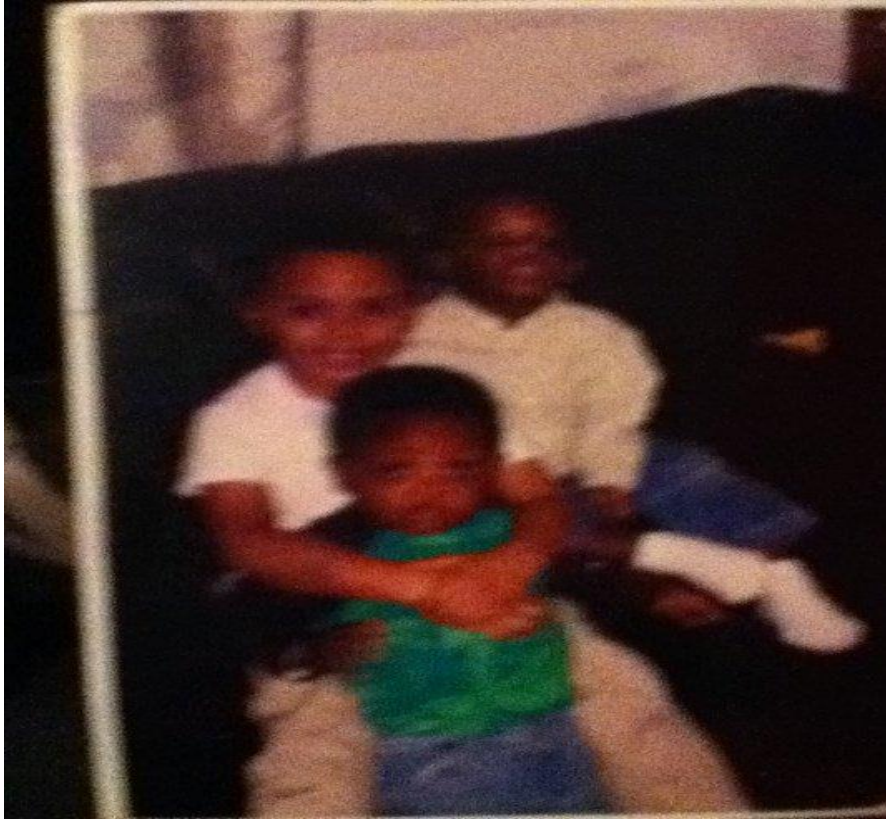


MY SOUL, MY PASSION, MY LIFE  
IN THESE WORDS OF A YOUNG POET



3men, 3days, 3nights

Woosh, swish, pow; 3men, 3days, 3nights;  
One scream, one cry, one fight;

1<sup>st</sup> day: like the summer breeze he came and left;  
Played with my mind, my heart, caused pure stress;  
2<sup>nd</sup> day: alley oop, jump shot, this man came through;  
The sweetest person alive but what do I do;  
3<sup>rd</sup> day: from the depths of my soul he reached in and took my  
life;  
The first time I've ever been in love and I paid a full price;

1<sup>st</sup> afternoon: he surely came back;  
With an im sorry baby; yet again I relapsed;  
2<sup>nd</sup> afternoon: he said he loved me, brought me flowers, then  
took me on date;  
For that I was thankful, a relief, it was great;  
3<sup>rd</sup> afternoon: hey baby! how you doing;  
The nerve of him when my heart he just ruined;

1<sup>st</sup> night: after all the time we spent alone in this long crazy day:  
His ex calls his phone and again he leaves me astray;  
2<sup>nd</sup> night: the best man in the world still by my side;

knew my pain and frustration, but was still down to ride;  
3<sup>rd</sup> night: he screwed my cousin in the outside hall of my house;  
I couldn't take anymore pain so said,... get the fuck out;

That's my tail of 3men in 3days;  
Number two was who I chose to keep and no more will I be  
strayed!

Tiquana Williams  
A.K.A  
Diamond p.

## a child's pain

**This little black girl from H.C.T;  
The town of hard knocks explained jay-z;  
4 years old the life of a stray;  
19 years later still trying to escape;  
Step pops I remember beating me like a church drum;  
Nowhere to hide nowhere to run;  
Selling my asthma machine so he could cop a fix;  
Being so afraid I developed a twitch;  
On edge like cliff hanger; looking for signs of anger;  
All he used was belt buckles, cords and wire hangers;  
5 years old urinating on myself, because he was in the bathroom; and not  
with my moms;  
You nasty bitch he screamed; and threw me some clothes like trash to a  
dump;  
My 7 year old brother cleaned me up and got me dressed;  
He rocked me as I cried; for him; I was truly blessed;  
Removed by dcf; returned a year later;  
Things were good for a while; but then became even graver;  
Ah month into us coming home; step pops returned with a smile;  
The rage in my eyes, at the top of my lungs I screamed so loud;  
Bags in hand; moms let him in;  
Back to the abuse; here we go again;  
Changing my baby brother's diapers, feeding him, cleaning, washing  
clothes by hand, Midas well had been cooking;**

And his lazy ass just sitting on the couch looking;  
Aw Jerome; this house looks so nice; mom says when she comes in;  
I know; I've been cleaning all day and running behind these bad ass kids;  
I knew better then to tell the truth;  
She wasn't gone believe me anyways and holding my breath; I was gone  
blow the roof;  
Age nine; we moved to New York; and again they broke up;  
I ain't gone front, I was happy as fuck;  
During our stay she met this guy named Stanley;  
Who was very nice at first but soon became my worst enemy;  
A party for his niece he convinced my mom to let us go to; pack the Barbie  
dress;  
My niece has one just like it; I think it would be best;  
She didn't even question it wouldn't you;  
He had her mind so gone she ain't even have a clue;  
I stayed the night over there; his sister knew something was weird;  
Stan?... why does she have to sleep in there  
Because her mother says that she wants her with me at all times;  
My daughter has room in her bed, she'll like it; she'll be fine;  
Yeah! I know but her mother wants her with me;  
What kind of mother would say something like that! She must be crazy!  
Couldn't be me;  
I was afraid because I felt something wasn't right;  
He whispered in my ear goodnight; then laid by my side;  
When he thought I was sleep; I felt a hand creep up my thigh;  
I slowly began to cry; a few seconds later he starts to push his finger  
inside;  
Again this is happening to me why;  
I laid there stiff as a board, wanting to scream but all I could do is die;  
How dear he touch me like that; a child;  
How dear he; I wanted to go wild;  
I hated so much; so many people; after that; only silence for a while;  
Kinda like a stiff Barbie doll;  
I locked the bathroom door every time I went in;  
Thought it would help but it just caused more stress;  
I never told my mother; just stayed under cover;  
Not one soul knew; not even my brother;

Same age; step father back in the picture;  
Emotionally,... my problems got bigger;  
Ten years old; being chased up the block from school;  
Knives held to my neck, black eyes, gum stuck in my hair; cause those  
same girls wanted to be cool;  
Age thirteen I lost my virginity but not consensually;  
By this guy named mecca whom was so called into me;  
Let's just try; he said; if it hurts to much I'll take it out I promise;  
But little did I know;... he was not being honest;  
He went faster and harder; the more I fought; the tighter his hand got  
over my mouth;  
So all you could hear,... was little squeals like a mouse;  
14 ½; pregnant with my first child;  
A single parent; but his beauty was wow;  
It was so hard but what could I say;  
He was the one who made me the strong woman I am today;  
16 years old on the block out tricking;  
All because I didn't like the way my mama had us living;  
Every time you turned around,... no food, no heat;  
So cold sometimes that we weeped;  
Because of those days, one day I would have to pay the price;  
It would be that craze price that almost lost me my life;  
But yet again back on the street;  
No diapers, no milk, so I continued this beat;  
A few years later, doing this till 09';  
More kids to take care of; hers and mine;  
Never having a break; till I made that mistake;  
That landed me a four year sentence in the niantic state;  
Still,... there was no escape;  
Everything there was just a game of hurry up and wait;  
I couldn't be late; I had to save my children;  
I had to go right now and save them from those villans;  
It didn't work; my mind went bizzerk;  
Everybody turned against me even the juvenile desk clerk;  
The pain I endured from 09' till now;  
Was definitely enough to make a preacher say wow;  
To help you understand,... I wrote this lullaby;

**To help ease my pain but keep pushing me to try;  
So hear I go; please; just bear with me;  
This is my life so don't take it gently!**

**Tiquana Williams  
A.K.A  
Diamond p.**

## Lullaby

Rock me to sleep oh precious one;  
Take this pain away; make me numb;  
No more crying; I cant take it anymore;  
Build my heart higher and higher so it sores;  
Relax me peacefully; touch me deeply;  
My mind with frustration builds so easily;  
Wash me pure dear lord; make me forget what has happened;  
Of my children being stripped from my arms like magic;  
Now you see them; now you don't;  
Be a mother again; you most assuredly wont;  
You are not a mother today;

You are a monster they say;  
You call yourself fit? Please! You ain't fit;  
Just another from the ghetto they ain't gone miss;  
They deserve to live in a big fancy house;  
Not where every where you turn; there's a corner peeking mouse;  
They need someone that can give them what they want;  
Not someone buying used goods from an old storage trunk;  
I love my children and care for them as best I could;  
Cut the chit chatter, sign the papers, they good;  
Hell no! you crazy! I refuse to donate my rights;  
Once again, sign them or you'll pay the price;  
Do what you got to,... in the end imah win;  
Think so lady? Then the challenge began!

My very first visit, my eldest son Elijah comes with a bruise on his chest;  
Who did that to you?  
Auntie bettie he says; cause I made her mad;  
My 3 year old baby; what the fuck;  
Meditation on my brain was all I could muster up;

2<sup>nd</sup> time he came with scars between his legs;  
3<sup>rd</sup> time he told me he was fondled in bed;  
4<sup>th</sup> time my little Trevor, age one, was open the size of a quarter;  
I called the police and the ambulance; my visits were took, court ordered;  
I even tried to plead my case but the judge wouldn't listen;  
D.C.F; wouldn't lie and you should be the one imprisoned;  
Visit 5; 9weeks later;  
This story so sad became even graver;  
Trevor couldn't talk so Elijah had to tell me;  
Trevor got a beaten; mommy please help we;



I wont do it again, I promise I'll be good;  
I hurt so much inside, I wish he understood;  
I spoke to the worker, she pretended not to see it;  
Then reversed it in court, said I was the one who beat him;

6<sup>th</sup> time made me almost lose my mind;  
But I wanted to keep my visits so I fought with my pride;  
Elijah came! His whole right hand bruised from a belt whelp;  
I knew because that was me but his response was he fell;  
2 visits later; I asked him the same question as before;  
And he said,... mommy I slammed my hand in the door;

I tore because I knew he was lying;  
For that! Hell no! I'd be damned if I keep quiet;  
I took pictures and brought them to his pediatrician;  
Ms. Williams; yes he has been harshly disciplined;  
Can I record this conversation;  
Yes you can and if you have any questions you know where I am;

So I brought it to both my lawyers to try and get the courts to listen;  
But them along with the courts said I was just craving attention;  
I promised myself that I would never give up;  
That I'd keep on pushing till I ran into luck;  
9<sup>th</sup> time Elijah didn't show up;... for the 5<sup>th</sup> time in 3months; he was sick;  
But Trevor came looking so sad and silent as a stick;

Head hanging low; not willing to speak or cry;  
I couldn't figure him out so I died a little more inside;  
What's wrong with Elijah; repeat that again;  
He's been throwing up all night and fevering;  
Have they taken him to the doctor,... oh no! he's alright;  
Now was the time to speak up no matter the outcome; because something  
wasn't right;  
I thought you said he's been throwing up all night;  
No! what I meant was until midnight last night;  
So why didn't he come to the visit this morning;  
They wanted to observe him, make sure he was okay;

If I find out all this time my kids have been enduring abuse and you knew about it ;  
I promise to make sure you rot in jail cause I'm pressing full charges;

Ms. Williams; how could you say something like that; I love your children and I would never place them in danger;  
But yet you would place them with total strangers;  
To that she had no comment so I thought nothing of it;  
But the following my visits were taken because of it;  
3weeks later; my rights were removed;  
Because my lawyer along with dcf told me that my court date was changed;  
now that's just cruel;

Never getting a chance to speak; went through depression for weeks;  
Starving myself with not a bite to eat; to the point where I was limp and week;  
I had to pick myself up though; I had no other chance;  
Because of my baby girl; if I left then who would she have in this world;  
2 ½ years later still fighting for my rights;  
Despite the hurt, pain and exhaustion it brings each night;

I was told to give up; work on myself; they'll come back looking for you when they're eighteen;  
But if you were in my shoes; would you give up on this dream;  
Would you give up on your babies to let someone they don't know take your spot;  
To forget all the pain, laughter and joy; from the time you got knocked;  
If you said yes,... I don't think that's very true;  
Only a person insane would say stuff that's delusional;

4babies I have, yes im only 23 but im glad;  
Just the thought of them in my life, my world was never sad;  
There's a commitment that we make as loving mothers;  
And that's to never give up no matter the obstacles may come;  
So to those people who thought that they tore my family apart;  
To my kids, my babies, I'll always be # one;  
With god on my side I'll always carry lots of pride;

You think you took me down but I'll always survive!

**Tiquana Williams**

**A.K.A**

**Diamond p.**

: Poem : a long shattered note

Dear john,

Deep whispers in my soul,.. my body blast crazy;  
You're so unique that you trapped my heart; my love for you is blazy;  
I spit these melodies higher than my mind can take me;  
Fuel the gas, as you leave me in the past;  
Stuck on future; but my minds ever last;  
Behold the strength; I have no more;  
I left it outside those steel jail doors;  
Speak to my spirit; take my breath away;  
You were my world spinning day by day;  
This marks the 3<sup>rd</sup>, almost 4<sup>th</sup> year I knew you;  
My life is everywhere; but my mind is gaining stipularity;

I never gave up on trying to be there for you;  
But my gut feeling is screaming,.. maybe you don't deserve better;  
Maybe she's all that im not plus mad cheddar;  
My hearts shattered like ice sticks;  
I carried a piece of you like trident;  
Laughter, chit chatter, this solid inferno space;  
4by4 cell, im so nervous as I pace;  
This board and walk, with you on my mind;  
Intense varsarity, tika drops silver dimes;  
It's like I checked in a rehab and you're my disease;  
As I take on these shakes,.. I'm screaming just one more hit, I cant take it  
please;

Help me to train this water;  
to stay still,.. tight like morguers;  
im strapped with this piece,.. cause I wana protect myself;  
my soul still bleeds the stage of mental health;  
dilarity; you and me;  
I want it so bad;.. the feeling to just let it be;  
As I dance to this tune,.. reruns of love and hip hop, I'm Josie, you're her  
man;  
But these thoughts quickly fade,.. like a rock in quick sand;

I blaze,... not an I,... but what I dwell;  
Secrets lye so deep in this coma,.. cause you cast a spell  
Said I got game,.. no sorry,.. you do;  
And you've played me all out, like a play station 2;  
Me,.. hate you; naw; that's just stupid;  
Because,.. you see,.. it's all my fault; not the shorty named cupids;  
We're taking math class,.. algebra,.. let's solve this problem;  
I stop chasing you,.. so you,.. wont have to stomp em';  
Dreams about you crazy; shit that's amazing;  
But will I ever be that one to replace em';  
Nope!,.. that's why life's such a joke;  
Staring in this mirror,.. no illusions,.. just smoke;  
What's even crazier,.. is cause I already know what you gone do with this  
letter;  
But time is of the essence; so I'll let you go ahead and let her;  
I don't even understand,.. why I still keep writing you;  
Cant I just get it,.. J.A,.. we're through!

Tiquana Williams  
A.K.A  
Diamond p.

## A mothers love



This life so painful, but yet so much joy;  
Expressions of tears and happiness;  
Blend together like rain drops in the dirt;  
I felt that pain when you were ripped away;  
Like veins being pulled from my heart;  
I never stopped praying and having faith that you would  
one day return;  
To mend the broken pieces I lost along the way;

5 years I fought, so lonely;  
With only god to take on this path with me;  
I counted on those surrounding me, to be my shield, my  
rock, to block the fire that was coming my way;  
But when the chips fell,... they moved quicker than  
lightning;  
So afraid I was, after that, to trust anyone, even god;

But be knowest to the fact that he would be my rock in  
that pond;

I always believed that everything happens for a reason;  
Like the year that breaks down into four seasons;  
Just like you guys being removed from my life;  
God has his own way of doing things right;  
As I sit in this bed and I write in this journal; About all of  
my pain;  
I know that somewhere, along this road, that you are  
doing the same thing;

Those nights, oh those nights, I surely still remember;  
Tucking you guys in, even when it wasn't winter;  
Hugs, kisses and loads of family fun;  
Believe me when I say, no matter who comes along, you  
guys, my beautifully, intelligent, children, will always be #  
one;

The day each of you were born, our worlds entwined;  
I cried tears of joy upon hearing your first cry;  
Like blooming flowers in the sun;  
The melodies of each of your lives had just begun;  
You created in me your mother figure;  
And loved me no matter what, even when others begged  
to differ;

I love you guys and not being there physically, hurts me;  
But know one thing, that my soul is with you earthly;

I know that I made mistakes and I cant take them back;  
But everyday; my body remains on go mode, waiting to  
restack;  
To rebuild, to re-heal, where you felt there was pain;  
To guide you through life so you have no strains;  
Stresses will come, but only shall they, in your adulthood;  
But for now, I am willing to do all I could;

To be the best I can be; like the national guard;  
To love and protect you, like be your body guard;  
I am not the person I was, but I am the person god made  
me out to be;  
And to my children I hope you can except this long, sought  
out, apology;  
from your dear mother, I love you guys;  
no more secrets, no more lies, only happiness and the will  
power to survive!

Diamond da poet



## Apologies not

Sorry for the disturbance, didn't know you were the one hurting;  
I thought you told me you were single, that you wanted to be with  
me forever;  
Through rain and stormy weather;  
I thought you wanted me to have your baby;  
Marry you, like be your main lady;  
3years,... do the math;  
Now I'm all alone walking this rough path;

Sorry for the disturbance, didn't think you were the one hurting;  
Didn't know you were the one up all night afraid, not knowing  
where the hell I was;  
Having no clue that this was all lust;  
Or was I the one who had the baby daddy come to your house on  
some R&B shit;  
Telling him all those lies about what we never did;  
Telling him that your kid wasn't mine;  
Knowing 2days before I was laying in your bed spitting line after  
line;

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