

By Heart

Words and Music by Lisa Reiff

I know the story by heart
How you and Mom fell in love
I must've heard it a thousand times
It's the stuff fairytales are made of

Your wedding picture hangs on my wall
Hand in hand how happy you were
Didn't have much, didn't know each other long
But she loved you and you loved her

I don't know when you started to drink
Or when the two of you grew apart
I don't know what you were running from
I just know how it broke her heart

The day you left is so clear in my mind
All the suitcases there on the floor
I hid behind the chair as my daddy walked out
Just like that you weren't there anymore
You just walked out the door

You came back home a time or two
Tried to change but you never could
The year I turned twelve
I think you finally gave up
And decided to leave for good

You moved in with that woman from work
And you started a brand-new life
I don't know what you thought of it all
Your home, your kids, your wife

Mom was strong and did all that it took
To make sure we had a happy home
I see now what a pillar she was
I see it clearly now that I am grown

She got a job soon after you left
But I never once heard her complain
Sometimes I'd hear her cryin' at night
She didn't know I was listening
But I was always listening

Years later you'd talk about it all
With tears runnin' down your face
You must've said 'I'm sorry' a thousand times
So thankful for forgiveness and grace

I know you never meant to hurt us
And that you'd have changed it all if you could
But even though the damage was done
It has all worked out for our good
For her good and my good and your good

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