

# Don't Tell Mom

*Casey Freeman*

"Don't tell Mom" was our favorite phrase. Don't tell Mom that you sent me through your bedroom window because you locked us out of the house. Don't tell Mom that you let me stay up way too late on a school night. Don't tell Mom that you can't afford the groceries this week, but you'll manage somehow.

Don't tell Mom that I scribbled on her pajamas because I wanted to practice writing (scrawling) my name. Don't tell Mom that I think I might be depressed and that her asking me why I don't have a boyfriend is just making it worse. Don't tell Mom that I almost got in a wreck at 2 a.m. after her 57th birthday, even though it wouldn't have been my fault.

"Don't tell Mom" used to be serious, but we now look at it with fondness. We still share stories, but most things are kept to ourselves now that we're both adults.

Yes, don't tell Mom that her baby girl shoots whiskey straight, and does it happily.

Don't tell Mom her baby girl doesn't need a man because she doesn't want to love.

Don't tell Mom that her baby girl wants nothing more than to want to tell Mom everything.