

“Too Late For Mama” Lyrics

By Brenda Fassie (South Africa)

Verse 1

Ten kilometers barefooted in the bush
Started raining on the way to fetch some water
Poor woman had a baby on her back
Was struck by lightning on her way
To fetch some water...
She tried hiding under a tree to save her child
Poor woman had no place to go
Lightning caught her with her baby on her back
Friends, relatives ran for her
But it was too late
It was too late... too late for mama
Husband came running to the scene yeah,
Poor man held his dead wife in his arms,
Eyes full of tears not believing the nightmare,
Knelt down and prayed for this was a painful loss

*Ten kilometres barefooted in
the bush*

Started raining

*on the way to fetch some
water*

Chorus

Too late... too late for mama
Oh mama mama, poor mama,
It was too late... too late

Verse 2

She tried hiding under a tree to save her child
Poor woman had no place to hide
Lightning caught her with her baby on her back
Friends, relatives ran for her

Chorus

But it was too late (mama)
Too late for mama (mama)
Too late (mama)
Too late for mama (mama)

Oh mama mama (mama)
Oh poor mama (mama)

It was too late (mama)
Too late for mama (mama)
Oh mama (mama)
Mama with her little baby (mama)

She's gone (mama)
She's gone (mama)
Oh poor mama (mama)
Too late! Too late! Too late! (mama)
Too late for mama
Too late for mama
Too late! Too late!

Oh mama mama
My poor mama
It was too late
It was too late

Mama with her little baby (mama)
She's gone (mama)
She's gone (mama)
My mama mama
My poor mama ...
Too late for mama... oh mama
Mama with the little baby
She's gone... she's gone... she's gone, oh poor mama
It was too late



It was too late (mama)

*Too late for mama
(mama)*

Oh mama (mama)

About the singer

Brenda Fassie was born on November 3, 1964 and passed away on May 9th, 2004, aged 39. She was popularly known as the "Queen of African Pop".

Her legendary songs include "Too Late For Mama", "Weekend Special" "Vulindlela" and "Nomakanjani". Vulindlela was so popular that it was used by the African National Congress for its elections' campaign in 1999.

Brenda was a recipient of the African prestigious Kora Award and was voted number 17 in the Top 100 Great South Africans.

She struggled with drugs which would finally take away her life.

She was said to be the voice for black South Africans during the apartheid era. Nelson Mandela, Winnie Mandela and Thabo Mbeki even visited her in hospital as she fought for her own life.