Monica (My Daughter's Song)

by Tim Hanley Rain City Studios © 2025

Lyrics: "Monica (My Daughter's Song)"

Verse 1]

I still remember the night you arrived,

Tiny and brave, your soul untied.

Eyes wide open, full of grace—

I saw the world shift in your face.

But I was broken, just trying to cope,

Wandering blind, clinging to hope.

I cast my shadow over your space,

Never understanding love or grace.

[Chorus]

Monica, now I see you—pure and strong,

Not a mirror of me, but you all along.

You're not my story, not my past's design,

You're the one bright thread I could never unwind.

Please forgive me for the roles I gave,

For dragging you through the wreckage I made.

Now I see you, shining through—

And I'm so grateful to finally see you.

[Verse 2]

There's wreckage scattered through the years,

Faded vows and silent tears.

Tanner's little laugh, Alyssa's eyes—

Families formed, then compromised.

I tried to fix what was broken in me,

But I never stopped to truly see—

The little girl with endless grace,

Carrying a love I can't replace.

[Verse 3]

I wasn't born with projecting eyes,

But I too was cast into a world of lies.

I tried to fit you into frames and molds,

Not knowing a soul can't be controlled.

My life was shaped by ego's hand,

Chasing empty dreams I didn't understand.

And I failed to see what was always true—

Nothing I formed could outshine you.

[Verse 4]

You needed someone to stand by your side,

To speak the truth when the world tried to lie.

To guard your soul from the weight of pretend,

To fight for the girl the world tried to bend.

But I was too busy with pain of my own,

Blind to the cost, lost in my soul.

You needed an advocate, brave and true— But I was the mold I was pouring you into.

[Verse 5]

But love still found a way to stand—
In fur and paws and loyal hands.
Whitney stood guard, remember her fierce face?
Layla gave you comfort in your sacred place.
Now Elfo walks where angels roam—
Each one helped you to find your home.
They stood with you as I could not see,
And they gave you back your dignity.

[Bridge]

I used to think love meant hiding pain—
You were my shelter through years of rain.
Your laughter, your tears, your unspoken grace—
Now that's what I see when I see your face.

[Final Chorus]

Monica, now I see you—brilliant and true,

Not a shadow of me, but the wonder of you.

Not the child I imagined, but the soul I adore—

I won't try to shape you anymore.

Please forgive me for the times I failed,

For stories I wrote where truth was yeiled.

Now I see you—no disguise...

Just your light, rising into the skies.

[Outro – Spoken or Gently Sung]

Now I am reborn with open eyes,

My soul awakening from the lies.

I'm so proud of you for having come through—

To stand in your truth, with a light born in you.

Now I see you that you're not me...

Finally I see that you are you.