

# Dear Mama,

Welcome to the best hood around, on motherhood!

Congratulations on how far you've already come and where you will continue to grow. I know the journey isn't easy, but it's worth it. When trying to find joy in parenting, think of yourself. I happen to think being a mom is the best thing ever, even on my most tiring days.

Try juggling a full-time job, coaching cheerleading, running a small DIY business, and finding time for yourself and a partner. But at the end of the day, something as simple as a hug from your mini can make everything around you stand still. Seeing your child's face light up from something so small as an extra snack in their lunch bag is the joy of parenting, or hearing a little voice at school drop-off yell, "Bye mama, see you when you pick me up!" can shine light through the cloudiest mornings. I learn day by day to give myself some grace, every day won't be great, but children don't know that all they know is their mother's love.

Joy for me is the thought of knowing at the end of the night, no matter how old that child of yours gets, they're going to find their way to your bed for their comfort and yours. So, this time allow yourself to be happy, then again having kids is another chance at all the fun things you weren't able to do as a kid and more (my son and I recently visited the Paw Patrol Experience, and I think I enjoyed it way more than him, lol). The joy of parenting is asking your child if they have McDonald's money, knowing they don't, and still stopping there to make them feel good. Those simple small moments are some of the joys of parenting.

So, make memories and find joy for you!

  
Alexandra

