

LIMDU HEITEIV

ENGLISH LYRICS AND MUSIC BY BETH SCHAFER

לְמִדּוּ הַיֵּטִב דִּרְשׁוּ מִשְׁפָּט, אֲשֶׁרוּ חָמוּץ;
שִׁפְטוּ יָתוֹם, רִיבוּ אֶלְמָנָה.

Limdu heiteiv, dirshu mishpat, ashru chamotz; shiftu yatom, rivu almanah.

[Trans. Learn to do good, seek justice; relieve the oppressed. Uphold the orphan's rights; take up the widow's cause.] Isaiah 1:17

Mothers love and mothers hold
Mothers shape the world we know, mama, ima, mama
Mothers worry mothers feel
Mothers know too well what's real, mama, ima, mama
And these are the things our mothers teach us

Sisters laugh and sisters cry
Sisters stand strong by and by, sister, oh my sister
Sisters know you, sisters sense
Sisters keep your precious secrets, sister, oh my sister
And these are the things our sisters teach us

Daughters wonder, daughters share
Daughters make the whole world care, daughter, precious daughter
Daughters push us, daughters sigh
Daughters make us ask God, "Why?" daughter, precious daughter
And these are the things our daughters teach us

Echoes: Learn to do well for our children,
Seek out justice, practice mercy,
For the widow and the orphan