VERSE 1:
Have you ever loved someone so much, you’d give an arm for?
Not the expression, no, literally give an arm for?
When they know they’re your heart
And you know you are their armor
And you will destroy anyone who would try to harm her
But what happens when karma, turns right around and bites you?
And everything you stand for, turns on you, despite you?
What happens when you become the main source of her pain?
“Daddy look what I made,” Dad’s gotta go catch a plane
“Daddy where’s Mommy? I can’t find Mommy where is she?”
I don’t know go play Hailie, baby, your Daddy’s busy
Daddy’s writing a song, this song ain’t gonna write itself
I’ll give you one underdog then you gotta swing by yourself
Then turn right around in that song and tell her you love her
And put hands on her mother, who’s a spitting image of her
That’s Slim Shady, yeah baby, Slim Shady’s crazy
Shady made me, but tonight Shady’s rocka-by-baby...

CHORUS:
And when I’m gone, just carry on, don’t mourn
Rejoice every time you hear the sound of my voice
Just know that I’m looking down on you smiling
And I didn’t feel a thing, so baby don’t feel no pain
Just smile back... (REPEAT)

VERSE 2:
I keep having this dream, I’m pushin’ Hailie on the swing
She keeps screaming, she don’t want me to sing
“You’re making Mommy cry, why? Why is Mommy crying?”
Baby, Daddy ain’t leaving no more, “Daddy, you’re lying—
You always say that, you always say this is the last time.
But you ain’t leaving no more, Daddy you’re mine”
She’s piling boxes in front of the door trying to block it
“Daddy please, Daddy don’t leave, Daddy — no stop it!”
Goes in her pocket, pulls out a tiny necklace locket
It’s got a picture, “this’ll keep you safe Daddy, take it withcha’”
I look up — it’s just me standing in the mirror
These ***** walls must be talkin’ cuz man I can hear ’em, they’re saying
“You’ve got one more chance to do right — and it’s tonight
Now go out there and show that you love ’em before it’s too late”
And just as I go to walk out of my bedroom door
It turns to a stage, they’re gone, and this spotlight is on, and I’m singing

VERSE 3:
Sixty thousand people, all jumping out their seat
The curtain closes, they’re throwing roses at my feet
I take a bow and thank you all for coming out
They’re screaming so loud, I take one last look at the crowd
I glance down, I don’t believe what I’m seeing
“Daddy it’s me, help Mommy, her wrists are bleeding”
But baby we’re in Sweden, how did you get to Sweden?
“I followed you Daddy, you told me that you weren’t leavin’
You lied to me Dad, and now you make Mommy sad
And I bought you this coin, it says ‘Number One Dad’
That’s all I wanted, I just want to give you this coin
I get the point — fine, me and Mommy are going”
But baby wait... “It’s too late Dad, you made the choice
Now go out there and show ’em that you love ’em more than us
That’s what they want, they want you Marshall
They keep screamin’ your name
It’s no wonder you can’t go to sleep
Just take another pill, yeah, I bet you will.
You rap about it, yeah, word, k-keep it real”
I hear applause, all this time I couldn’t see
How could it be, that the curtain is closing on me
I turn around, find a gun on the ground, cock it
Put it to my brain and scream “die Shady” and pop it

THE CHARACTERS:
Narrator: Marshall Mathers, a.k.a. Eminem
Slim Shady: An alter ego of Marshall’s that expresses the side of him that is wild, crazy, and violent
Hailie: Marshall’s daughter
Kim: his (divorced, remarried, divorced, etc.) wife

“IT’S TOO LATE, DAD...”
**MAGAZINE REVIEW OF WHEN I’M GONE**

**OVERVIEW:** Imagine you are a writer for POEMSLASH, a print and online magazine that reviews contemporary poetry and song lyrics. For a special issue on “The Top Ten Rap Lyrics of the New Millennium” (since the year 2000), the magazine rated “When I’m Gone” as #7, and your editor told you to write the review. The “first draft” is to be **one page, single spaced**.

**DEADLINE:** Your Editor is tough, so you only have 40 minutes to finish!

**SPECIFICS of the REVIEW:**

1) **Write a brief intro.** It might start something like “The number seven pick, When I’m Gone, is what appears to be a type of confession by recording artist Eminem. This uncharacteristically self-critical work expresses...”  
   **NOTE:** As this review represents the view of your magazine, and not you personally, don’t use first person.

2) **Interpret & Explain:** In one or two paragraphs, explain the meaning of the song overall, and its several “scenes,” as well as the chorus and the meaning of the phrase “When I’m Gone.”

3) **Analyze & Evaluate.** In one or two paragraphs, comment on at least **three things** you think are good or bad about the song (and at least one must be good). As your magazine focuses on the poetic aspects of song lyrics, your points should address things like meter, rhyme, metaphor, tone, imagery, etc. Include a few short quotes from the lyrics to support your opinion. (Don’t use line numbers, but just refer to the verse and “scene.”)

4) **Write a short conclusion.** Summarize why this song made the top ten, and make some general statement or prediction about Eminem and his songwriting.