**Mother May I?**

Tami Taylor

**ROUND 7: MOTHER ON REALITY**

With all jokes aside, mother’s primary role in your life is to keep you grounded. It is a child’s nature to float off into an alternative reality where the world is against them or they can graduate from high school and land a six figure income just by watching their favorite television shows or playing their favorite video games. Mother is that dose of reality that reminds you exactly of what the world is about and your place in it.

When you feel yourself starting to let go of reality, let these passages bring you back.

**Mother says: “It’s just rain. You aren’t sugar, you won’t melt.”**

*Translation: Stop whining about it.*

\*The Dutiful Daughter will get wet and learns to appreciate the mess.

Sometimes getting messy is the best part of our art. Get out your inks and do your worst. Use your inks to edge papers, stamp titles, stamp decorative images to embellish your page.

\*The Wild Child believes herself to be sugar.

Since you don’t want to melt, let’s see how clean of a layout you can make. Think clean straight lines, simple embellishments, try to do a minimalist layout.

**Mother says: “Nobody asked you.”**

*Translation: You’re still talking?*

\*The Dutiful Daughter will stop answering.

Instead ask the questions, and ask someone who may not get asked as much as they should. Ask a best friend, your spouse or partner; ask them the questions we remember to ask the young ones in our life. Ask them what their favorite color is, their favorite television show, their favorite movie of all time.

\*The Wild Child wants her voice heard.

Ever try to start a conversation by asking a question, and by the time the rest of the group answers you never answered it? Let’s answer the same questions we ask others, what are your favorite things?

**Mother says: “When I was your age, I had to walk uphill…”**

*Translation: Things were different when she was a kid blah.. blah... blah....*

\*The Dutiful Daughter will spend some time walking uphill to gain appreciation.

Scrapbooking first started as a method of preserving photos, family history and printed media. What printed media have you preserved lately? Put some printed media in your layout, a program flyer, a newspaper article, a report card. {insert Tania’s 7TW.jpg}

\*The Wild Child doesn’t care about ‘ancient history’.

Today’s scrapbooking for some has evolved into a focus on the art. Layouts have become mini-masterpieces. There are so many famous artists in our industry let’s find inspiration in them. Find a layout you enjoy looking at and let it inspire you to create a layout. Make sure to give credit to the artist who created the original art you are using for inspiration.

**Mother says: “If I’ve said it once, I’ve said it a thousand times.”**

*Translation: She is tired of repeating herself, listen already.*

\*The Dutiful Daughter will realize whatever mother is saying warrants attention.

Are you paying attention to your mother? Share a story on a layout that your mother often told. Whether it is a story about you, her life or any other subject; preserve this beloved story.

\*The Wild Child knows mother is exaggerating she couldn’t have said it more than once.

Sometimes once is enough. Simply put, what’s the one thing you want people to remember about you? Whether it’s a profound life philosophy or a simple quirky fact like your tenacity at crosswords, what do you want to be remembered forever?