

# Amel Larrieux, Giving Something Up

## VERSE 1

'76 when a man  
Told his wife 'baby doll sorry i can't stay'  
Left with 5 kids she was forced to become  
Superwoman and go earn some pay  
A college-educated girl  
Washing dishes in a man's world  
Now what good is a degree  
When you've got mouths to feed  
She is that girl, maybe you know her  
Maybe you've been, maybe you are today  
Insert your year where the year is  
If to this story you can relate

## CHORUS

Giving something up  
We're always giving something up  
We are giving somethin up  
We're always giving something up  
We are giving something up  
We're always giving something up  
We are giving something up  
We're always giving something  
We're always giving something up

## VERSE 2

'97, a mother has no choice  
But to go find work and leave her kids alone  
Far from heaven, so she's gone  
5 days out the week to bring a piece home  
Her man is off somewhere up some dress  
Bringing her back some other woman's sickness  
Her baby girl is crying 'Mama please  
When you're gone the neighbor's chasing me'  
Around the world, from Pakistan  
Down to Soweto, back to New York City  
Insert your year where the year is  
If to this story you can relate

## CHORUS

## BRIDGE

(background repeated w/ each line: Giving, yes, ah)  
Giving, trying, self-relying  
Feeling, teaching, always preaching  
Dreaming, losing, being abused and  
Dying, crying, sacrificing  
Hurting, being told we're worthless  
Birthing, buried alive in the earth and  
Hoping, mending, spirits broken  
Flying and somehow surviving

## CHORUS

(repeated w/ ad libs till end)