

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)