

# Fathers, 2004

## Sho Baraka

I'm a lover, a provider  
I'm a teacher, I'm a fighter  
I know there's grace for me even when I'm wrong  
Through all my indiscretions and all my imperfections I'm a love you till the day that I'm gone  
How do you spell dad?  
It goes L-O-V-E  
How do you spell dad?  
It goes L-O-V-E  
Son in the land of the passive make sure that you man up  
When introduced to a lady its always proper to stand up  
Never talk behind the back of someone you're not a fan of  
Know when the cops approach you, you might have to put your hands up  
Respect all people and show honor to the king  
No matter what they think the Lord created all human beings  
Be critical, but never partner with defiance  
Be happy with who you are all alone in the silence  
Pray without ceasing, but keep your eyes on the system  
Always speak up for the weak until somebody listens  
Don't marry her if you don't plan to bury her  
If you sweep her off her feet then learn how to carry her  
Through thick and thin you know we gon' hold it down  
Through good or bad you know we gon' stick around  
How do you spell dad?  
It goes L-O-V-E  
How do you spell dad?  
It goes L-O-V-E  
Baby girl make sure your kings a better man than me  
You better believe I know that may be hard to achieve  
You're beautiful, I will always remind you  
Never let the culture's idea of beauty define you  
Baby girl don't be easily impressed  
Stay clothed in righteousness cause it's harder to undress  
I'm tryna raise the next Lena Horne  
Fannie Lou Hamer a lady who can bring reform  
Be wise and strong  
Don't be a side chick for the ride along  
Always be humble whether right or wrong  
And know I'll be here when your friends are gone  
When your friends are gone  
If you want love, get love  
If you need love, spread love  
Yeah, I got new goals its family business I handle now  
The kind of stuff that brothers over thirty be bragging 'bout  
Tell my son that he's more than some target practice  
Tell my daughter that she's more than an extension to a mattress

Never reach a goal by pulling others down  
Royalty is much more than a throne and a crown  
Your knees should be hurt from praying with your people  
Your shirt'll be wet from crying over evil  
I learned that love ain't based on performance  
Make a mistake and I will love you in the morning  
I see life in my children's eyes  
And when I'm wrong I'll be the first to apologize  
Peace to all my fathers who are working through their flaws  
Fulfilling their duties and they don't do it for applause  
It's true, any fool with a tool can reproduce  
But a father is that dude that'll see it through  
Forget the stereotypes lets be clear  
There are good men out there we are hereThrough thick and thin you know we gon' hold it down  
Through good or bad you know we gon' stick aroundHow do you spell dad?

It goes L-O-V-E

How do you spell dad?

It goes L-O-V-E

How do you spell dad?

M-E

M-E

Songwriters

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