

**Forgive Them Father**  
**Lauryn Hill**

Forgive Them Father

Written by Lauryn Hill sampling "Concrete Jungle" by Bob Marley

The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill (1998)

[\* verses by Shelley Thunder]

**Em**

[Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those that trespass against  
Although them again we will never, never, never trust  
Dem noh know weh dem do, dig out yuh hei while dem sticking like glue  
Fing, skin, grin while dem plotting fah you. True, Ah Who? ]

**Am**

**C**

**Bm**

Forgive them father, for they know not what they do

**Em**

**Am**

Beware the false motives of others

**C**

**Bm**

**Em**

Be careful of those who pretend to be Brothers

**Am**

**C**

**Bm**

And you never suppose it's those who are closest to you (to you)

**C**

**Em**

**C**

They say all the right things to gain their position

**Em**

**G**

Then use your kindness as their ammunition to shoot you down

**D**

in the name of ambition, they do oh

**Em**

**Am**

**C**

**Bm**

Forgive them father, for they know not what they do

**Em**

**Am**

**C**

**Bm**

Forgive them father, for they know not what they do

[Lauryn Hill rap verse]

Why every Indian wanna be the chief?

Feed a man til he s full and he still want beef

Give me grief, try to tief off my piece

Why for you to increase, I must decrease?

If I treat you kindly does it mean that I m weak?

You hear me speak and think I won t take it to the streets

I know enough cats that don t turn the other cheek

But I try to keep it civilized like Menelik

And other African czars observing stars with war scars

Get yours in this capitalistic system

So many caught or got bought you can t list them

How you gonna idolize the missing?

To survive is to stay alive in the face of opposition

Even when they comin gunninâ€™ I stand position

L s known the mission since conception  
Let s free the people from deception  
If you looking for the answers  
Then you gotta ask the questions  
And when I let go, my voice echoes through the ghetto  
Sick of men trying to pull strings like Geppetto  
Why black people always be the ones to settle  
March through these streets like Soweto

**G** **D** **D**  
Like Cain and Abel, Caesar and Brutus, Jesus and Judas,  
**Em**  
Back stabbers do this

**Am** **C** **Bm**  
Forgive them father, for they know not what they do  
**Em** **Am** **C** **Bm**  
Forgive them father, for they know not what they do

**Em** **Am**  
It took me a little while to discover  
**C** **Bm** **Em**  
Wolves in sheep coats who pretend to be lovers  
**Am** **C** **Bm**  
Men who lack conscience will even lie to themselves, to themselves  
**C** **Em** **C**  
A friend once said, and I found to be true  
**Em** **G**  
That everyday people, they lie to God too  
**D** **D**  
So what makes you think, that they won t lie to you

[Gwan like dem love while dem rip yuh to shreds,  
Trample pon yuh heart and lef yuh fi dead,  
Dem a yuh fren who yuh depen pon from way back when,  
But if yuh gi dem yuh back den yuh mus meet yuh end,  
Dem noh know wey dem do,  
Dem no know, dem no know, dem no know,  
Dem no know, dem no know wey dem do]

**G** **D**  
Who s gonna be the one, gonna be the one to say