

Do you agree with the saying that *a woman's work is never done*? Levi Tafari does, and he wrote this poem to tell the world about his very special mum.

Do this preparation exercise first and then read the poem.

### Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the numbers 1–8.

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| 1..... to tell someone off; to reprimand                   | a. rude                |
| 2..... impolite  | b. scores              |
| 3..... lots of   | c. to point the finger |
| 4..... to clean something with a cloth                     | d. to chastise         |
| 5..... to accuse somebody                                  | e. to wipe             |
| 6..... an animal that is a mixture of a horse and a donkey | f. a ROLO              |
| 7..... part of a city inhabited by a minority group        | g. a mule              |
| 8..... a type of chocolate-covered toffee                  | h. a ghetto            |

### The First Woman in my Life

by Levi Tafari

A woman's work is never done  
If you don't believe me ask my mum  
She worked her fingers to the bone  
To provide us with a decent home  
If she lived in Ancient Rome  
She could of built that city on her own  
She cooks, she cleans  
She does everything  
She irons decorates and does the shopping  
She chastised us when we were rude  
But never sent us to bed with out food  
Everyday she would change our clothes  
If we had colds she would wipe our nose  
Or if we went to mum with a problem  
Mum would always help us solve them  
We didn't want for anything  
We got the greatest gift mum's loving  
You can have ten aunties and scores of lovers  
But remember you only have one mother

I remember when someone pointed a finger  
Mum said I was Black, beautiful and I had culture

She always made sure we went to school  
Because in this life you can't be a fool  
You can see people will ride you like a mule  
It was mum who taught me to be cool  
So mother there's something I want you to know  
I love you mum, I love you so  
You taught me to survive in the ghetto  
You can have my last ROLO

If it was not for you then I would not exist  
So here it comes for you a kiss  
Yes you was the first woman in my life  
But one day I will take a wife  
Then hopefully she'll become a mum  
A woman's work is never done.

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