

The Living Years

Mike & the Mechanics

Toonsoort Ab
114 BPM in 4/4

Intro

A^b G^m B^bm E^b A^b

Verse

A^b D^b

Every generation Blames the one before

A^b D^b

And all of their frustrations Come beating on your door

G^b

I know that I'm a prisoner To all my Father held so dear

B^bm

I know that I'm a hostage To all his hopes and fears

E^b7 A^b

I just wish I could have told him in the living years

A^b D^b

Crumpled bits of paper Filled with imperfect thought

A^b D^b

Stilted conversations I'm afraid that's all we've got

G^b

You say you just don't see it He says it's perfect sense

B^bm

You just can't get agreement In this present tense

E^b7 A^b

We all talk a different language Talking in defence

Chorus

A^b D^b

Say it loud, say it clear

B^bm E^b A^b

You can listen as well as you hear

A^b D^b

It's too late when we die

B^bm E^b A^b

To admit we don't see eye to eye

Verse

So we open up a quarrel Between the present and the past
We only sacrifice the future It's the bitterness that lasts
So Don't yield to the fortunes You sometimes see as fate
It may have a new perspective On a different day
And if you don't give up, and don't give in You may just be OK.

Chorus

Say it loud, say it clear
You can listen as well as you hear
It's too late when we die
To admit we don't see eye to eye

Verse

I wasn't there that morning When my Father passed away
I didn't get to tell him All the things I had to say
I think I caught his spirit Later that same year
I'm sure I heard his echo In my baby's new born tears
I just wish I could have told him in the living years

Chorus

Say it loud, say it clear

B^b m E^b A^b

You can listen as well as you hear

A^b D^b

It's too late when we die

B^b m E^b A^b

To admit we don't see eye to eye