

# Sade - Love Deluxe (1992)

*Album Review*

sade love deluxe



*By Finn Zeplin*

Sade (real name Helen Folasade Adu) is a British Nigerian singer and songwriter, born on January 16, 1959, in Nigeria and raised in England. She is the lead singer of the band Sade, which started in the early 1980s. Her band became famous for their smooth and calm mix of soul, jazz, and pop music. Their first album "Diamond Life" in 1984, made them stars, with songs like "Smooth Operator" and "Kiss of Life" Sade is known for her soft, beautiful voice and her quiet, classy style. She doesn't release music very often but always makes a big impact when she does. Her music has won many awards, including Grammys, and she is loved all over the world for her timeless songs and elegance.

In 1992 Sade published the Album "Love Deluxe", which is a mix of smooth R&B with jazz and soul. It has nine songs that talk about love, feelings, and strength. After taking a break for four years, Sade came back with this album, which became very popular and sold a lot of copies. People love it because of the calm, emotional music and Sades beautiful singing.

### Tracklist and Review of the Songs :

1. No Ordinary Love
2. Feel No Pain
3. I Couldn't Love You More
4. Like A Tattoo
5. Kiss Of Life
6. Cherish The Day
7. Pearls
8. Bullet Proof Soul
9. Mermaid



## 1. No Ordinary Love 6/10

A slow, emotional song about loving someone deeply even when that love isn't returned. Sade sounds heartbroken but strong at the same time. The music feels dreamy and dramatic, with a mix of guitar and soft beats.

I personally really like this one as the opening song to the album. It brings some smooth energy to the beginning, whether to just starting slow.

## 2. Feel no Pain 6/10

This song talks about people struggling with money and tough times. Sade sings with compassion, wanting to ease their pain. The beat is smooth but serious, giving the song a thoughtful mood.

It features a really groovy Latin beat which I really like. It fits really well with the chords and the song overall.

## 3. I Couldn't Love You More 5/10

It has a warm, mid tempo with soft guitar, bass, and drums. The music is simple and cozy, letting Sade's smooth voice stand out. The theme is pure love, and about giving everything to someone without holding back.

I think this song is more mainstream and energetic than others, it sounds more like artificial, but I still quite like it tho.

## 4. Like A Tattoo 9/10

"Like A Tattoo" is a very calm and mostly acoustic song. The Melody and Chords are played by a guitar and a deep Bass is coming in in the chorus. Sade sings about the scars of Love and how it can change you. It's also her second best known song, having over 360 million streams on Spotify and having sold almost 9 million copies worldwide.

From the beginning on, this song builds a sort of tension, which makes it really exciting to listen to. This song is also my personal favourite from the Album.

## 5. Kiss Of Life 8/10

“Kiss of Life” is more energetic, straight and kept simple. Its one of the faster songs on the album and Sade's voice is mostly backed by a snappy bass and clean drums. This song is about finding love and how it feels. Its her 3rd best known song with 300 million streams on Spotify.

I like this song really much because it brings some energy while still maintaining smoothness. It has also been sampled many times, from which i especially like MF DOOM's “Doomsday”

## 6. Cherish The Day 5/10

This song is very groove driven, more electric and sounds kinda trancy. Sade sings about completely letting love take over your life and change it in a way that cant be undone. Its definitely one of the more emotional lyricalwise songs.

I personally dont really like this one, i think its too boring compared to other songs on the album.

“Pearls” is a very soft but yet incredibly powerful song. It only consists of Strings, Bass and Sades voice.

**7. Pearls 8/10** “Pearls” is a very soft but yet incredibly powerful song. It only consists of Strings, Bass and Sades voice. This minimalistic instrumentation makes it seem kinda epic or cinematic. This song is about a Somalian Woman who struggles with war and shortage of food.

I think this song sounds so incredible and strong and it fits really well to the theme. I really like it and its definitely my second favorite song on the album.

## 8. Bullet Proof Soul 5/10

This song sounds very jazzy and soul inspired, combined with electronic drums, percussion and piano. A heavy Bass gives it a kind of underground feeling. Sade sings about betrayal, symbolizing it with a “Bullet Proof Soul” being broken by Love.

I dont really like this one because I think this song doesn't really match most of the other songs in the album, having a more rough, electric and kind of smoky vibe.

## 9. Mermaid 7/10

“Mermaid” is a more short very atmospheric and basic kept closing song. You could say it sounds very ocean inspired, with many watery sound effects instead of vocals.

Although Sade is not singing, I kinda like how this song sounds. Its very appropriate as a closing song, letting the album finish in peace and smoothness.

## History and Background of The Album and Artist

Released on November 11, 1992, Love Deluxe is Sades fourth studio album. The Album is widely seen as one of her and her bands best, most atmospheric and emotionally ones, blending R&B, Soul and Jazz with sometimes calm and sometimes powerful melodies.

The Album was made by the four main members of Sades Band; Sade Adu herself, Stuart Matthewman, Andrew Hale and Paul Denman.

After a four year break after their Stronger than Pride Tour in 1988, Sade and her Band came up with this Album. After beginning to record in 1991, It took almost a full year to record all 9 songs.

## Love Deluxe Tour



After recording the album, Sade began planning for a World Tour in 1993. Starting in March in Seattle, she began touring major US and European Cities, playing 77 times in total. In early October 1993 the tour ended In San Diego, closing one of her most successful tours.

 Sade - Kiss of Life (Live Video from San Diego)

 Sade - Is It A Crime (Live Video from San Diego)

