

READ IT NOW The comical image of a brand new dad curled up in the fetal position — fretful images of soiled diapers and spit-up-soaked burp cloths spinning through his head — might still be propagated by sitcoms and movies. But not by Scott Patchin.

The first-time author's book **"So You're Gonna Be a Dad — Now What?"**

(Credo House Publishers, \$9.99) includes plenty of funny stuff. But Patchin, who lives in Holland with his wife and four children, is more interested in celebrating the memorable (or at least unforgettable) moments that make fatherhood ... well, fatherhood.

"Remember, Dad, sometimes you just have to laugh," Patchin writes at the close of his first chapter. From keeping your sense of humor to maintaining your marital relationship to asking



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of their own. Patchin hopes to add other titles in the same format to create a series called "Moments for Fathers."

Book One, "So You're Gonna Be a Dad — Now What?" is available at various bookstores throughout West Michigan and through the author's Web site, www.momentsforfathers.com.

for help when you need it, Patchin structures the book around these moments of insight, offering illustrative anecdotes to help readers put the ideas into practice.

In the end, it feels less like advice and more like an invitation to a conversation.

To hold up their end of the dialogue, readers are provided plenty of space to write in notes, musings and anecdotes

