

## **Richard Thompson**

### **"Crazy Man Michael"**

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Within the fire and out upon the sea  
Crazy man Michael was walking  
He met with a raven with eyes black as coals  
And shortly they were a-talking  
Your future, your future I would tell to you  
Your future you often have asked me  
Your true love will die by your own right hand  
And crazy man Michael will curs?d be

Michael he ranted and Michael he raved  
And beat up the four winds with his fists o  
He laughed and he cried, he shouted and he swore  
For his mad mind had trapped him with a kiss o  
You speak with an evil, you speak with a hate  
You speak for the devil that haunts me  
For is she not the fairest in all the broad land  
Your sorcerer's words are to taunt me

He took out his dagger of fire and of steel  
And struck down the raven through the heart o  
The bird fluttered long and the sky it did spin  
And the cold earth did wonder and startle  
O where is the raven that I struck down dead  
And here did lie on the ground o  
I see that my true love with a wound so red  
Where her lover's heart it did pound o

Crazy man Michael he wanders and calls  
And talks to the night and the day o  
But his eyes they are sane and his speech it is plain  
And he longs to be far away o  
Michael he whistles the simplest of tunes  
And asks of the wild wolves their pardon  
For his true love is flown into every flower grown  
And he must be keeper of the garden

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