

## **Richard Thompson**

### **"Speechless Child"**

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Oh speechless child, who wants to touch you  
Oh speechless child, no love in store  
To dumb to scream, to dumb to answer  
Can only listen and lock the door  
Can't stand the sound of raging voices  
Can't stand the sound of warring tongues  
Shut in a place where none can reach you  
A better place than this cruel one  
Oh child, oh child, speechless child

Your mother blames you for her trouble  
Your father needs to pick a fight  
And you're the smallest and the nearest  
Close the door and close it tight  
See all the joys of family living  
You're better off by far today  
Your private life, your private leisure  
Oh life is sweeter, so they say  
Oh child, oh child, speechless child

Oh speechless child, you'll never reason  
Oh speechless child, the day will come  
You'll haunt a man whose days are measured  
Some day your eyes will strike him dumb  
Oh child, oh child, speechless child  
Oh child, oh child, speechless child

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