

## Genius Next Door

Regina Spektor

Some said the local lake had been enchanted  
Others said it must have been the weather  
The neighbors were trying to keep it quiet  
But I swear that I could hear the laughter  
So they jokingly nicknamed it 'The Porridge'  
'cause overnight that lake had turned as thick as butter  
But the local kids would still go swimming, drinking  
Saying that to them it doesn't matter

If you just hold in your breath  
Till you come back up in full  
Hold in your breath  
'till you thought it through, you fool

The genius next door was busing table  
Wiping clean the ketchup bottle labels  
Getting high and muttering German fables  
Didn't care as long as he was able  
To strip his clothes off by the dumpster  
At night while everyone was sleeping  
And wade midway into that porridge  
Just him and his secret he was keeping

If you just hold in your breath  
Till you come back up in full  
Hold in your breath  
'till you thought it through, you foolish child

In the morning the film crews start arriving  
With donuts, coffee and reporters  
The kids are waking up hung over  
The neighbors were starting up their cars  
The garbage men were emptying the dumpsters  
Atheists were praying full of sarcasm  
And the genius next door was sleeping  
Dreaming that the antidote is orgasm

If you just hold in your breath  
Till you come back up in full  
Hold in your breath  
'till you thought it through, you fool