

Genius Next Door  
Regina Spektor

[Intro]

Em Am D G

Em Am D G

[Verse 1]

Em Am Some said the local lake had been enchanted  
D G Others said it must have been the weather  
Em Am The neighbors were trying to keep it quiet  
D G But I swear that I could hear the laughter  
Em Am So they jokingly nicknamed it the porridge  
D G Cause overnight that lake had turned as thick as butter  
Em Am But the local kids would still go swimming, drinking  
D G Saying that to them it didn t matter

[Chorus]

Am C  
If you just hold in your breath  
D G  
Til you come back up in full  
Am C  
Hold in your breath  
D G  
Til you thought it through, you fool

[Verse 2]

Em Am  
The genius next door was busing tables  
D G  
Wiping clean the ketchup bottle labels  
Em Am  
Getting high and mumbling German fables  
D G  
Didn t care as long as he was able  
Em Am  
To strip his clothes off by the dumpster  
D G  
At night while everyone was sleeping  
Em Am  
And wade midway into that porridge

**D** Just him and the secret he was keeping **G**

[Chorus]

**Am** **C**  
If you just hold in your breath  
**D** **G**  
Til you come back up in full  
**Am** **C**  
Hold in your breath  
**D** **G** **Em**  
Til you thought it through, you foolish child

[Instrumental]

**Am C D G**

**Am C D G**

[Verse 3]

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

[Chorus]

**Am** **C**  
If you just hold in your breath  
**D** **G**  
Til you come back up in full  
**Am** **C**  
Hold in your breath  
**D** **G** **Em**  
Til you thought it through, you foolish child

[Outro]

**Am D G**

**Em Am D G**