

When I Kept Silence

Douglas Yates — inspired by Psalm 32:3-4 • Key: Bb minor • 60 BPM • 4/4

Chords transcribed from the audio. Public domain (CC0 1.0) — free for any church. Placement approximate; verify by ear.

INTRO (ELECTRIC GUITAR ALONE, CRYING — LONG BENDS, LOTS OF SPACE)

VERSE 1 (VOICE AND GUITAR; BASS AND DRUMS ENTER UNDERNEATH)

Bbm Eb Bbm
I said nothing for a year.

Eb Eb Bbm Bbm
I sat at every table, I ate every meal,

Ab Ab
I answered to my name,

Bbm Eb Ab
and I never said a word.

VERSE 2

Ab Gb Ab
My bones went old inside my skin.

Bbm Bbm Bbm Bbm
I was roaring, and no sound ever came out.

Ab Ab Gb
The summer burned the water out of me

Ab Bbm
and I called it peace.

CHORUS (THE GUITAR FIGHTS THE BEAT; DRUMS STAY IMMOVABLE)

Bbm Bbm
When I kept silence,

Bbm Ab
when I kept silence —

Ab Gb
it was never peace,

Ab Bbm
it was drought,

Bbm Bbm Bbm
it was Your hand on me.

VERSE 3

Ab **Ab** **Gb**
Every night You laid it on,

Ab **Bbm** **Bbm**
heavy as a hand across my chest.

Bbm **Ab** **Ab**
I was not getting away with it —

Gb **Ab** **Bbm**
I was just not saying it.

CHORUS

Bbm **Bbm**
When I kept silence,

Bbm **Ab**
when I kept silence —

Ab **Gb**
it was never peace,

Ab **Bbm**
it was drought,

Bbm **Bbm** **Bbm**
it was Your hand on me.

BRIDGE (THE SILENCE CRACKS — ONE LINE, ALMOST SPOKEN, NEARLY NO BAND)

Bbm **Bbm**
I said... I will confess.

OUTRO (INSTRUMENTAL — THE CRYING GUITAR ALONE, UNRESOLVED)