

When I Say Wife

Jonathan Richman

When I say 'wife'
it's cause I can't find another word
for the way we be
but 'wife' sounds like you're mortgaged
'wife' sounds like laundry

When I say 'wife'
it's cause I can't find another word
for the way we are
but 'wife' sounds like you're mortgaged
sounds like the family car

the tax form comes
fill out 'married'
cause I know what they're lookin for
but I'm tellin you
that I'm just a person
same as I was before

When I say 'wife'
it's cause if you said 'lover' every day
you're gonna begin to gag
but 'wife' sounds like you're mortgaged
sounds like the laundry bag

the tax form comes
fill out 'married'
a technicality
but I'm tellin you

that I'm not married

I'm not single

I'm still me

I say 'wife'

because it stops all talk right away

about the way we be

but 'wife' sounds like you're mortgaged

'wife' sounds like laundry