

# The Sound of Silence

Paul Simon 1964

**INTRO: / 1 2 / 1 2 /**

Picking pattern throughout first verse

A|--2---2-|--2---2-|

E|----2---|----2---|

C|4-----|4-----|

G|-----|-----|

1 & 2 & 1 & 2 &

**[Em9] / [Em9] /**

**[Em9]** Hello **[Em9]** darkness my old **[D]** friend **[D]**

**[D]** I've come to **[D]** talk with you a-**[Em]**gain **[Em]**

**[Em]** Because a **[Em]** vision softly-**[C]**-y creep-**[G]**ing

**[G]** Left its **[G]** seeds while I wa-**[C]**-as sleep-**[G]**ing

**[G]** And the **[C]** vision **[C]** that was

**[C5]** Planted **[C5]** in my **[G]** brain

**[G]** Still re-**[G]**mains **[Em]**

**[G]** Within the **[D]** sound **[D]** of **[Em9]** silence **[Em9] / [Em]**↓

In restless dreams I walked a-**[D]**lone **[D]**

**[D]** Narrow **[D]** streets of cobble-**[Em]**stone **[Em]**

**[Em]** 'Neath the **[Em]** halo of a-**[C]**-a street-**[G]**lamp

**[G]** I turned my **[G]** collar to the **[C]** cold and **[G]** damp

**[G]** When my **[C]** eyes were **[C]** stabbed

By the **[C5]** flash of a **[C5]** neon **[G]** light

**[G]** That split the **[G]** night **[Em]**

**[G]** And touched the **[D]** sound **[D]** of **[Em]** silence **[Em]**

**[Em]** And in the **[Em]** naked light I **[D]** saw **[D]**

**[D]** Ten thousand **[D]** people maybe **[Em]** more **[Em]**

**[Em]** People **[Em]** talking with-**[C]**out speak-**[G]**ing

**[G]** People **[G]** hearing with-**[C]**out listen-**[G]**ing

**[G]** People **[G]** writing **[C]** songs **[C]** that

**[C5]** Voices **[C5]** never **[G]** shared

**[G]** And no one **[G]** dared **[Em]**

**[G]** Disturb the **[D]** sound **[D]** of **[Em]** silence **[Em]**

**[Em]** "Fools" said **[Em]** I, "You do not **[D]** know **[D]**  
**[D]** Silence **[D]** like a cancer **[Em]** grows **[Em]**  
**[Em]** Hear my **[Em]** words that I mi-**[C]**-ight teach **[G]** you  
**[G]** Take my **[G]** arms that I mi-**[C]**-ight reach **[G]** you"  
**[G]** But my **[C]** words **[C]** like  
**[C5]** Silent **[C5]** raindrops **[G]** fell **[G]**  
**[G]** / **[Em]**  
 And **[G]** echoed **[G]** in the **[D]** wells **[D]** of **[Em]** silence **[Em]**

**[Em]** And the **[Em]** people bowed and **[D]** prayed **[D]**  
**[D]** To the **[D]** neon God they **[Em]** made **[Em]**  
**[Em]** And the **[Em]** sign flashed out i-**[C]**-its warn-**[G]**ing  
**[G]** In the **[G]** words that it wa-**[C]**as form-**[G]**ing  
**[G]** And the **[G]** sign said "The **[C]** words of the **[C]** prophets  
 Are **[C5]** written on the **[C5]** subway **[G]** walls  
**[G]** And tenement **[G]** halls **[Em]**  
 And **[G]** whispered **[G]** in the **[D]** sounds **[D]**↓  
 Of \***[Em9]** silence **[Em9]** / **[Em9]** / **[Em]**↓

\* | **[Em9]** | **[Em9]** | **[Em9]** | **[Em9]**↓

A | --2---2- | --2---2- | --2---2- | 2

E | ----2--- | ----2--- | ----2--- | 2

C | 4----- | 4----- | 4----- | 4

G | ----- | ----- | ----- | 0

1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 &

