The Living Years

Mike & The Mechanics

Every generation

Blames the one before

And all of their frustrations

Come beating on your doorI know that I'm a prisoner

To all my father held so dear

I know that I'm a hostage

To all his hopes and fears

I just wish I could have told him in the living yearsCrumpled bits of paper

Filled with imperfect thought

Stilted conversations

I'm afraid that's all we've gotYou say you just don't see it

He says it's perfect sense

You just can't get agreement in this present tense

We all talk a different language, talking in defenseSay it loud, say it clear

You can listen as well as you hear

It's too late when we die

To admit we don't see eye to eyeSo we open up a quarrel

Between the present and the past

We only sacrifice the future

It's the bitterness that lastsSo don't yield to the fortunes

You sometimes see as fate

It may have a new perspective on a different day

And if you don't give up, and don't give in, you may just be okaySay it loud, say it clear

You can listen as well as you hear

It's too late when we die

To admit we don't see eye to eyeI wasn't there that morning

When my Father passed away

I didn't get to tell him

All the things I had to sayI think I caught his spirit

Later that same year

I'm sure I heard his echo

In my baby's new born tears

I just wish I could have told him in the living yearsSay it loud, say it clear

You can listen as well as you hear

It's too late when we die

To admit we don't see eye to eye

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