

Who is Johnny?

Who is Johnny?
Who is Johnny?

He's a child, I believe
That smiles, plays, and cries,
In the world that he is in.

Who is Johnny?
Who is Johnny?

The teacher asked.

Not a noise, voice, or sign
Nor a sigh could be heard.

Who is Johnny?
Who is Johnny?

You could hear it like an echo.

Finally a child, crying and complaining
Stands and says:

“Teacher, Teacher,
I am not Johnny.

My name is simply Juan.”

—Mary Zapata Huerta Texas Bilingual Teacher 1975