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## The Cost of Quiet

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# The Cost of Quiet

Demitri J. Cullen

Their voices echoed through my house,  
Bouncing from the walls like a  
Flying flock of rubber balls,  
Clanging, crashing, disrupting  
Each and every inner thought.  
Like church bells at midnight,  
They rang out where everything  
Should Be Silent.

“Enough”, I whispered.  
I can take no more.  
“I need you to be quiet.”  
My soft words split through the  
Incessant pounding of the  
Bouncing rubber words until  
All their eyes were on me  
And the house was  
Silent.

The echoing cry of quiet grew until  
The silence was unbearable  
And one of them took me to  
The side as the sound of  
Voices clamoring to life  
forced away the silence.  
With cold eyes and a  
Wagging finger they  
Told me I  
Should Be Silent.