

## ***Sounds of Silence***

*We get up in the morning  
He reads the newspaper in bed  
I stare into space  
Silence...*

*He takes an hour to get ready  
Once ready he smokes a cigar  
I watch him and think we did not kiss good morning  
Silence...*

*He carries his bag out of the room  
Sits down to have breakfast  
I sit down with him, but again  
Silence...*

*He breaks the silence when he informs me  
he is leaving  
I ask "Will you give me a call?"  
He nods his head and again  
Silence...*

*This silence lasts for eleven hours  
I pass these hours alone by myself  
the phone call never comes and there  
remains a  
Silence...*

*He returns late in the evening  
I am tired of waiting for him  
/ sulk and sit tongue tied when he returns and so  
Silence...*

*He switches on the T.V.  
he is engrossed in it till bedtime  
with all hopes of conversation squashed I  
curse the T.V. in  
Silence...*

*At bedtime, he changes quickly  
if there is no plan for making love he falls  
asleep before I'm in bed  
I kiss goodnight to a sleeping him and in return I get  
Silence...*

**Ritu Juneja**