

From Sound to Silence

1 For the last four days it had been snowing. The same high fever, sickness and headaches
 2 that I had had seven years ago gripped me. Because of the bad weather no doctor wanted
 3 to leave his house but finally Syed found one. As soon as he saw me he told Syed to take
 4 me at once to the hospital. A kind neighbour took me there in his van and the last words I
 5 remember hearing when we arrived were, 'Bring the stretcher quickly.' Then I lost
 6 consciousness.

7 I do not remember how many days passed before I regained consciousness. I do not
 8 remember seeing the boy, who wanted to marry me, and his family. I was told later that they
 9 came to the hospital and were very sympathetic and keen for their son to marry me. Finally I
 10 came out of an ocean of pain to see my mother, Syed, doctors and nurses round my bed.
 11 One of the doctors asked me something but I could not hear what he said. At first I thought
 12 they were all talking in low voices because of my illness. Then I asked the doctor what was
 13 the matter. I saw his lips moving in reply, but no sound. Then my mother wrote on a piece of
 14 paper that I had become totally deaf.

Author: Rashida Abedi
 Title: From Sound to Silence
 Publisher: Our Lives Press
 ISBN: 978-0-9565938

