

Silence
by Justine McDonnell

~~don't make~~ a mistake, uncover ~~the~~ hidden, ~~should~~ go soon, obeyed ~~her~~ orders,
forbidden

~~count the~~ errors, ~~written~~ in silence, echoing lips, exposure, closure, revealed, replace
began to take, rules play, ~~uncover~~ the hidden, ~~say~~ anything, don't make a mistake,
take

a breath, ~~carefully~~ constructed, instructing, leading, boundaries ~~between~~, takes a
chance

structure to follow, must ~~not~~, stop, forbidden, only ~~she~~ chooses, be silent, ~~just~~
behave, don't

correct, ~~should~~ go soon, want ~~her~~ out, told you ~~not to~~, an interference, split
experience

hesitate ~~don't~~ repeat, her or *she*, deny ~~her~~ presence, repeating manner

no time left, didn't stop, ~~she~~ sees you, leaves ~~her~~, begins again, too late, an
impossible choice

could not see ~~her~~, speak, ~~don't~~ forget, give nothing away, imagined at the time, *she*
can't help

~~her~~, breathe, ~~just~~ go, confessional, ~~that is~~ invisible, trapped in, detached from

compared to, in question, strain on silence, can no longer deny failures

position, remained to find, obsessive commitment, ~~now~~ emptied out, intimacy with,
conflict

breathes, ~~unaware~~, once again, reframing, speak again, never,

fully exposed, endless ~~talking~~, she listens, precious ~~repetition~~, see herself, hard to
reflect

overlaps occur, reflection fragmented, despite ~~the attention~~, switch of character,
failed to

can't keep ~~this~~, ~~don't make~~ a mistake, an impossible choice, prepare for ~~the next~~,

sufferings, are performed stay, tell nothing, suddenly undone, loops

imperfections, paths intersect ~~and~~ slice, can't break, echoing conversations, what
way to turn

is betrayal, pain of vanishing, *she* forbids, ~~don't~~ repeat, ~~will~~ never end, told her,
breath

against, never tell, failings of ~~her~~ or *she*, ~~needs~~ to know why, under direction, a
speech of

other, desire to come closer, repeated act, speaks silent, also evokes, was never
there at all

couldn't breathe, describe ~~her~~, *she* was gone, turned to go

could never tell, chained to a disguise, ~~attempts~~ to control, give nothing away, can't
help ~~her~~

if only *she* could, stop, ~~tried~~ so hard to find, never, can't confess

powerless to respond, ~~in~~ control, days of decomposing, crushed between, a ~~voice~~
she did not

recognise, never heard, ~~would not~~ stop, can't confess, ~~lips~~ begging, no response,
never

not forgiven, speechless, ~~even~~ to herself, *she* could not ~~follow~~, stop

speak ~~again~~, found herself, an outstretched ~~voice~~, will not find,

could not ~~bring herself~~, trying to, speak, not her, ~~in~~ confusion, tongue swallowed

all she can, a mistake, can't ~~stop~~, no response, couldn't pause, ~~piece~~ it together, the
past

body ceased, *she* snapped, flashes, straining to ~~hear~~, stops, plays again

never forgiven, nothing *she* could ~~tell~~, never out loud, no, can't confess, begging, the

same wish, what to try, nothing *she* could tell, play ~~again~~, pause, unanswered,
begging all to

tormented stop, press play, repeat, make it, stop, finally admit, *she*, her voice

wish to, had to believe, no screaming, give up, finally, admit, what

would *she* say, existed, dragged ~~herself~~ in, scenes replaying, out of ~~her~~ control

scattered, hidden underneath, nothing ~~she said~~, could be undone, hopes, past
desires, try to

understand, ~~tried so hard to find~~, *she*, already gone, desire to exist, fraction between

confines of ~~she~~, strict censorship, enforced and spoken, grasp the
emptiness

doubt portrayed, ~~there is no~~, only true or false, voice trapped, to reveal, concealed

come closer, feelings chaotic, no escape, for ~~she to speak~~, crushed

~~between~~, her throat, would not stop, *she* existed, shattered lips, inch by inch,
ruthless

kick, triggering the current, *she* is herself, no end, remains counting, separated from,
traced

path, had her face long ago, speaks another tongue, slid side to side, discarding,
throat

surrounded, days of decomposing, errors included, wrapped in *she*, forced to

a position that tackles, not familiar, folding cheek, acts of play, plucked revenge,
small

agonies, separated messages, merge into, still nerves, what exists, blend into, shot
from a

come closer, told to hear, breathing inwards, outwards eventually leak out,
voice of the

forced to, tell her something, wanting to, pushed and pulled, *she* stops
moving

screams, climbing, dismantling, *she* stands alone, begging all to stop

lose all control, internal repetition, a secret, ~~she was a secret~~, can't tell, no, stop,
press play

start again, to feel this way, her fault, *she* did not know, a chance, no chance

frequently avoided, blended into, uncertainty, twisting, shifting, a critique

could not lose, stay silent reveal, never question, did not know herself, detached

who is watching now, body fixed, stuck completely, against her, silently

voiceless, *she* screams, breathe out, a weight released, ~~does not~~ want to remember,
no won't

confines ~~her~~, restricts ~~her~~, feel ~~her~~ less, still can't, hatred was inside, reflection
was the request, an impossible choice, can't spell it out, disappear, that is impossible
told, not to listen constantly reminded, wants to avoid, external, not her, can only
grasp

what will happen next, accepting it, *she* still can't, talk to ~~her~~, watch ~~her~~, *she* can't, to
realise, the face of who, could this be the reason, breathless, not focused, stay, back
alone, intends to survive, fight against, ~~must~~ not be told, whispered phrases, flashing
back

what would *she* do, avoided ~~her~~ when, hurt your chances, has happened, told
nothing

response, lips into question, plays a reminder, ~~what remains~~ to reveal
didn't see it coming, silenced or spoken for, don't underline, resisting, don't repeat,
positions

feeling, can not rely, compelled to slip truth, trust in ~~her~~, something stops
confession, condemned to repeat, ~~was~~ thinking of, don't let her go

to face, escape, stay ~~was the message~~, troubling moments
answered, suddenly ~~undone~~, blame her, taking over, give ~~her~~ nothing, a need in her
to

always ~~there~~, wanted to run, ~~outside~~ was fragile, far removed, unspeakable, had
forgotten,

can't help ~~her~~, can't speak, can't stand it, speak in silent, breathe, breathe
against

hidden, never believed, ~~never~~ seen, silently both obey, ~~ways~~ of control, she speak
in silence