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Listen to my "Silence"

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Title: Listen to my “Silence”

My research was first inspired by *Fatty Legs*, a memoir by residential school survivor, Margaret Pokiak-Fenton. When Margaret is forced to read a script expressing gratitude for being in residential school on radio, she makes the courageous decision to say nothing in hopes that her parents would understand the meaning of her unusual silence. My research considers the importance of listening to silences and non-dominant modes of communication in contemporary novels by Korean-North American and Korean female authors. Traditionally, women in Korea have been excluded from publicly speaking and often resorted to speaking in indirect manners. Their indirect communication such as song and body language are considered “silent” and mistaken as non-communication. But, if we listen carefully, forms of expression other than speech do communicate, even silence. How have we failed to listen to the various modes of communication of women? My research intends to start listening to the “silence”.

Word Count: 150