"Early in my life, I had learned that if you want something, you had better make some noise."

## Malcolm X (1925-1965)

American Muslim minister, human rights activist

## NOISE

Sitting with silence But - not in silence Deafening din seeps in Disruptive of bliss I pursue Exterior distractions Hard to ignore My attempts to evade fail Cynical blitz of media Social and televised Dominating While benevolent suffer But, all is not lost As dawn of day Follows dusk of night There is hope on the horizon Hope Attainable, through our youth Whom many fault But, are not in default Challenging instability of government Instability of environment Instability of stability They rise! They stand! They protest! They make noise of solace They make noise of righteousness Seeking silence from hurtful noise I am consoled by noise of youth Filtering through destructive disruptions Stepping into roles of leadership Reassuring old and weary souls The fight will continue And ... Their noise - will not - be silenced! LET TRUTH SHINE!©Y.B. Taylor, 2023