

Words

Sound is a wave with diminishing echoes,
but gossip amplifies the hush-hush of, "Let me tell you!"
It is a mistake to trap others in their venial faults
by passing on small-minded hearsay.

Don't participate with wagging tongues,
that are lost in a multiplicity of words
which returns nothingness to their senders
and achieves no end except to destroy the peace of many.

Sound disappears in a vacuum
but even then
they would say, "Read my lips!"
and continue their chatter.

It is a heavier burden to criticize others
and justify your own tack.
A lighter onus is to keep track of
our own shortcomings in a quiet way.

The words of a just man have staying power,
penetrating the heart of the matter.
Considerate words are like shielding branches,
their tranquil leaves unfurling understanding.

Peaceful nights appear
when silent watches of the day are practiced.
Better to hush-up with a silence
that resonates a worthy intention.