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| Mary Black- I will not be quiet  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mckR6TYKaVc>  I will not be quiet 1  We as indigenous women have so much to lose  To exist in silence while our people drown themselves  in booze  Trying to erase the memories of a damaged generation 5  But it’s easier to stay quiet than to heal an entire nation  so we suffer  I will not be quiet  Our families were forced to keep our mouths closed  And until we choose to speak 10  The outside world cannot begin to know  how deeply and how badly  We still feel the pain  How the patterns strain my brain  Leave me feeling insane 15  Cause I carry a world of hurt on my shoulders  And the heaviness only increases as I get older  So I will not be quiet  Or try to hide the cycles of repetition 20  That our families and our communities  have been perpetually living in  I refuse to carry the guilt or the shame  from being sexually abused  By the system in place that was created 25  with the intention of keeping us safe  No,I will not shut up  And I will not sit down  until our 1200 missing sisters are found  I will scream 30  I will scream and I will yell  because they have been silenced  I will fight the silent battle  with our women against violence  And the most violent and benevolent being 35  could not keep me  from speaking the true meaning of free  I will not be quiet  As the system steals our babies  and keeps us living with less 40  The genocide isn’t over it just has a new name  CFS  No, When they told us they’d keep us safe they lied  If this was the case why are there so many suicides  Why did my best friend suffer so deeply inside 45  That he felt the need to take his own life?  When he hadn’t even lived yet?  Why do our parents carry so much regret?  Why has so much damage come to our women? | Why at the age of 12 50  did I become a victim of sexual assault?  And not just me but so many of my friends and my family?  Women and girls who are beautiful beyond explanation  Their bodies to become used and abused  Just another violation on an indigenous woman 55  Why are 75% of us raped?  Why are our houses  constantly surrounded by yellow tape?  See, the system was designed  to have us take our own lives 60  To keep the blood-stained hands of the guilty clean  And keep the death  on the hands of our children and our babies  And as long as we are idle and silent  Our children will keep dying 65  Because they are surrounded by violence  Violence and addictions  Confused by the abuse and how badly they must hurt  To want to tie a noose around their neck  or stick a gun to their head 70  While at the same time  some pale-faced children lie peacefully in their beds  While our babies are dying  While our children are crying  Until we speak and stand up as a family 75  We are going to keep losing our girls to the streets  And our lives will be conquered  by the blood that we see  And instead of the knowledge  Our children will seek to erase 80  the history of our dear grandparents deceased  Who died in rage at the people we would turn out to be  Cause without our knowledge, stories and our tradition  We have become the ones who caged us  in this hell 85  We are living in  So no,  I will not be quiet. |