. . . **soundtrack** . . .

| *Alexandre Y. Poppe, MDCM*

It whines in the quiet of an empty room,
droning, drowning all.
Not in anger but in persistent tones;
it speaks in hushes.
He turns to see
if a cricket or man or misplaced radio
is the buzzing in his ear.
But the sound is nearer to his head —
within his head.
A nerve that hums and never tires
in pitch or volume or intensity.
Worse in the still,
when he is without refuge
in cocktail chatter or urban noises,
fire sirens or strangers' voices.
An inscrutable soundtrack
made quiet by the daily din.
But at night, alone
it is all he hears.

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...soundtrack...

Alexandre Y. Poppe

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