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"I am Malala."

On October 9, 2012, 15-year-old student and activist Malala Yousafzai was taking the bus home from school when a Taliban gunman stopped the vehicle, asked her name, and shot her in the head.

It was a targeted assassination attempt. The Taliban had taken over Pakistan's Swat Valley, Malala's home region, in 2007 and imposed strict Sharia law. A fierce critic of the Taliban and its rules, Malala had campaigned publicly for the rights of girls to attend school and participate in public life, leading to her nomination for the International Children's Peace Prize and the award of Pakistan's National Youth Peace Prize in 2011. The Taliban sought to discourage further advocacy and wipe out Malala's international presence through violence.

They failed. Following surgery and recovery in England, this courageous young woman has gone on to advocate globally for girls' education and refugee rights, publish her autobiography, speak at the United Nations, found a global girls' education fund and, at 17, become the youngest person to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

This figure of Malala, with its raised hand and ready weapon, represents her determination to be heard, even as powerful forces work to keep her quiet at any cost.

"When the whole world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful."

Malala Yousafzai, *I Am Malala: The Story of the Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban*