

Tales of Mer

She is both war and woman and you cannot stop her explosion in bold, wild prints, and loud colors in a defiant expression of her unapologetic demeanor.

photography by *dan fugrad*
poetry by *nikita gill*

makeup by *raffy so* hair by *kim roy opog* styled by *kiki*
creative direction by *mv* production by *patricia lacuesta*

CHAPTER I FROM THE ASHES SHE BECAME



Before she became fire, she was water. / Quenching the thirst of every living creature. / She gave and she gave / until she turned from sea to desert. But instead of dying from heat, / the sadness, the heartache, / she took all of her pain / and from her own ashes she became fire.





FOR THE GIRL FILLED WITH FIRE

CHAPTER II



Girl, / You are born with a fire inside you, / And this world is determined to stamp it out. / You will see when you stand up for yourself / But you must not let them take / those flames from within your soul, / Instead, you must burn brighter than ever / because you are a Daughter of Sun, / And you belong only to yourself, *not to this world.*

CHAPTER III

DON'T BE BEAUTIFUL



They keep saying that beautiful is something a girl needs to be. / But honestly? Forget that. / Don't be beautiful. / Be angry, be intelligent, be witty, be klutzy, be interesting, / be funny, be adventurous, be crazy, be talented - / there are eternity of things / to be other than beautiful.





DIFFICULT DAMSELS

CHAPTER IV



Not all girls are made of sugar / and spice and all things nice. / These are girls made of dark lace / and witchcraft and a little bit of vice. /
 These are daughters made of claw first / and story -mad, tiger roar and wolfbad. / These are women made of terrible tempests / and savage
 storms and the intamed unwanted. / These are damsels made of flawless fearlessness / made of bravery than knights have ever seen.

CHAPTER V AN ODE TO FEARLESS WOMEN



Define by no man, you are your own story, / blazing through the world,
turning history into herstory. / And when they dare to tell you about / all
the things you cannot be, / you smile and tell them, / "I am both war and
woman and you cannot stop me."



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