

DARLING

By **Amy León**

Darling,

They will ask of you silence

They will expect of you rage

They will give you no time to make a mistake

They will have no explanation

And every excuse

They will do everything they can

To destroy you

But you

Must. Not. Let. Them.

Darling,

They will tell you about your skin

They will tell you about your bones

They will even tell you about your marrow

But they will never know your name.

Darling,

Give them a good reason

To know your name

You are a miracle

A survivor of yesterday's bloodshed

A reason to believe in change

Stars and planets collide with the thought of you

Time stops to welcome you

You are made of light.

Darling,

They will fear you because of this

And that is OK

Do not be scared

This world will give you anything

If you fight for it

So fight

Fight with your mind

Fight with your words

Fight with everything you've got

They expect nothing of you but surrender So stun them.

Darling,
Stun them with your intelligence
Shock them with your well of passion and ability to love
Terrify them with your grace and forgiveness
And watch
As they make space for you
At the very table you created.

