

Medea: Incarnate Queen of Disorder

L. M. Martins (he/they)

A sorceress, blinded by *eros*,
swift to help her lover on his quest for the Golden Fleece,
but slow to realize that he had been using her all along.

When the shroud of desire is swept from her eyes,
and the heroic Jason is revealed to be just another man,

she is overcome with
sadness
regret
despair.

And as passionate love metamorphoses to heartless insanity,

she seethes with
anger
resentment

vengeance.

Enraged by the spiral of punishments women have suffered under the rule of men:

Dowries
Submission
Virginity
Marriage
Cooking
Baking
Cleaning
Laundry
Spanx
Corsets
Thongs
Boob Jobs
Liposuction
Rhinoplasty
Mascara
Contour
Periods
Labor Pains

Misogyny
 Cat Calling
 Groping
 Bad Sex
 Adultery
 Harassment
 Assault
 Rape
 Guilt
 Self- Blame

She grovels at Creon's knees
 shading deceptive intentions with entreating words
 all the while

devising
 plotting
 scheming
 biding

rather than tearing the hair on her own skull.

Boiling inside over
 Jason
 Creon
 that Corinthian floozy
 her sons
 until she explodes into a rage.

Her eyes innocent and smile bright,
 she poisoned the woman who dared to steal her husband
 with a vile concoction brewed from
 VX for asphyxiation
 Batrachotoxin for heart failure
 Botulinum toxin for paralysis
 and Ricin for cell death.

She cast merciless fire on the palace of her foolish father

 and finally skewered the bodies of her own helpless sons
 with a dagger
 how phallic
 and then fled,

leaving the husk of a man behind.

Looking back at her own chaotic masterpiece
she calmly states:

“As women we will never be recognized
for our strength, our virtue.
Yet as the mistresses of all types of mayhem
no one can deny our supremacy.”

Medea
whose artistry for revenge inspired
Jian Chen to slashing
Jeanette Michelle Hawes to stabbing
Deanna Laney to bludgeoning
Karen Biraghi to shooting.

Medea
Incarnate Queen of Disorder
Now betrothed to the king of rage himself, Achilles
joined among the souls
not even death able to do them part.

I suggest kneeling in supplication.