

## **Into The Light by Ella**

Women should be seen and not heard.

They should be beautiful, but not eloquent.

Men are the better talkers,

The better leaders,

The better workers.

They are the strong ones, the brave, the providers

But at what cost?

For centuries,

Women have been the roots

Of your fruitful trees.

Our hard work hidden

By your recognition.

We are shy shadows hiding around

Street corners, waiting for our time in the spotlight.

We feel how our fading submission

Is friction against our ambition,

Igniting our confidence

To speak when not spoken to.

To stand strong in unwelcome rooms.

To demand respect for what we choose.

Our shadows should no longer be scared of the light.

We choose our path and we stand bright.

We make a noise, we use our voice,

We strive to be seen and we rejoice

In the rightful recognition we deserve.

Like the suffragettes, proud and strong,

They embraced the urge to confront what was wrong.

Like the women at Dagenham's ford

who struck and fought for equal pay.

Like Elizabeth Fry, Zara Mcfarlane,

Fiona Taylor, Joe Richardson,

Phoebe Norris-Kirk, Annie Clara Hugget,

Sandy shaw and our late queen Elizabeth II.

All defied expectations

And paved the path for a better day.

Now see our work and hear our words

For women should feel seen, and be heard.