



# Daughter of the Sun

## Feminist poetry inspired by Medea

AUTHOR Rachel Spence

### SERIES

Poetry Collections

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80 pages  
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13 February 2025  
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HRKP3: Ancient Greek

- **"Utterly readable and gorgeously crafted – each poem has a wild beating heart and a steady hand."** – Ella Frears, author of *Goodlord* and *Shine, Darling*
- Long sonnet sequence explores the poet's time caring for her mother
- Feminist rewriting of Medea will appeal to fans of Greek mythology
- A strong environmental message on the capacity of nature to destroy and to heal

From the gentle rivers of Shropshire to the heat-baked seas of Greece, *Daughter of the Sun* radiates with mothers and tracks our orbits around them.

Split into two parts, a sonnet sequence recounts Spence's time reconnecting with her estranged mother – caring for her through illness and grieving her passing – before a bold rewriting of the myths around Medea reimagines her not as a murderous witch but a child-free scientist ahead of her time.

With the power and salve of the natural world always close by, *Daughter of the Sun* contends with being a mother and a daughter, and also what it means to liberate ourselves of those identities and write our own myths full of freedom and possibility.

### AUTHOR DETAILS

Rachel Spence lives in London, Ludlow and Venice. Her poems explore themes including time, absence, motherhood and water. She has published three pamphlets: 'Furies' (Templar, 2016), 'Call & Response' (Emma Press, 2020), and 'Un calendared' (Coast to Coast Journal Winner, 2023). Her debut collection 'Bird of Sorrow' (Templar, 2018) was highly commended in the 2019 Forward Prize. Her prose poem 'Venice Unclocked', in collaboration with photographer Giacomo Cosua, was published by Ivory Press in 2022. Her poetry has appeared widely, including in PN Review, The North, The London Magazine, 14 magazine and Tears in the Fence. Her non-fiction book 'Battle for the Museum', which explores the relationship between art, power and money, was published by



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## Daughter of the Sun

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DCC: Modern and  
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DBSG: Ancient Greek and  
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