

FAVORITE POEMS TAMUK

DIFFICULT DAMSELS

Nikita Gill 1987-

I chose this poem as my favorite because it is something I must tell myself every day. This poem by Nikita Gill reminds me of the power I have. The first time I read it was with my friend after we had finished a hike. She read it at the top of Sharp Top Mountain in Virginia. Since then, I have gone back to it when I need to be reminded of my strength and resilience.

Amelia Mayberry

Student, Age 19

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 claw first
and story-mad, tiger roar and wolf-bad.
These are women made of terrible tempests
and savage storms and the untamed unwanted.
These are damsels made of flawless fearlessness
made of more bravery than knights have ever seen.
These are princesses made of valour and poison alike
and they are here to hold court as your queens.

Nikita Gill "Difficult Damsels." Fierce Fairytales: Poems and Stories to Stir Your Soul. New York: Hatchette, 2018.
<https://allyourprettywords.tumblr.com/post/643580425808363520/difficult-damsels-nikita-gill>.