Wilderness House Literary Review 13/1

Tasnim Ahmed One Day...

I had a daughter, I would tell her to live her dream – she could do anything she wants without fear, to not let society make her a prisoner in her own home just for being



a girl. She will be unstoppable, taking control of her own life.

I would tell her there are problems out there in the world and that sometimes, we are all part of those problems.

When she looks at herself in the mirror, she might hear all the negativity on what to do with her body, her face, her mind. I would tell her to ignore those voices, and embrace her true beauty.

I would tell her, "Don't let love fool you. Don't let it make you forget who you are. Don't let it change you. You know you have found the right person when you don't have to change yourself to find happiness.

Happiness is in you. It is WHO YOU ARE."

I would tell her that I will always be by her side, even when the world is against her. I will be her rock -- the one she leans on when the days get tough.

I would tell her, "My darling, live life to the fullest, and only you know what your heart desires. Life is not about marking off a checklist. It's about trying to live each day better than yesterday. Don't regret anything because those moments you call mistakes will teach you what you are made of. And darling, you are made up of the strength of mountains, the spirit of a warrior, and the beauty of my heart."