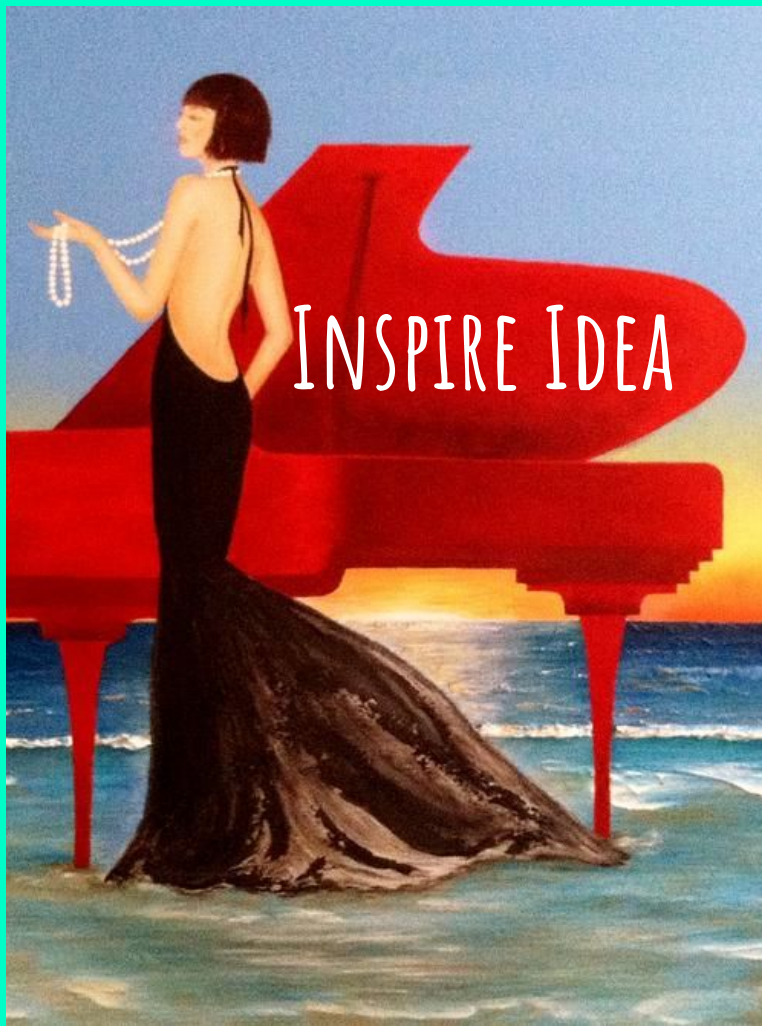




# GENDER EXPECTATIONS



*In Cisneros's childhood, she usually felt lonely, erased and was treated unfairly just because she was the only daughter in a family of six sons. People around her believe that a girl's fate were just about growing up and getting married. Cisneros didn't waste her life to please that discriminated expectations, she tried her best to prove to her family that even though she is a girl, she can build her own career, control her fate and make her dad proud of her as six other sons in the family could do.*

**Sandra Cisneros's story inspired us to created this playlist to praise women who dare to step out of the limits that old society put on them to lead their own life.** We hope that our playlist can give more strength and energy to other women who are still suffering from unfair gender expectations.

# PLAY LIST

1. **Just a girl**- No Doubt
2. **Duyên Phận** (Fate) - Như Quỳnh
3. **Respect**- Aretha Franklin
4. **Girl on fire** - Alicia Keyre
5. **Rockabye** - Clean Bandit
6. **Bad Reputation**- Joan Jett
7. **I don't need a man** - MissA
8. **Independent women** - Destiny's Child
9. **Who run the world** - Beyonce



*This world is forcing me  
To hold your hand  
'Cause I'm just a girl, little ol' me  
Well don't let me out of your sight  
Oh, I'm just a girl, all pretty and petite  
So don't let me have any rights  
Oh, I've had it up to here!*

# 1. "JUST A GIRL" BY NO DOUBT

SOCIAL FRAMEWORKS AND RULES OF WHAT A GIRL COULD AND COULD NOT DO

"Just a Girl" by No Doubt talks about a **girl complaining about the unfairness between gender expectations for boys and girls.** There are a lot of rules for girls not to do things like driving at night. "The world is forcing me to hold your hand...don't let me out of your sight" is the metaphor for the fact that **people usually equal girls with weakness.** They think girls are too vulnerable to do anything without a man's protection. With that reason, **society assumes that girl cannot control their fate, they just need to be pretty and their life should be directed by men.**



# 1. "JUST A GIRL" BY NO DOUBT

SOCIAL FRAMEWORKS AND RULES OF WHAT A GIRL COULD AND COULD NOT DO

The girl in "Just a girl" expresses her **inferiority complex** about herself because she feels herself cannot compare to men. She fears of going outside, she just wants to run and hide because this society made her believe that girls are always small in this world. She was convinced by the idea that a girl cannot be anything great and should accept their life as a shadow behind a man. That deception is still exist nowadays, especially in the countryside or undeveloped nations.

*The moment that I step outside*

*So many reasons*

*For me to run and hide*

*I can't do the little things*

*I hold so dear*

*'Cause it's all those little things*

*That I fear.....*

*Oh, am I making myself clear?*

*I'm just a girl*

*I'm just a girl in the world*

*That's all that you'll let me be!*

## 2. "DUYÊN PHẬN" (FATE) BY NHU QUYNH

FEELING UNHAPPY BUT ACCEPT IT

Duyên Phận (Fate) is a famous Vietnamese song talking about **a girl that was born in a society that devalues women**. She **accepts her fate** but still **feels sad and unpleasant** about that. She **desires for love** but acknowledges that **her marriage would be set up by her parents**. Even though she may not like it, she obeys it as women's fate. She is the representative of women in undeveloped countries like Vietnam or old generation who have a lot of talents but are constrained in the limits that society set for women.



## 2. "DUYÊN PHẬN" (FATE) BY NHƯ QUỲNH

FEELING UNHAPPY BUT ACCEPT IT

The song "Duyên Phận" has a sad melody describing the heartbreaking mood of a traditional girl who does not dare argue back to her parents' intention. She knows what she wants but she is too vulnerable to raise up and lead her life. Just like most of the other women, she accepts it, let her life follow the determination of others. The phrase "Crossing the river" in Vietnam metaphorically means to get married, "ask the crashing waves" indicates her unsure feeling about her fate, she needs other's advice and can not decide her life.

*Fate is defined as a girl, I have not fallen in love...*

*My parents try to set me up with a decent man because they love me*

*They wish that I have parked my boat on a peaceful dock (get married and live in a peaceful house) I don't have much experience with love*

*I'm afraid that once I fall in love, I would be hurt if I did not obey my parents' advices*  
...

*Then he finally came with his family to greet mine*

*..My parents are happier, but full of tears*

*They reminded me to always live with my husband's ethics*

*Crossing the river, I ask the crashing waves ("Is it possible for a girl not to love anyone in her life?")*



*What you want*

*Baby, I got it*

*What you need*

*Do you know I got it?*

*All I'm askin'*

*Is for a little respect when  
you get home (just a little  
bit)*

*Hey baby (just a little bit)  
when you get home*

*(Just a little bit) mister  
(just a little bit)*

*I ain't gonna do you  
wrong while you're gone*

*Ain't gonna do you wrong  
'cause I don't wanna*

*All I'm askin'  
Is for a little respect  
when you come home (just  
a little bit)*

*Baby (just a little bit)  
when you get home (just a  
little bit)  
Yeah (just a little bit)*

### 3. "RESPECT" BY ARETHA FRANKLIN

FEEL INJUSTICE, REQUIRE FOR EQUALITY





# "RESPECT" BY ARETHA FRANKLIN

FEEL INJUSTICE, REQUIRE FOR EQUALITY



This song talks about a young, confident, independent woman telling her man that she does everything he wanted her to do but doesn't understand why he disrespects her. She says "I ain't gonna do wrong" and demands her husband for "a little respect". Like Cisneros's feeling, she wants her father recognized her like as a writer. Any women always wants others recognized them and respect them.



# 4. "GIRLS ON FIRE" BY ALICIA KEYS

RAISE UP AND AFFIRM WOMEN'S WORTH



"**Girl on Fire**" is a song recorded by American singer-songwriter Alicia Keys and talks about a **girl with strong desire to get away from the "catastrophic" world.** "Filled with catastrophe" represents the struggles that the girl faces. But "she knows she can fly away" shows she can overcome struggles and sparkle as a flame. Describing the girl as 'fire' can suggest that she is untamed, passionate and has a very strong determination. No one can stop her from achieving what her want, she will burn all the barriers on her way.



# 4. "GIRLS ON FIRE" BY ALICIA KEYS

RAISE UP AND AFFIRM WOMEN'S WORTH

*She's just a girl, and she's on fire*

*Hotter than a fantasy, lonely like a  
highway*

*She's living in a world, and it's on fire*

*Filled with catastrophe, but she knows  
she can fly away*

*Oh, she got both feet on the ground*

*And she's burning it down*

*Oh, she got her head in the clouds*

*And she's not backing down*

*This girl is on fire*

*Everybody stands, as she goes by  
Cause they can see the flame that's in  
her eyes*

*Watch her when she's lighting up the  
night*

*Nobody knows that she's a lonely girl  
And it's a lonely world*

*But she gon' let it burn, baby, burn,  
baby*

No longer staying behind anybody, the girl in this song claims that **she would never bow her head to any difficulty**. Her determination is the fire burning inside her body. She knows that she will be lonely because she is standing out differently but she never regrets doing so.

# 5. ROCKABYE - CLEAN BANDIT

TAKE ACTIONS WITH A STRONG DETERMINATION

"Rockabye" is a song by British electronic group Clean Bandit. This song talks about a **single mom who does everything to protect her son** even though she is just a woman. This song related to Cisneros's story, despite such a struggle that comes with such a set-up she does not give up. Instead, she keeps writing her book and still focuses on getting her father's approval. Women are doing a great job.





# 5. ROCKABYE - CLEAN BANDIT

TAKE ACTIONS WITH A STRONG DETERMINATION

*Call it love and devotion*

*Call it the mom's adoration (foundation)*

...

*She works the night, by the water*

*She's gonna stress, so far away from her father's daughter*

*She just wants a life for her baby*

*All on her own, no one will come*

*She's got to save him (daily struggle)*



In this song, a single woman is so stressful because she don't have any man beside to help her. However, she works hard ("works the night") and she don't need any man, she owns her life and give a better life for her son.

# "BAD REPUTATION" BY JOAN JETT

FIGHT AGAINST SOCIAL'S REJECTION



The song Bad Reputation by Joan Jett released in May 17, 1980 illustrates **a girl's fierce reaction** to the **social judgments** about her. That strong girl wants to do whatever she wants instead of being constrained in social frameworks and rules of what a girl could and could not do. She would like to **free herself** but people around her considered it as **deviation**. It is **strong rise** of a woman who **truly understands her own values** and **doesn't care about the gossip** around her.

# "BAD REPUTATION"

FIGHT AGAINST SOCIAL'S REJECTION

*I don't give a damn 'bout my  
reputation  
You're living in the past it's a new  
generation  
A girl can do what she wants to do  
and that's  
What I'm gonna do  
.....  
An' I'm only doin' good  
When I'm havin' fun  
An' I don't have to please no one  
An' I don't give a damn  
'Bout my bad reputation*

## BY JOAN JETT

The girl in "Bad Reputation" is also a **representative of her new generation** who break the limits to live hard, play hard regardless of the gender expectations that people put on them. The strong and fast beats of rock n roll helps her explicit her **longing for equity with men.**



# "I DON'T NEED A MAN" BY MISSA

CONFIDENT, PROACTIVE IN LOVE, NO LONGER DEPEND ON MEN



"I don't need a man" by MissA is a very famous Kpop song praising about **self-reliant woman** who chose a lover because she feels in love not because that person can promise for her future.



# "I DON'T NEED A MAN" BY MISSA

CONFIDENT, PROACTIVE IN LOVE, NO LONGER DEPEND ON MEN

*I can live well without a man  
So if you're not confident, don't come to me  
I don't sell myself easily because  
I don't need a man I don't need a man (x4)  
....  
I want to take care of myself  
The other girls may have rich parents or a rich  
boyfriend  
And live comfortably but I'm not interested in  
that  
That is why I am proud of myself (hey)  
....  
Boy don't say  
"I am your future, trust and lean on me" no no  
Boy don't play  
If you're not gonna respect me*

In the song "I don't need a man" by MissA, the girl now are **strong and independent** enough to take care of herself and she rejects all the supports from either boyfriends or parents. This rejection is not a spontaneous rebellion from a girl who is suffering from pain. In fact, that confidence came from the reality that **she now has her own career, spend their own money**. There is no reason for her to devalue herself by leaning on anybody. These women are **proactive in choosing the one to love and deciding the ending for that relationship**. She require her partner to **learn how to respect her**. The positive lyrics, playful melodies is suitable to express the **confidence** that lady have in her relationship.

# "INDEPENDENT WOMEN" BY DESTINY'S CHILD

INDEPENDENT IN LOVE, WORK AND SOCIAL RELATIONSHIP



The song "Independent Women" by Destiny's Child acclaims the women who sacrificed for their independent status. The women in this song do not depend on anybody either **in love, work or social relationships.**

# "INDEPENDENT WOMEN" BY DESTINY'S CHILD

INDEPENDENT IN LOVE, WORK AND SOCIAL RELATIONSHIP

*Tell me how you feel about this  
Who would I want if I would wanna live  
I worked hard and sacrificed to get what I  
get  
Ladies, it ain't easy being independent  
Question, how'd you like this knowledge that  
I brought  
Bragging on that cash that he gave you is  
to front  
If you're gonna brag make sure it's your  
money you flaunt  
Depend on no-one else to give you what you  
want*

The women in “Independent women” by Destiny’s Child **tried hard to work and educate themselves and other ladies about the value of being independent.** They claims that women have the right to do **whatever they want and be proud of what they have done.** No one has the power to take away that legitimate right from them. No longer waiting for a prince to come, marriage them and take them to the castle, their lives now decided by themselves. The positive message of this song helps it won audience’s heart and received many prestigious awards such as top 1 billboard 100, Grammy...



# "WHO RUN THE WORLD" (GIRLS) - BY BEYONCE

LEAD THEIR OWN LIFE, LEAD THE WORLD



Released in 2013 "Who run the world" states to the world that **women's position in modern society** now has changed. They are no longer stay in the kitchen and do laundry, they are here to run the world.



# "WHO RUN THE WORLD" (GIRLS) - BY BEYONCE

LEAD THEIR OWN LIFE, LEAD THE WORLD

*Girls, we run this motha, yeah (x4)*

*Who run the world? Girls (x12)*

...

*Get on your grind*

*To the other men*

*That respect what I do*

*Please accept my shine*

..

*My persuasion can build a nation*

*Endless power*

The woman in this song **affirms her leadership position** not only in her fate but also in macro-level things, things that are normally done by men, running the world. She puts power in her hands and shines in her own way. She declared that she can do whatever a man can. With that persuasion, **all the men in this world should better respect her and stop considering her as their obedient servants.** Most of the audience admitted that even though the song was ended, its lyric is still running in our heads. Girls run the world!

# CONCLUSION



Nowadays, there are still a lot of who believe that they are “**Just A Girl**” and not allowed to develop as a man. They accept their “**Duyên phận**” (**Fate**) to be decided by other people even though they feel unpleasant about that. We create this playlist as a gift to those women, hope that it can inspire them to be stronger to break all the limits and became independent women.

Through this playlist we would like to spread the message that women have the right to ask for “**Respect**” from men. We want to show our audience the image of a “**Girl on fire**” who raising up to beat their fate with strong determinations. Every single person among them has their own circumstance. Some maybe single mom in “**Rockabye**”. Some may be labeled as bad girls who deny to obey men but still have fun with that “**Bad Reputation**” because they already understand their values.

Girls! Don't be afraid! Don't be resigned! Let turn on the music telling men that “**I don't need a man**”, that I am educated, kind, smart and have my own money. Women now don't need to lean on anyone. They are “**independent women**”. They can lead their life and also can tell you “**Who Run the World**”-**Girls!!**



Thank  
you