

AUDACIOUS WOMEN FESTIVAL

AUDACIART WEEKLY

I Reject

15 May 2020





AudaciArt – I Reject

This week's theme, *I Reject*, was suggested by a quote from: Ferda Ülker of Turkey. We chose it because today, 15 May, is International Conscientious Objectors Day.

As much as militarism is determined to affect my life, I am determined to continue my struggle.

I REJECT!

You can read Ferda Ülker's whole declaration here: <https://wri-irg.org/en/programmes/rrtk/co-declaration/2011/ferda-ulker>

The fascinating stories of many British women conscientious objectors in World War 2 are also available here: <https://wri-irg.org/en/story/2010/they-said-no-war-british-women-conscientious-objectors-world-war-ii>

AudaciArt

Hallo Everybody

Here we are with the 6th AudaciArt publication: a weekly collection of words and pictures inspired by a quotation by an audacious woman. Women are invited to create and submit any type of work inspired by the theme.

Lots of you are looking at it, and all the contributions have been amazing. Do think about getting involved!

Many thanks to all our contributors and to the Audacious Women Collective Members and volunteers who helped to make this possible.

The theme for Friday 22nd May @ noon is: The Wall
And for the following Friday 29th May @ noon: How Wild It Was

Physical Distance – Not Social

Remember, during this period of physical distancing Audacious Women is running a series of [online events](#) to help build women's community, and to keep in touch with each other and our audacious natures.



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Refusal: Rejection of the Virus

Sally Freedman



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The Protester

Jo Cameron Duguid

“How long’s she been there?”

“Nearly six hours now.”

“No way! Six hours outside a butcher’s shop, holding a placard?”

“She’s very committed.”

“What is she? An animal rights activist? Vegan?”

“Nope. Apostrophe Protection Society. Apparently, the punctuation’s wrong on some of their price tickets...”

Note: This is an entry I wrote for the Scottish Book Trust's monthly 50 Word Fiction competition (maximum word limit 50) in April 2018 . Sadly, the Apostrophe Protection Society closed down last November. Despite his best efforts to turn back the tide on the misuse of this little punctuation mark, its founder John Richards (then 96) was forced to conclude that “We, and our many supporters worldwide, have done our best but the ignorance and laziness present in modern times have won!”

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Refused

Anne Conrad



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Thesaurus
Hilery Williams

I can choose, determine, resolve.

I can disregard the numbers
Of old people suffering.
I can dismiss the statistics
The stats of those dead.

I can banish all thought
Of those struggling doctors.
I can avoid considering
The exhaustion of nurses.

I can withhold my respect
For the fears of carers,
Of deliverers, morticians
Of posties and police.

I can deny the pressure on the parents at home
With squabbling children with no space to roam.

I can utterly jettison thoughts
Of those being abused.

Or

I can declare it intolerable
That torment and terror.
I can forswear the negatives
And embrace a new future.

I can renounce the 'normal'
And imagine alternatives
I can grasp opportunities.
I can empower myself.

The darkest hour is just before dawn.

I can light a candle.

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I Reject Nuclear Weapons
Margaret Ferguson Burns



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I Reject
Morna Burdon

I reject

AGEISM

That's it.

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