

Fevronia Novac¹

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Oedipus, My Valentine

I've got a great song of indifference
for you, creepy Socrates, cynical like a dog
I'm not too comfortable w/ your
heroic silhouette, handsome Achilles
though I know at least one part of your body
has the touch of a woman
and sometimes makes you weak
I'd like to go out w/ you, if I may,
young Oedipus loitering late
you've got the touch of a king
I'll be nice and quiet all through the way
Taking care of your swollen foot
When you get tired.
Wanna see me? I'm your daughter! I'm cute!

¹ **Fevronia Novac**, Ph.D., is a poet and essayist. Her volumes of poetry are: *Barbie, Mafalda, Fevi* (Cartea Românească, 1997), *Marie* (Paralela 45, 2007), *Ophelia Is Wearing Perfume* (Nova International Press, 2008), *A la vie* (Vinea Press, 2017), *V de la Viață (L of Life)* (Vinea Press, 2020). She is featured in collective volumes: *Ficțiuni* (Bucharest: Litera Press, 1992), *Clubul literar* (Tracus Arte Press, 2015), and in the anthologies *UNIVERSITAS. Once Upon a Time, a Literary Circle*. Bucharest: Ed M.N.L.R., 2008, and *Now We Are the Ancients* (Moldavia: Cartier Press, 2021). She also authored a book of essays in cultural anthropology, *The Bear Is Not Dancing. Essays on the Cultures of the First Nations of North America* (Tiparg, 2011).