

*I wanna be amelia flying over the ocean, so high on an ideal,
the only way down is a nose dive. i wanna be amelia, lose my-
self in a mission, tangle up in the wants of my soul's great
ambition. try as they did to ground her, she risked it all
for a flight dream. shattered glass of cloud ceiling, i wanna
be more like amelia. i wanna be st. cecilia, sing my heart up
to god. so in love with devotion, not even death could deter.
try as they did to break her, she resolved to sustain joy and praise
dubbed over. i wanna be more like st. cecilia. i wanna be unss nia.*



*scolded in her passion. flawed but fervent to create a life she lost.
try as they did to tame her, she ran wild with desire. rules were
hers. for the breaking, i wanna be more like unss nia. oh, am-
elia come to me, st. cecilia. i made a mask with all the stran-
gest threads i could find. sewed it up with trembling hands in
my spare time. my whole youth went by before i ever saw the
sight of a life so in disguise you'd never know it was mine. on
the third day of the last month of the year i wore that mask
amid uncertainty and fear. soon a gathered crowd began to sneer
"who you trying to be girl? there's no room for your kind here."*

The Only Way Down

Patresa Hartman



The Only Way Down: Words About Music is a collection of prose inspired by the 9 original tracks off of Patresa Hartman's similarly titled debut album. Each chapter describes the creative process, personal stories, and philosophical/spiritual questions behind each song. Hartman dives deep into the murky human experiences of death, birth, love, loss, and insecurity, all with humor in tow.

- [Only in Dreams](#)
- [Onyefulu Obi : Chinye](#)
- [On the Sect of the Freemasons. Encyclical Letter. Authorised Transl](#)
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