

Damla Tokcan Faro

The ingredients for a life lived happily ever after, with Turkish to English translation, 2006

Mixed media
6" x 8" x 12"

Damla Tokcan Faro

Artist's Statement

It seems that our childhood fairytales, stories and games are forgotten with the first steps of our adulthood. Most of the magical characters, fairies, and superheroes are left in the dusty pages of our books.

I am originally from Turkey and my cultural inheritance is from Armenian, Assyrian and Anatolian traditions. The only version of the Cinderella story I have heard or read as a child was the Disney version. Back then, I never saw the connection between the "Cinderella Story" and old Turkish films where a poor girl meets a wealthy boy...they fall in love and live happily ever after. Like in the Cinderella story, the girl is saved by the prince of her dreams. And hence the path to happiness is laid down clearly for generations of young girls...waiting for the prince on the white horse.

So, I take Cinderella and the experiences that she goes through as one possible path to happiness, and hints of other not-yet-written stories as other possible paths. Those are hidden in the dark corners of the shoebox. *"The ingredients for a life lived happily ever after – with Turkish to English Translation"* is a miniature

fairytale. Peak inside the shoebox, and you might find the ingredients you might have been looking for to live a life happily ever after.