

## Reclaimed Hearts

My heart is my own again,  
It was like that once,  
All mine.  
Forgotten to everyone but me.

But then he stole it,  
Handled it carelessly,  
Buried it deep within his prison walls.

I escaped though,  
Reclaimed the freedom owed  
To a fighting woman.  
To a free woman.  
To a woman who learned to love...

Herself...

Before any him.

- Santuario, Ana Maria. Safer Shores of Me (2023).