



Name: Coral Heart

Collection: Celebrating Art and Supporting Artisanhip

Cultures: Turkey, Uzbekistan, Jordan, Egypt, Yemen, Thailand

This handmade tribal art necklace comprises a variety of cultures and carries, between its beads & threads, historical evidence of a world on the verge of extinction.

The base is made with hand-scraped, tanned and braided camel leather from Northern Egypt.

The crochet flower is a Turkish oya, or a handmade lace flower from the region of Anatolia. Anatolian women are well-known for their beautiful oyas, often adorning the rims of scarves and clothes in the country.

The long tassel is Uzbek. It is around 60-80 years old and was once attached to the braids of an Afghani woman, mostly as decoration but also to show off her riches. This tassel in particular is quite precious. Boasting a museum quality, it belongs to a generation of tassels on the verge of extinction. I myself find it increasingly difficult to locate tassels of such value, combining superior materials, hand skill and history.

The Yemeni metal beads are around 60 to 80 years old and they come from a larger bridal necklace. Today, these beads are also increasingly rare to find, as they belong to a world that disappeared with the latest wars in the region.

The triangular pieces, on the other hand, are Hmong pieces from Thailand. Such pieces of textiles have historically been used as amulets and hid, within them, a variety of protective prayers. Triangles are prized for their protective powers in most cultures.

The centerpiece is a large coral bead from Jordan. Coral comes from marine reefs. Prized since antiquity for its color and natural beauty, coral has traditionally been considered a mysterious, powerful and sacred gem -perhaps because it originates from a living organism.

In a world of technology, globalization, and consumerism, this necklace stands as a call for authenticity, uniqueness, distinction and culture. This necklace is for you, the woman who can communicate the kinship stories, our ancestor's stories, but also the woman who appreciates beauty and cherishes her originality. It is entirely handmade and is a one-of-a-kind piece, just like you.

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