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Songs of Sisterhood



Joanie Leeds at Lollapalooza in 2019. Casey Flanigan

The singer-songwriter <u>Joanie Leeds</u> used to perform with the Nightlights, but now she's mostly shining solo. Her new children's album, <u>"All the Ladies"</u> (Limbostar), encourages listeners — especially girls — to let their own little lights shine, too.

The album, which has a title track that shouldn't be confused with Beyoncé's "Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It)," is about female power, no ring required. Its 11 folk-rock tunes feature lots of fiddle, guitar and percussion as they extol independence, equality and sisterly solidarity. When Leeds delivers lyrics like "All I need is you," she is directing those words toward her young daughter.

With a voice that can evoke the mellow warmth of Sheryl Crow or the pop brio of Belinda Carlisle, Leeds reminds girls that they'll do fine "without glass slippers" (or a Prince Charming). And where better to learn new vocabulary like "notorious" and "jabot" than in the single "RBG," a tribute to Ruth Bader Ginsburg? (It even incorporates a clip of that jabot-wearing Supreme Court justice speaking.)

Ginsburg won't take part in Leeds's Facebook Live <u>"All the Ladies"</u> <u>Music Festival</u>, from 12:30 to 4 p.m. on Friday, but other female powerhouses will. Thirteen musicians who contributed to the album, including Lucy Kalantari, Lisa Loeb, Sonia De Los Santos, Amelia Robinson (of Mil's Trills) and Suzi Shelton, will each do a 15-minute set, followed by a performance by Leeds herself. *LAUREL GRAEBER*