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Introduction

None of us will ever forget the cold and scary morning of February 24 that woke us to give us fright. Regardless of gender, age, status, or combat training, we could not regain our senses at first. Panic was reigning supreme all around. Enemy tanks approaching the capital, soldiers rushing into action, women and children fleeing their homes and the country, long lines at the border: events we experienced during the first week. But as soon as we realized that we, Ukrainians, were being exterminated, a fierce determination to resist the enemy at all costs emerged in our hearts.

I felt it at the beginning of March when I saw women engaged in creativity, business, and parenting a day ago, now offering support on the home front and helping the army. That's when The *Invincible* project was born — the collection of stories about women's resistance, which later transformed into a book.

Each story of our heroines shows us the qualities accumulated in Ukrainian women: fortitude, determination, endurance, sociability, and creativity. Some use their connections, money, or popularity, while others become social activists, although they used to take care of their families only.

Thanks to these Ukrainian women, our battalions receive equipment — from body armor to thermal imaging cameras — women around the world lead marches of mothers and gather medicine and food to send to the Ukrainian military. Once our soldiers announce a need, women on the home front organize fundraisers, buying and delivering everything they need.

Four months of war equipped us with unheard-of experience in resistance. Each of our indestructible heroines has her own recipe for moral courage and has shared this experience with the whole world.

The war is not over, but we want to use these stories to show the world the real face of the war so that it remains in history not just as numbers of casualties but as real lives of real Ukrainian women in this setting.

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