

# TINY VIPERS - TORMENTOR

Jesy Fortino has created folk music under the moniker **TINY VIPERS** since the 2000s. Those familiar with her music are aware of its artistic weight, with records like “Life On Earth” and “Laughter” establishing Fortino as an artist both outside of and beyond her age. **TINY VIPERS’** music is known for its crushing emotional gravity as much as it is for its hushed stillness, with an awareness of an indefinable beyond that is only accessible through her work. 2025 will bring a new album to Fortino’s canon, entitled “Tormentor.”

Initially conceived years earlier, this project was set aside during a period when Fortino was working to regain the rights to her catalog. An early iteration - including an EP that preceded the record - was eventually scrapped. After reclaiming full ownership of her music, she returned to the project and remade it entirely on her own terms.



The years between releases have found Fortino’s life in a state of significant change. “Tormentor,” with its nine tracks, meditates on her experience: whether speaking directly from her soul in the title track, or observing the horrors of sensory awareness on “Breakfast,” Fortino establishes herself as a participant, observer and mediator of the paradoxes inherent in human experience. Her subtle, often near-silent guitar work hints at a vast and spectral presence. Her melodic and instrumentation place Fortino in conversation with the American folk tradition, while her singular song structures and enigmatic lyrics are effortlessly avant-garde. Album centerpiece “Rainfalls” encapsulates this dynamic perfectly, with its obviously beautiful lyrics and melody sitting within a piece as daring as it is astonishing.

Fortino’s persistence has given her not only creative freedom but a renewed sense of artistic purpose. “Tormentor” stands as both a continuation of her legacy and a declaration of independence - the sound of an artist who fought for her own voice and emerged with an album that is uncompromising, intentional and entirely her own.

“I hope these songs resonate with anyone who’s had to start over, anyone who’s lost something precious and fought to find their own way,” Fortino remarks. “More than anything, I hope they remind people they’re not alone.”

Fortino’s work has been compared to **JOHN FAHEY**, **JONI MITCHELL** and **RY COODER** and she has shared a stage with the likes of **PATTI SMITH**, **DAMO SUZUKI** of **CAN** and **GROUPER**. “Tormentor” will be available in late 2025 and is already poised to be one of the great LPs of the year.