

\\ GREATER
WORKING
WOMEN \\

AUTHOR BIOS

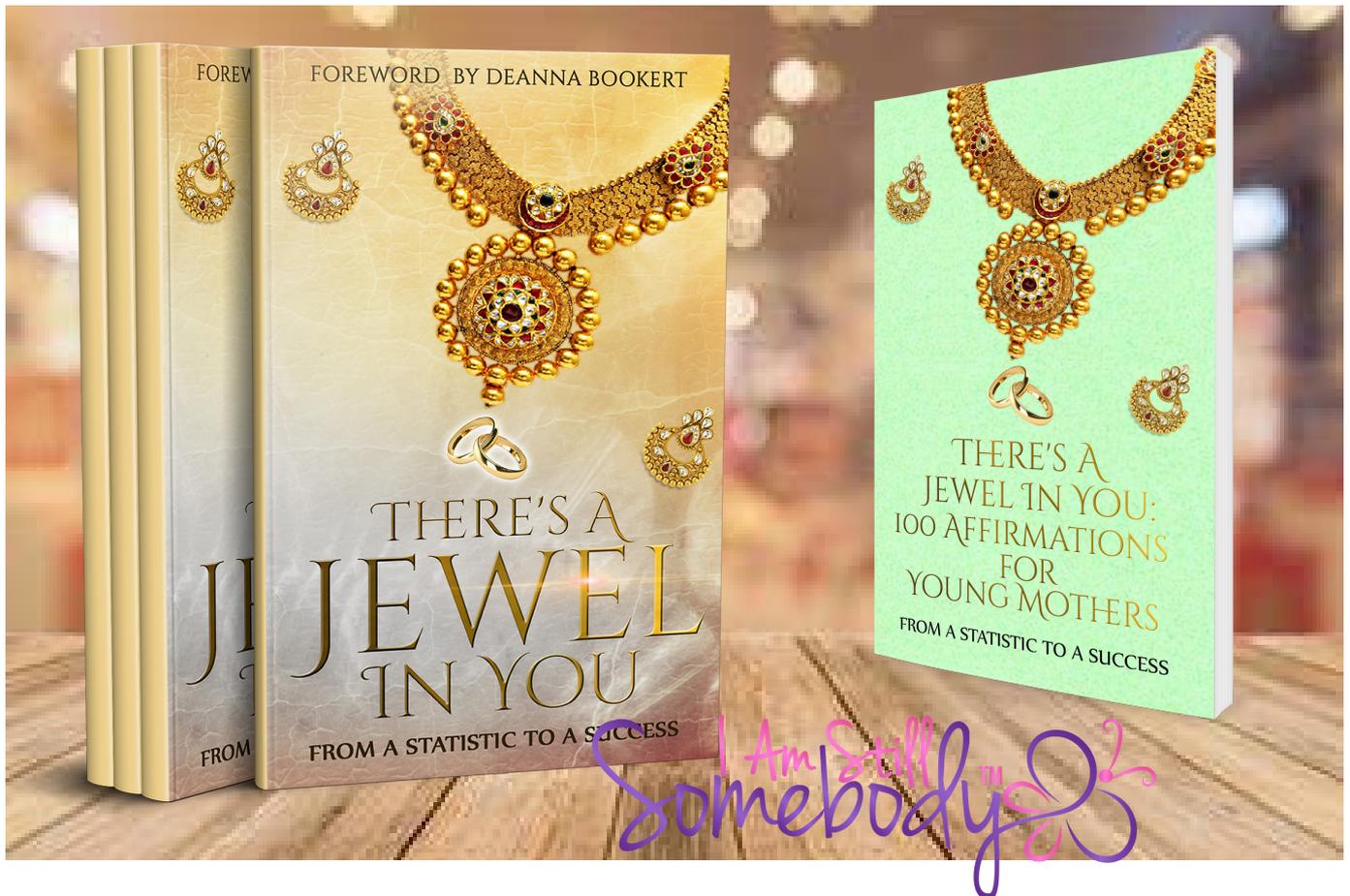
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IN

YOU

FROM A STATISTIC TO A SUCCESS



THERE'S A JEWEL IN YOU

FROM A STATISTIC TO A SUCCESS



This anthology is a compilation of enthralling women who are sharing their evocative stories of experiencing motherhood for the very first time. From homelessness, rape, abuse and looking for love in all the wrong places, these women were determined not to allow their circumstances to determine their destinies. They defied the odds against them and went from a statistic to a SUCCESS! The imagery will propel you to feel, believe and declare, "I AM STILL SOMEBODY!" There's A Jewel In You was written to encourage, empower and equip young mothers for greater. It takes a JEWEL to see a JEWEL and that's what we see in you.

"Your present circumstances NEVER determine your destiny. Keep pressing forward!"

I Am Still Somebody

I AM STILL SOMEBODY PRESENTS



Hosted by:
Yah Hughes

Authors

THE TRUTH ABOUT TEENAGE PREGNANCY

AUGUST 1ST, 2017
TIME: 9 PM/EST

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FROM A STATISTIC TO A SUCCESS...

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Meet the Authors



Shakkyra



Joy



Ronda



Shennice



Tammie



Ashley



Nefertiria



Chanistie



Calandra



Chantea



Charley



DeAnna (Foreword)



"Misses Fix It was drowning in fear, shame and baby milk!"

Shakkyra Austin a native of Ridgely, Maryland is a mother, student, inspiring author, and servant of God. She is one of the leading ladies in the outreach ministry for her home church Kingdom Vision Family Worship Center.

Miss Austin received salvation at the age of eighteen and has been on a spiritual journey to live for the Lord ever since.

Her gentle spirit, lifestyle, and servitude to her children (natural and spiritual) are her greatest witnesses. Shakkyra Austin lives in Harrington, DE with her sons, who she is extremely proud of.



"I decided to work at a daycare across the street so that I could take my baby to work with me and I wouldn't need a car."

Joy C. Avery, M.Ed. is the mother of four young adults, her first son was born when she was only 16 years old. While enduring a difficult marriage for 13 years, Joy managed to publish a novel, earn a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and begin a career as an educator. After the divorce, she went on to earn a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership.

Joy transitioned from a career in education to being a full-time entrepreneur. She is a real estate professional who also educates people in the areas of financial empowerment and business development. She is a faithful servant in her local church and dedicated to encouraging and developing people.



DeAnna Bookert is the owner and operator of The Bookert Agency in Columbia, South Carolina. The agency's goal is to provide public relations and business development services that will empower and equip the growing population of entrepreneurs, authors and public figures. It is DeAnna's vision that through her work with The Bookert Agency she will continue to help others recognize, develop and use their gifts and talents in their personal life, business and in ministry.

In 2015 DeAnna was named one of Amazon #1 Best Selling International Authors for her contribution to the anthology *Chocolate and Diamonds for the Woman's Soul & Pain 2 Passion: My valley experience*. DeAnna was granted a proclamation from the National Day Calendar for her own national day called "National Wear Your Pearls Day". This day is designated as a day of encouragement and inspiration. After privately battling anxiety and depression for almost 2 years DeAnna now encourages women to get help and not struggle with depression in secret. Subsequently with the death of her husband in 2015 DeAnna's battle continued but she decided she would not give up and she will continue to grow and flourish in her faith, love and passion for helping others. DeAnna strongly believes that her purpose is to help increase the quality of life and standard of living for all individuals and families.



"Be sure to take good care of them but don't forget self-care. If you aren't alright, you surely won't be able to make sure that the children are alright and well cared for."

Ronda Braden is a single mother of 6 adult children. She has 5 wonderfully awesome grandchildren with whom she loves to spend her free time. Ronda is an advocate for grandparents and their participation (interaction) in the lives of their grandchildren. It is because of an awesome relationship with her own grandmother, that she feels so passionately about this.

Ronda aspires to one day have a nonprofit organization addressing this very important issue. Ronda has been a Billing/Payroll Specialist for 20+ years with a medical staffing agency. She has also received her Associates Degree from St. Louis Community College and is working towards obtaining her Bachelors' in Business Administration. She is also an active member in her local church as well as on the state level assisting with record keeping, health unit and usher board. Ronda also offers excellent VA services to several entrepreneurs from various backgrounds. ~ Your Business' Greatest Asset~



"You must see past your statistic. You can't change the past, but you can decide to live on purpose for the future."

Shennice Pruitt-Cleckley is a former Policy Director turned award winning baker and serial entrepreneur celebrating her 14th year in business. Like many women, Shennice wears many hats. She's a baker, author, business and relationship coach. "My passion is to help women who want to leap but are scared; to empower and support Mompreneurs who need someone that understands this season in life; to encourage couples who want to learn to love each other better. I see you and I am here to serve your needs." While her career is very important, being a wife and mother are her greatest joys.

In 2017, Shennice authored her first children's book, "Please Wait Mommy's Working" based on her real life experience as a Mompreneur. As a speaker, Shennice's enthusiastic, conversational tone positively empowers audiences to move forward and take action. Shennice's style of coaching emphasizes accountability for milestones missed or hit through strategies tailored to achieve specific goals. Shennice resides in Columbia, SC with her husband LeBrian. Together they have 4 children and 1 grandchild. Shennice works in community by serving on various boards including 2 terms on the City of Columbia Accommodations Tax And What's Next Midlands. She is a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. and Junior League of Columbia.



"My success was not determined by my mom, the kids' fathers, a husband or even what society or the masses deemed successful. It was not determined by anyone's evaluation of me or criticism of my journey. My success was determined by ME!"

Tammie Lavern Jackson is a 46 year old mother of nine & proud Nana to nine grandchildren, Ke'mori (RIP). Deveon (9), Joseph Jr. (8), Na'Riyah (6), Jermaine (6), Amiya (4), Kevin (3), Javon (2) & Jordyn (21 months). Ms. Jackson is the Founder of Giving Backs Packs Miami- Team S.S. United, a non-profit organization dedicated to feeding the homeless and providing backpacks filled with food, clothes, personal care items, as well as school supplies to needy families and individuals. Precious Pearls of God Women's Mentoring Program, a non-profit group that provides support and mentors to women of all ages and backgrounds. She is also the Owner of Four Brothers & A Sister Accounting and Tax Services as well as Sword & Shield Security Services. Ms. Jackson currently resides in Miami Gardens, Florida.



"During one of the most crucial times in my life, I felt so rejected. It literally felt like hell on earth. Why was my sin any different than the next?"

Ashley Thomas is the mother to the most amazing daughter, A'talia Nicole. She is an entrepreneur, motivational speaker and author. Her passion to help women, teen moms and kids at risk. Not for one second did her achievements come without great pain and sacrifice. She has overcome many challenges of being a teen mom by the grace of God. After working a few years under the constraints of the corporate environment and longing to express her creative side on a larger scale, she launched Fire Ant Marketing. She has shared her story on various platforms through speaking engagements. She has turned what seemed like a mess into a message that will serve, motivate and inspire others.



"I was baffled. How? Why now? Are you sure? As I walked to my car, all I could think about was my life. It was over."

Nefertiria Toussaint is a 27-year-old wife to Marvens Toussaint and Mother to three beautiful girls; Amber Faith, Amy Grace and Amanda Cherish. She is currently living in Miami, Florida and studying Early Childhood education. Nefertiria is a passionate individual and entrepreneur who founded Play Dates With Purpose which is a nonprofit organization that empowers, educates and encourages teenage mothers in the community through one on one and group mentoring sessions.



"I graduated from high school in 2007 with her by my side, I chose not to try and go off to college to play basketball, which I really loved, because I couldn't imagine leaving her."

Chanistie Smith-Wiley is a native of Conroe, Texas. She became a teenage parent at the age of 16 and despite her circumstances, she didn't let that stop her. She is now the mother of four children: two daughters and two sons; and is a loving and devoted wife. She also is the founder and owner of My Craft House Designs a small craft/t-shirt business. After a decade she is now pursuing her teaching dreams and hopes to be able to coach high school girls basketball one day. She is an active member of Just Church Ministries. This is her first experience with writing a book; she is overjoyed about this experience and cannot wait to see where this journey leads her.



"The fact of the matter was I made a conscious decision to lay down and now I had to make a conscious decision to raise this baby."

Calandra Williams lives in North Texas with her husband Culus Williams, II and their three children. An inspirational speaker, Christian blogger, mentor, and author. She is young, radical and passionate about kingdom building. Calandra is the Co-Founder of Truth Written Ministries. Through her testimonies, she hopes to inspire someone to discover their purpose, passion, and power. When Calandra is not out changing lives, she enjoys singing, dancing, reading, and spending quality time with her family. Join her mailing list at www.truthwritten.com.



"I was blinded by infatuation disguised as love. After the first time and nothing happened, it seemed to be okay. After all, we were in love or at least I was and that's what people do when they are in love. Right?"

Chantea M. Williams is a chef, author, speaker and mentor, who loves encouraging the people of God to become greater through the word of God. Through her gifts, God created the Greater Working Women Ministries. They strive to encourage, empower and equip women from all walks of life to live out their God given purpose with holy boldness. Sign up for the monthly newsletter at www.greaterwomen.com for upcoming events. For booking information email info@greaterwomen.com.



"It was the hardest thing I've ever done in my life, I walked out the door as soon as their attentions were met with toys provided by the staff. I felt I had no other choices or persons to turn to. That night, I slept in my car at the cemetery, where my father was buried, feeling more lost than ever."

Charlesetta Willis (Charley) is a wife, mother, registered nurse, aspiring entrepreneur and author. Her life experiences have led her to strive further in moving herself and others toward loving oneself and their truths based on the word of God. Her works are through motivating, mentoring, coaching, and counseling. As an ordained minister, in her local church Destiny Worship Center, she is the leader in the ministry of helps, as well as, the marriage ministry along with her husband. She has been working in the healthcare industry for over 25 years in a vast of therapeutic areas. Her nursing career involves healthcare management, pharmaceutical research, allied healthcare speaking, consulting, as well as research publications. She employs a holistic view of a health model, which includes aspects of one's spiritual, mental, and physical well-being, based upon living 7 Dimensionally Well.

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