

Black Pearls Magazine

# Sankofa's

LITERARY REVIEW

## Sankofa is an Akan

Sankofa is an Akan word that means, "We must go back and reclaim our past so we can move forward; so we understand why and how we came to be who we are today."

### Advertise in the next issue of this catalog

Ella Curry of EDC Creations distributes this catalog to the REAL book lovers at major literary events and social gatherings across the Untied States. This catalog is mailed out monthly to 60 book club presidents and 30 book reviewers. Get your book information in front of avid readers today! Email Ella Curry for more information on showcasing your talent: [edc\\_dg@yahoo.com](mailto:edc_dg@yahoo.com)

# B . P . M.

## Black Pearls Magazine



## Celebrating the Best in Life



- Author Interviews
- Book Previews
- New Reading Lists
- Book Club Showcase
- Black Pearl Articles
- Christian Authors Tour
- Authors You Should Know
- Black Authors Network Radio

[www.blackpearlsmagazine.com](http://www.blackpearlsmagazine.com)



## Black Pearls Magazine

Brought to you by EDC Creations Media Group

**Black Pearls Magazine** is a free digital magazine committed to inspire, encourage and empower a international group of readers. Our mission is to provide information that is essential, enlightening and entertaining. The information that we publish helps to empower our BP readers, therefore enriching their lives and benefiting the communities in which they live. We believe in Giving the Gift of Knowledge!

The words **Black Pearls** has become a metaphor for something very rare, very admirable and very valuable. We are here to bring you those literary jewels, Black Pearls, that are sure to bring you and your love ones much pleasure and empowerment. Every issue of this monthly published magazine will celebrate the accomplishments of authors and writers from around the globe, honoring proud traditions and spotlighting ways to enhance the reader's everyday life.

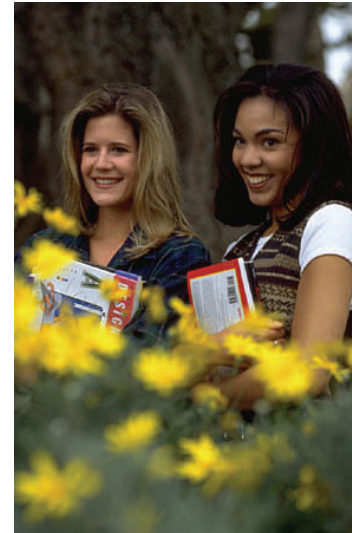
**Visit the magazine's Bookclub Reading Room for more excellent selections:**

**Website:** <http://www.blackpearlsmagazine.com>

Discover great books, read about the authors, find other book club members, explore our reader's guides, share our excerpts of new releases and more. Books are a blessing when you can learn and grow from what you read. I hope that you find many books to add great value in your life. Start by reading this entire catalog of suggested books. Please contact us and let us know who you would like to see in the next exciting issue of Black Pearls at [edc\\_dg@yahoo.com](mailto:edc_dg@yahoo.com)

**Spread the word about these Black Pearls...Give the Gift of Knowledge.**

*Ella Curry*



### Featured Websites for Readers

**Sisterhood Book Club**

<http://www.sisterhoodbookclub.com>

**Colored Girls**

<http://www.coloredgirls.com>

**Purpose Magazine**

<http://www.purposemagazine.com>

**LIVE Magazine**

<http://www.liveinvictory.org>

**Black Press**

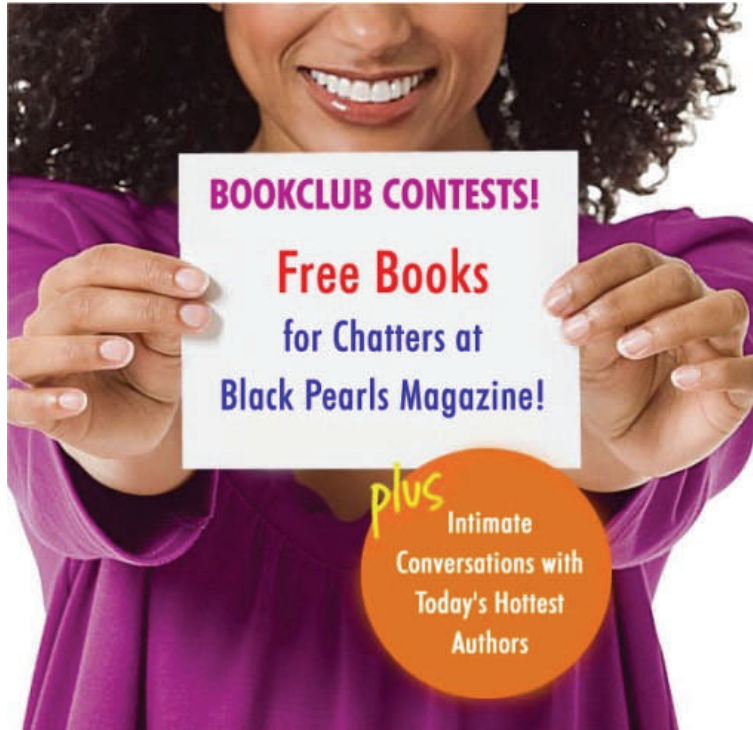
<http://blackpressusa.com>

## Give the Gift of Knowledge

EDC Creations, The Sankofa Literary Society and The Black Authors Network announced the launch of their 2010-2011 "Give the Gift of Knowledge Campaign," bringing readers and authors together to help improve literacy. In 2004, during the Christmas holidays, Ella Curry, the founder of EDC Creations, reached out to women's groups and literary organizations to help promote early literacy by giving new books to children from low income homes.

Today, the "Give the Gift of Knowledge Campaign," seeks to expand even further! "Based on the "each one teach one," model, our goal is to help people introduce reading and new books to their family and friends," says CEO and founder of EDC creations, Ella Curry. "Instead of giving expensive gifts that don't shape lives----let's "Give the Gift of Knowledge" and help to strengthen and uplift our future generations!"

Please join the campaign by becoming a blog tour host, radio interviewer, chat host or by purchasing one of the books featured here and giving it to a friend. We welcome the community into the program and will support any of our partners with promotion in return. Spread the word.... we want to bring more entertainment, education and enlightenment to the community! Review the books inside this catalog and invite the authors to meet your family and friends in person or via the phone. Email Ella to join the campaign: [edc\\_dg@yahoo.com](mailto:edc_dg@yahoo.com)



**Seeking Book Reviewers** — EDC Creations seeks to add avid readers to our community as book reviewers. We would like readers to share their honest opinions about the books they read. You do not have to be a professional writer, we want to feel your passion for reading. Reviewers receive books from EDC Creations' publishing partners monthly. You can review our policy for book reviewers by clicking here. Email Ella Curry for more details at: [edc\\_dg@yahoo.com](mailto:edc_dg@yahoo.com)

**Seeking Book Club Interviews** — EDC Creations celebrates the rise of book clubs in the publishing industry. We host monthly tributes and parties for our featured book clubs. You too can become a Black Pearls Bookclub Star! Request that your book club obtain a interview and receive a gift bag of books!

Your book club and network of friends are invited to check all the great authors in the Bookclub Reading Room and to explore the magazine for your next featured book of the month. Email Ella Curry for more details or to request the interview questions at: [edc\\_dg@yahoo.com](mailto:edc_dg@yahoo.com)

## Spread the Word ...

### Change Your Life! Uplift Future Generations!

The Black Pearls Magazine family wants to take the time to thank each of you for joining us monthly in celebrating the best in literature and the arts. Our team of writers, bookclubs and authors are so humbled that you have allowed us entrance into your life. It amazes me each month as I check our subscribers how many of you deem us worthy of your time and support.



We appreciate each of you for telling 10 people about the magazine and for driving people to this site. YOU make Black Pearls the magnificent publication that it is, by sharing the gift of knowledge!

Please know, as we prepare each issue for you, we look for those stimulating conversations, the most thought provoking articles and most of all the best books on the shelves. We want each page of this magazine to add value to your lives!

Your comments and feedback are welcomed. Join our blog and share your news, advice and wisdom with the other readers. Tell us what you want to read too! We hope to bring you more provocative topics and life empowering books to shape your lives. We have contest for the readers and more interactive sections added to the magazine. Let us know what you think of the fresh new content by emailing us here: [edc\\_dg@yahoo.com](mailto:edc_dg@yahoo.com).

**Explore inside the magazine and remember, share the Gift of Knowledge by sending at least 10 people to our site monthly. Thank you!**

Ella Curry, President of EDC Creations  
 Founder & Publisher of the Black Pearls Magazine

Visit us at [www.blackpearlsmagazine.com](http://www.blackpearlsmagazine.com) for great gift book selections

## Meet Author Pamela Samuels Young

**Pamela Samuels Young** is the Essence best-selling author of *Murder on the Down Low*, *In Firm Pursuit*, *Every Reasonable Doubt* and the new release *Buying Time*. The former journalist and Compton native is the fiction writing expert for BizyMoms.com and is on the Board of Directors of the Southern California Chapter of Mystery Writers of America.



**Ella: Tell us about your passion for writing.**

I definitely have a passion for writing. Nothing else could explain my willingness to sit in front of my computer for ten hours a day or my eagerness to rise at four in the morning to write before going to work. I enjoy creating characters and putting them in precarious situations. I want readers to get wrapped up in the mysteries I create, to love, hate and root for my characters, and to close each book and feel as if they got their money's worth.

**Ella: Finish this sentence: My writing offers the following legacy to future readers...**

I want to help destroy the publishing industry's belief that only African American readers will read stories with African American characters. People who love mysteries want a compelling story. My primary goal is to write entertaining thrillers with diverse characters and a storyline that keeps readers turning the page.

**Ella: Share with us your latest news or upcoming book releases.**

I'm extremely excited about the release of my fourth legal thriller and first stand-alone novel, *Buying Time*, which was featured on BET's *Mo'Nique Show* April 20, 2010.

**Ella: How may the readers contact you and purchase your books?**

At all major online retailers and at your local bookstores.  
Read excerpts at my website: [www.pamelasamuelsyoung.com](http://www.pamelasamuelsyoung.com)

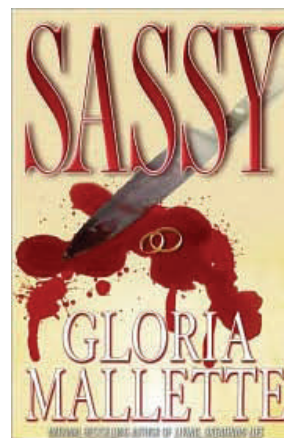


### Songs of Deliverance

by Marilyn Griffith  
ISBN-13: 9780800732790

Fifteen years ago, Zeely Wilkins and Ron Jenkins were students the school district stopped believing in. Lucky for them, their teacher knew something the principal didn't; they were cream of the crop but they just hadn't sprouted the way people expected.

Though they went their separate ways, the past is calling them back to the school and the teacher who wouldn't give up on them. Now they'll have to decide what love really means—and whether they're willing to dance to a new tune to get it. But can they rediscover the songs of deliverance that once brought them together? Or will secrets keep them apart?



### Sassy by Gloria Mallette

ISBN-10: 0967878934

Sassy Davenport is a successful romance novelist looking to fulfill her own fantasy. When the man of her dreams step right out of the pages of her latest novel, Sassy falls madly in love with him. But what evil lies behind Norris Yoshito's beautiful eyes and sexy smile? And while Sassy has to take care of her favorite cousin, Bernard, who is dying of AIDS, is the man of Sassy's dream a serial killer of women who made the mistake of trusting Norris just as Sassy did? Will Sassy's love for Norris lead to her own death? Read Sassy and you will be stunned.

"The threat of constant danger and gripping suspense kept me on the edge of my seat."---  
Sharon Lewis, RAWSISTAZ Reviewers

Website: [www.gloriamallette.com](http://www.gloriamallette.com)

**Scarlet Woman by Gwynne Forster**

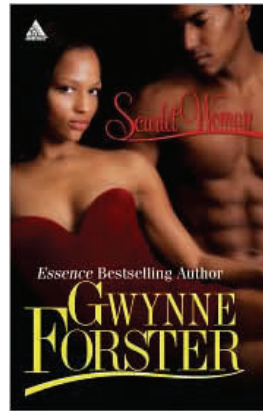
ISBN-13: 9780373831692

In Maryland, sixty-eight years old wealthy genius Prescott Rodgers asks the local school to send him a student to read the classics to him. Prescott suffers from dyslexia, but no pupil wanted anything to do with an old man.

High school English teacher Melinda Jones, feeling sorry for the senior citizen, starts coming over two to three times a week to read to him. After awhile, Prescott offers Melinda a marriage of convenience, which she accepts. They marry in his lawyers office and she soon becomes known as a gold digger.

A contemporary marriage of convenience starring a SCARLET WOMAN may seem like a stretch to modern romance fans, but talented Gwynne Forster makes it plausible through her strong characters.

—Harriet Klausner, BN Reader Review

**On The Flip Side by Nikkea Smithers**

ISBN-13: 978-0977938759

A Different Kind of Baby Momma Drama...

Tavares has one thing on his mind and that is being a good father to his kids. This proves to become a difficult act when he faces obstacles from the mother of his children who abandoned their twins at the hospital after birth. Her only concern is making a profit off of the children she birthed, by making Tavares pay child support in two different states, even though he has custody of the kids.

Danica is leading a double life. She owns a successful psychiatric practice and has her patients lives all figured out. She suffers from a God complex that has her believing that she is better than everyone else. worst way.

Website: [www.nikkeasmithers.com](http://www.nikkeasmithers.com)

**Phenomenal Women Book Club**

**Phenomenal Women Book Club** began in October 2007 with a meet and greet. The president Makeda Peterson decided to assemble friends, family, and church members as a way to express opinions on books and for entertainment. We read our first book in the November 2007. Phenomenal Women Book Club is a book club for ladies of color and now has 30 members who are dedicated readers.

We range in age from 23-67 years old, which gives us a broader variety of opinions on books. Our meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at 3:00pm and are usually held in members' homes and restaurants.

We read different genres and the hostess of the month picks the book title or decides how a title will be chosen. We usually choose titles 3 months prior to the month of the meeting. Most of our members are from the greater New Orleans area, but we now have 2 members who commute from nearby Mississippi.

Phenomenal Women Book Club has also started a nonprofit in order to do more for our community with helping students, literacy, and putting books in the hands of people in our community. Makeda Peterson is a New Orleans native, avid reader, wife, mother of three and pursuing a career in writing.

**Reach out to the Phenomenal Women Book Club  
President Makeda Peterson**

Website: [www.phenomenalwomenbookclub.com](http://www.phenomenalwomenbookclub.com)

Email: [mail@phenomenalwomenbookclub.com](mailto:mail@phenomenalwomenbookclub.com)

## Sneak Peek: Who Is He To You (con't)

She hated the image that stared back at her while looking in the mirror. She hated it so much, that she tried to avoid her reflection at all times. She kept her head down when passing mirrors. It felt natural to avoid pictures and to hide her face whenever possible. God had cursed her with her looks. He damned her to a life of misery and pain -- at the hands of her own father.

"I know you love me, Daddy. I just wish that you didn't."

He stood slowly, letting the tears fall freely down his face and forced himself to walk out of the room with slow, measured strides. He had won the battle for that night. But the following night he was defeated yet again. ###

### Meet new author Monique D. Mensah

Monique D. Mensah is a native Detroitier with an innate love for the written word. Her talent for writing was first discovered by her third grade teacher when she declared her dream to become a published author. After earning a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Michigan she completed her first manuscript, *Who Is He To You*.



Shortly after, she launched Kisa Publishing and published her debut novel. Monique now resides in Southfield, MI where she is raising her daughter and working full-time as an enrollment counselor for a private university. She is also a freelance copywriter and copyeditor and is currently working on her second novel.

Website: [www.moniquedmensah.com](http://www.moniquedmensah.com)

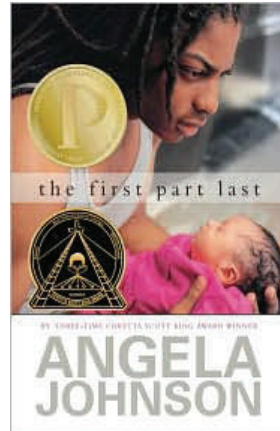
Author's blog: [www.moniquedmensah.wordpress.com](http://www.moniquedmensah.wordpress.com)

### The First Part Last by Angela Johnson

ISBN-13: 9781442403437

Bobby is your classic urban teenaged boy — impulsive, eager, restless. On his sixteenth birthday he gets some news from his girlfriend, Nia, that changes his life forever. She's pregnant. Bobby's going to be a father.

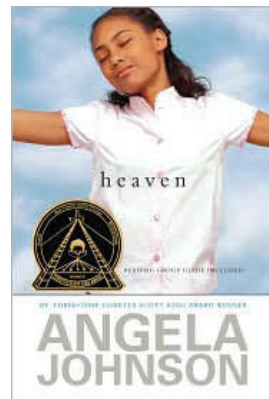
Suddenly things like school and house parties and hanging with friends no longer seem important as they're replaced by visits to Nia's obstetrician and a social worker who says that the only way for Nia and Bobby to lead a normal life is to put their baby up for adoption.



### Heaven by Angela Johnson

ISBN-13: 9781442403420

At fourteen, Marley knows she has Momma's hands and Pops's love for ice cream, that her brother doesn't get on her nerves too much, and that Uncle Jack is a big mystery. But Marley doesn't know all she thinks she does, because she doesn't know the truth. And when the truth comes down with the rain one stormy summer afternoon, it changes everything. It turns Momma and Pops into liars. It makes her brother a stranger and Uncle Jack an even bigger mystery.

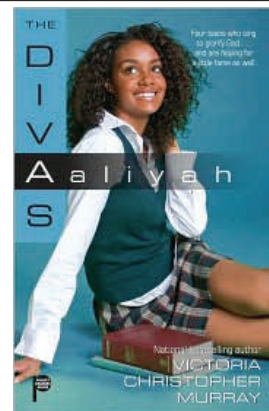


### Aaliyah by Victoria Christopher Murray

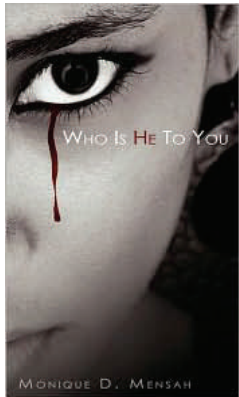
ISBN-13: 9781416563518

The Divine Divas are going big-time -- to the finals of the Glory 2 God Teen Talent Search. They're just one big win away from a recording contract, and then...well, watch out, gospel music!

When Diamond first thought up the Divine Divas, Aaliyah wasn't sure this was her thing. She loves singing, and everyone says her voice is pretty fine, but since Aaliyah is planning on Harvard and a degree in nuclear physics, winning a recording contract could actually put a crimp in her dreams.



## Sneak Peek: Who Is He To You



**Who Is He To You by Monique D. Mensah**

ISBN-13: 9780578023489

Email: [monique@moniquedmensah.com](mailto:monique@moniquedmensah.com)

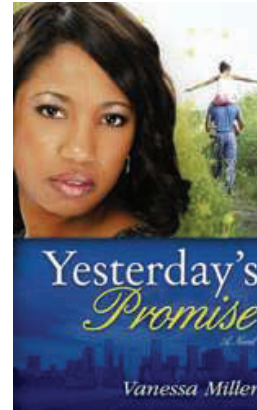
Simone, Jessica, and Ryan are all fighting for love. But when love involves incest, self-mutilation, drug-addiction, and murder, will they continue fighting or will they escape before it's too late? Experience their emotional journey through to the shocking end where they will experience injury, imprisonment, and death while crafting new lives from the ashes of their ruination.

### Chapter 1 Excerpt:

Setting up the scene: Simone is lying in her bed in the middle of the night, anticipating her father's arrival. She prays every night for the Lord to take her life, but He never answers her prayers. When her father enters the room, he tries to explain his feelings and rationalize his desire to have sex with his fourteen year-old daughter. This excerpt explains some of Simone's thoughts as she witnesses his internal battle to leave her alone.

Simone remained silent. Tears ran rapidly from her eyes. She knew that he loved her. She read it in his eyes every time he looked at her. She heard it in his voice and felt it in his touch. There was no doubt that he loved her. He was in love with her. She listened as he continued his attempt to justify the sick actions and irrational feelings he had for his 14-year old daughter with the word "love." Love. What was love anyway?

She thought she knew at one time, but if this was love, she wanted no part of it. Love was pain. Her father was in love with her because she was the most beautiful creature he had ever laid eyes on. Her body had developed into that of a beautiful young woman, sparking a lust in his eyes. He constantly told her how gorgeous she was and she hated it. (continue>)



**Yesterday's Promise by Vanessa Miller**

ISBN-13: 978-1603742078

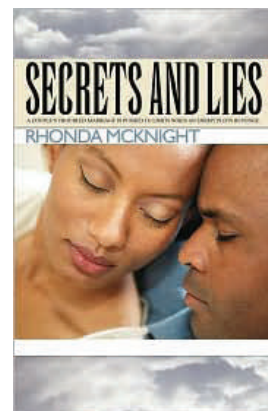
Fiction/Christian/Romance

Melinda Johnson has always felt called to ministry. So, when her father, Bishop Langston Johnson, decides to step down after thirty years of leadership at Omega Christian Center, it seems only natural for her to take his place. But Bishop Johnson feels led by a God who has other things in mind, and to succeed him, he appoints Steven Marks—a man who is opposed to female pastors, not to mention the fact that he is Melinda's ex-fiancé.

Feeling defeated, Melinda nevertheless maintains her position as the church's Missions and Community Outreach Director. Frequent interaction with the new bishop incites bitter sparring—and rekindles long suppressed attraction, which grows only stronger when Melinda develops a relationship with Steven's precious daughter, Brianna, who's still struggling with the death of her mother.

Can Steven and Melinda set aside past pains, forgive each other, and learn to love again? Or will their opposing positions regarding women preachers keep them forever at odds?

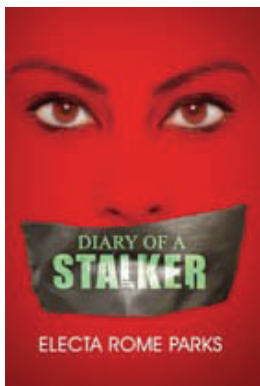
Vanessa Miller Website: [www.vanessamiller.com](http://www.vanessamiller.com)



**Secrets and Lies by Rhonda McKnight-**

ISBN-13: 9781601629401

Faith Morgan is struggling with her faith. Years of poor communication and neglect leave her doubting that God will ever fix her marriage. When a co-worker accuses her husband, Jonah, of the unthinkable, Faith begins to wonder if she really knows him at all, and if it's truly in God's will for them to stay married. Pediatric cardiologist Jonah Morgan is obsessed with one thing: his work. A childhood incident cemented his desire to heal children at any cost, even his family, but now he finds himself at a crossroads in his life.



**Diary of a Stalker**  
by Electa Rome Parks

**Think you know what goes on behind the literary scene? Think again.**

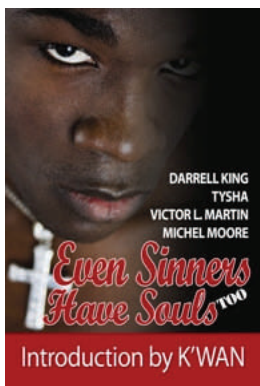
Xavier Preston is tall, dark, and handsome, and the problem is that he knows it. He's a bestselling author who is accustomed to adoring female fans, both young and old, flirting with him, throwing themselves shamelessly at him, and trying to get between more than the covers of his novels. He has always been more than willing to accommodate their needs and desires; however, his womanizing days have finally ended. He's engaged to a beautiful woman, Kendall, and he's decided to walk the straight and narrow. Or has he?

When Xavier meets his fanatical fan, Pilar, he gets much more than he bargained for. What starts out as an erotic one-night stand quickly spirals out of control into a dangerous game of obsession and pain with both parties playing to win.

ISBN: 160162199X

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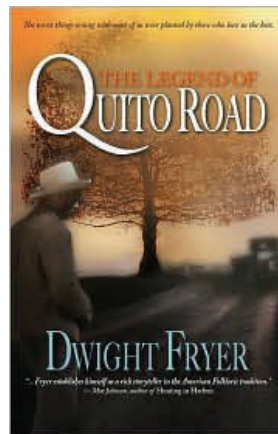
**Even Sinners Have Souls Too**

Michel Moore (Author), Darrell King (Author), Victor L. Martin (Author), Tysha (Author), K'Wan (Author), and E. N. Joy (Editor)

ISBN-13: 978-0970672650

More of Urban Lit's finest take a walk on the other side in book two, Even Sinners Have Souls Too, of the three book Sinners Series. Darrell King and Essence Best-Selling authors, Victor L. Martin, Tysha and Michel Moore bring you four smashing tales, but not before National Best-Selling author, K'Wan, hits you with the powerful introduction, Oh Sinner Man.

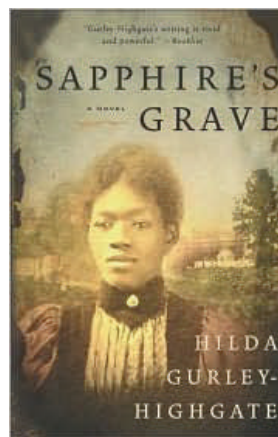
As the gritty tales unfold, the readers souls will be enveloped by the moving and unexpected outcomes. Unlike other street stories, these real and raw characters choose neither the road most traveled nor the road traveled less; they make their own way.



**Legend of Quito Road** by Dwight Fryer  
ISBN-13: 9781583147061

The Future seems to hold limited possibilities for Son Erby. The African-American child of a farm laborer in 1930's Tennessee, his fate seems as certain as the sunset at day's end. But when his father takes him to work at the Coleman farm and hands down the secret to making corn liquor, everything changes.

Moving from shadowed parlors of the wealthy Sawyer clan to the illegal activities in the woods along the Mississippi River, this perspective novel explores the roots of racism, and the dangerous power of secrets that will shatter every taboo in a sleepy town caught between the past and future. The Legend of Quito Road is a look at a bygone time, the sobering echoes of which can still be heard today. Website: [www.dwightfryer.com](http://www.dwightfryer.com)



**Sapphire's Grave**

by Hilda Gurley-Highgate  
ISBN-13: 9780767908832

The debut of a major new talent, SAPPHERE'S GRAVE tells the stories of several generations of African-American women, bringing their spirit and their sorrow to life with a power, sensitivity, and immediacy.

In 1749 in Sierra Leone, a woman of fierce dignity is captured and forced onto a slave ship. On the harrowing voyage to the Americas, she is beaten for her unrelenting will and staunch pride.

Through the lives of Sapphire and her descendants, Hilda Gurley-Highgate not only creates a poignant and engrossing saga of black women in America, she brilliantly illuminates the meaning of roots and the links between women and their female ancestors, a tie that often appears tenuous, undefined, and distant, but is strong, palpable, and much closer than we imagine.

**Color Me Jazzmyne, Marian L Thomas**

ISBN-13: 9780615270678

Child abuse, rape and struggling to live are all the things that women go through at least once in their lifetime. In this tale, Naya Mona takes readers on a journey through her crayon box of life. She shows us what her true colors are as she recounts her life to her son whom she hasn't seen since birth. How do you tell your son that your father is his?

The spiral of events that fill Naya's life provides an intimate look at the drama, romance and struggles that become her voice. On stage, she must become Jazzmyne-the jazz singer. Naya no doubt commands your attention and takes you on a rollercoaster ride that is filled with the melodious tones that makes Color Me Jazzmyne a true reading pleasure. [www.marianlthomas.com](http://www.marianlthomas.com)

**Drunk For 27 Years by Cynthia Banks**

ISBN-13: 9781438993140

The road of Priscilla's life was paved by the people that made choices for her. Through heartache and pain and trauma and tragedy, Priscilla's experiences became stepping stones that forced her to make a choice that ultimately changed the outcome of her life.

Very heartfelt, impressive, sad yet up lifting! A Great story of survival!  
— Lela Reed, Tampa Bay Buccaneers NFL mom

This is an inspiring book. It's straight to the point on how things really were and it's very honest. The book goes into depth, telling a story that kept unfolding. A story that unfolded as I read it and as I lived it. I'm proud of my mother for having a relationship with God and making the right choice.— Salandra, Priscilla's Daughter

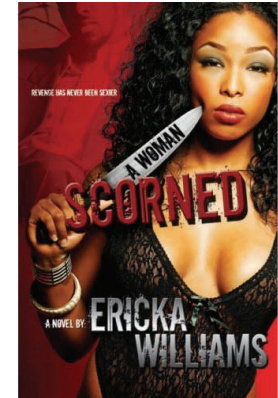
**A Woman Scorned by Ericka Williams**

ISBN-10: 1934230715

Meet Brielle, a woman who had been mistreated by men from birth. She thought she'd finally found the man of her dreams Dante, until she realized he was also no good. Unfortunately, Brielle snaps and gets revenge, not only on Dante but on any man who crosses her path. Without warning, she becomes sadistic and puts every man she meets into a deathtrap.

From one incident to the next, Brielle's life begins to spiral out of control, especially when she begins hanging out with her promiscuous cousin from Atlanta, Janay. Not only is Janay shady, but her goal in life is to bask in the fast life and the money that it brings, while Brielle's is to settle down with a man who will say, he loves her.

Soon, things heat up when Brielle meets Shawn, a suave lover-boy who seems to have a past of his own. His sex appeal is strong and has Brielle ready to seek counseling, and change up her whole lifestyle. Problem is, she can't help it. Reports confirm, she's mental and has been for years, due to her past. Just when Brielle thinks she's on the road to recovery, an ex-lover of her dead husband re-surfaces, sues Brielle for all she's got, and sends Brielle on a violent path of revenge. Website: <http://www.erickaw.com>

**Black Pearls Magazine Blog**[www.edcmagazine.blogspot.com](http://www.edcmagazine.blogspot.com)

We are here to bring you those literary jewels, Black Pearls, that are sure to bring you and your love ones much pleasure and empowerment. Every issue of this monthly published magazine will celebrate the accomplishments of authors and writers from around the globe, honoring proud traditions and spotlighting ways to enhance the reader's everyday life. Visit our blog daily to experience the world of Black Pearls.