

Authors & Artists Magazine

***THE Source
for News & Information
on Authors, Artists
& the Creative Arts***

SPOTLIGHT:

**Actress Saycon
Sengbloh**

**Jazette Lane English
& AJe' English
Talk**

SpeakEnglish5

Authors and Artists Magazine

April 2017

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RICHARD HALL

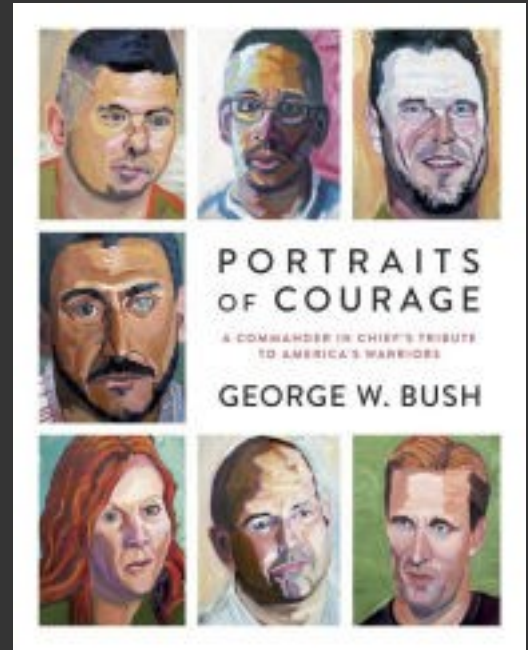
CHRIS SMITH

"LIFE, LOVE & FAMILY FROM A MAN'S POINT OF VIEW"

Authors & Artists Magazine

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About the Book

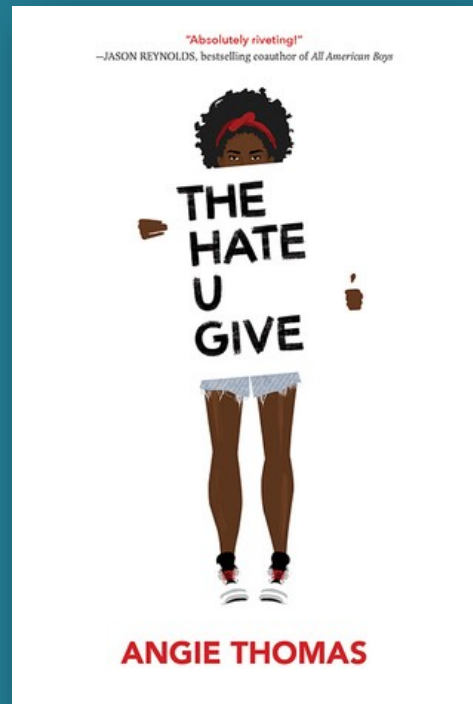
By George W. Bush

Books & Authors

Portraits of Courage: A Commander in Chief's Tribute to America's Warriors

Growing out of President Bush's own outreach and the ongoing work of the George W. Bush Institute's Military Service Initiative, *Portraits of Courage* brings together sixty-six full-color portraits and a four-panel mural painted by President Bush of members of the United States military who have served our nation with honor since 9/11—and whom he has come to know personally.

Our men and women in uniform have faced down enemies, liberated millions, and in doing so showed the true compassion of our nation. Often, they return home with injuries—both visible and invisible—that intensify the challenges of transitioning into civilian life. In addition to these burdens, research shows a civilian-military divide. Seventy-one percent of Americans say they have little understanding of the issues facing veterans, and veterans agree: eighty-four percent say that the public has "little awareness" of the issues facing them and their families.



'Hate U Give' Explores Racism And Police Violence

Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed.

Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr.

But what Starr does—or does not—say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life.

MEET THE AUTHOR: Angie Thomas

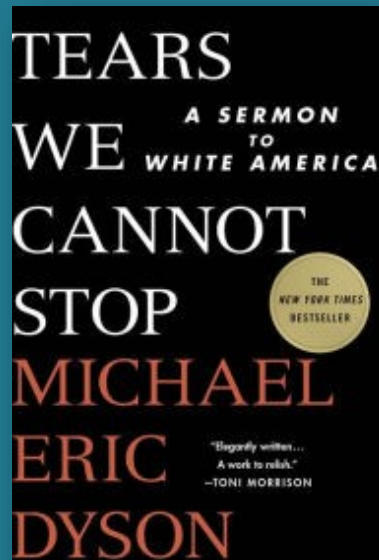
Angie Thomas was born, raised, and still resides in Jackson, Mississippi as indicated by her accent. She is a former teen rapper whose greatest accomplishment was an article about her in Right-On Magazine with a picture included. She holds a BFA in Creative Writing from Belhaven University and an unofficial degree in Hip Hop. She is an inaugural winner of the Walter Dean Myers Grant 2015, awarded by We Need Diverse Books.



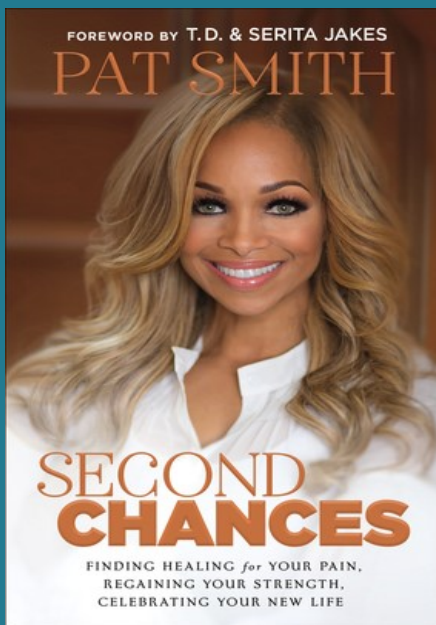
"STUNNING, BRILLIANT, GUT-WRENCHING..."
—John Green, bestselling author of *The Fault in Our Stars*



by Michael Eric Dyson



Dyson desperately wants his readers to confront the sources of...violence in our nation's longstanding culture of white supremacy. But he also knows how many political arguments and sociological studies have fallen on deaf ears. And so rather than a treatise, *Tears We Cannot Stop* is a fiery sermon, and an unabashedly emotional, personal appeal...The result is one of the most frank and searing discussions of race I have ever read...Dyson is all too familiar with the claims of innocence and the kneejerk defensiveness that will surely greet this book, and yet he sets out to conquer such denial not only with the difficult truth but also, astonishingly, with love. Get your copy everywhere online books are sold.



Second Chances

Finding Healing for Your Pain, Regaining Your Strength, Celebrating Your New Life

by: Pat Smith

Let Go of the Past--Embrace Your Second Chance

God has a great plan for you. Sometimes it's difficult to see and hard to find when the only things in front of you are challenging circumstances, lost opportunities, or overwhelming obstacles. Many things in life just happen to you--you don't choose them. But God can turn even the things you have no control over into good, not only for you, but also for someone else.

For Pat Smith, former Miss Virginia, finalist for Miss USA, married to comedian Martin Lawrence in the early 1990s, and now married to NFL Football Hall of Fame member Dallas Cowboy Emmitt Smith, life may seem perfect on the outside, but it has been far from perfect behind the scenes.

With warmth and insight, Pat Smith shares the truths she and other women have learned on their own journeys from heart-ache to hope. She encourages and empowers you to recommit to the destiny God has for you in your faith, family, love, work, community, and ministry. She also shows how to let go of what's holding you back, reinvent yourself, and rediscover your purpose and joy. There is a second chance waiting for you--it's time to claim it!

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The background of the poster features a close-up of a woman's face, likely Sister D. Tina Batten, with a white dove flying in front of her. The scene is set against a bright, hazy sky with a sunburst effect. The title 'Walking in the Spirit' is prominently displayed in the center, with 'Walking' in a script font and 'IN THE SPIRIT' in a bold, sans-serif font.

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AAM

In The News

Chance the Rapper donates \$1 million to Chicago schools



Chance the Rapper announced on Monday that he will donate \$1 million to the Chicago Public Schools Foundation "for arts and enrichment programming." The announcement came at a press conference held at Westcott Elementary School in the Grammy-winning rapper's native South Side neighborhood of West Chatham, during which he presented an oversized check to students flanking him on both sides.

The announcement comes days after the Coloring Book rapper met with Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner to

discuss what he believes is a lack of state funding directed towards the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) systems. "The governor gave me a lot of vague answers in our meeting and since has called me over the weekend," Chance told a group of reporters and students gathered on Monday. It's a sentiment he shared minutes after his talk with Rauner on Friday, when he told the Governor, via reporters, to "Do your job!" "Our talks were unsuccessful," Chance continued. "Gov. Rauner still won't commit to giving Chicago's kids a chance without caveats or ultimatums." [READ MORE](#)

Jay Z & Weinstein Co.'s Trayvon Martin Docu Series Lands At Paramount Network



In the first major new series order since Viacom announced the 2018 relaunch of Spike as the Paramount Network, the net has picked up Jay Z and The Weinstein Company's *Rest In Power: The Trayvon Martin Story*, based on the life and legacy of Trayvon Martin. The six-part event documentary series is one of two Trayvon Martin projects Jay Z (full name Shawn Carter) and the Weinstein Co. are working on, along with a feature film.

Rest In Power: The Trayvon Martin Story is a followup to Spike's recent collaboration with Carter and The Weinstein Co. Time: *The Kalief Browder Story*, which premiered March 1 on Spike and concluded last night.

"I am thrilled to once again partner with the incredibly talented team of The Weinstein Company and Shawn Carter to take a comprehensive look beyond the headlines at the circumstances that caused Trayvon's senseless death and the movement born out of this tragedy," said Kevin Kay, President, Spike TV (soon to be Paramount Network), TV Land, and CMT. [READ MORE](#)

Cover Story

Catching up with Saycon Sengbloh

By Jill Weinlein

Broadway veteran Saycon Sengbloh, who was nominated for a Tony Award in 2015 for her role in Danai Gurira's *Eclipsed*, was recently in Los Angeles, starring in Michael Arden's production of Stephen Sondheim's masterwork *Merrily We Roll Along* at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts and a recurring role in ABC's *Scandal*.

Not only is she a talented actress, but also a pop star. Her original music can be found on iTunes.

JW: Did you always want to be a professional actress?

SS: Yes, growing up in Atlanta, GA, I

was involved in performing in youth ensembles. I love to sing and grew up as a theater kid. Later, I went to Agnes Scott College, before moving to New York.

JW: When did you get your Equity card?

SS: While I was touring in *Rent* playing Mimi, I got my card.





JW: You were nominated for a 2016 Tony Award for Featured Actress in a Play for the Broadway production of *Eclipsed* and you won an Outer Critics Circle award for the same role. Was that your favorite role?

SS: Yes. I also liked performing in Elton John's *Aida*, *Hair* and *The Color Purple*.

JW: What do you do on your day off in Los Angeles?

SS: I like finding Pho restaurants and sipping hot soup. Soup and noodles are my favorite things to eat right now. I also like to explore and eat in the Little Ethiopia area of Los Angeles.

JW: Since you live in New York, have you explored the sights of LA?

SS: No, not yet. I'd like to go to the Griffith Observatory.

About Scandal

Saycon booked multiple episodes in the recent season of 'Scandal', making her debut on the ABC series from Shonda Rhimes'.

Saycon Sengbloh plays a character named Angela Webster, the Director of The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and long time friend of Olivia.

Fitz has begun a relationship with the FBI Director and it has gotten hot and heavy pretty quickly. We look forward to seeing where this will go!

Upcoming Projects

Sengbloh recently signed on for series-regular roles opposite Archie Panjabi, Austin Stowell, Erin Moriarty, Rita Wilson and Anthony Edwards in Fox's untitled university thriller drama pilot (formerly known as *Controversy*).

Written by Up in the Air co-writer Sheldon Turner, directed by *This Is Us*' John Requa & Glenn Ficarra and executive produced by *Scandal* co-executive producer Judy Smith, the drama from 20th TV and Turner and Jennifer Klein's Vendetta Productions tackles the hot-button topic of sexual assault on college campuses. It centers on Matt Kincaid (Stowell), the Junior Counsel of a prestigious Illinois university who must deal with an out-of-control scandal when a female student, Cassie (Moriarty), accuses several star football players of sexual assault. Kincaid gets to work with Jourdan Price (Panjabi), a crisis-management consultant brought in to help with the scandal. From the foot-

ball coaches and boosters who wield outsize influence to a university administration under siege, the series explores the high-profile controversy as well as the corrosive, dangerous nature of institutional power.

Sengbloh will play Ava, a cop who worked her way up to being a detective and is investigating several football players accused of assault. Freeman is Tommy, star quarterback of the university's football team.



SHADOW OF THE MONARCH



Ambokile' (Co-lead as "Sunset")

COMING SOON

ARTIST PROFILE:

Gail Jhonson



Born and raised in the city of Philadelphia, Gail Denise Johnson began playing piano at the age of 10, had her 1st gig by 14, received a B.A. in composition from the Berklee College of Music, then later moved to Los Angeles to make her dream career come true! She presently splits her time between her staff position at Musician's Institute/

Gail also has a love for theatre, particularly, Gospel Musicals. Her first professional experience was offered as a piano substitute for the stage play EUBIE, Ivar Theatre, Hollywood. She soon began playing for Langston Hughes play, TAMBORINES TO GLORY at The Bradley Theatre Los Angeles. Thereafter, she was scoring and director music for gospel performances: SAVING GRACE and REASON FOR THE SEASON, written by Dennis Rowe. In 2003, Gail produced the SAVING GRACE CD, with performances by a multi-talented cast; including her son Vein/producer, rap artist & daughter Tamina/soprano & budding musician. Later that year, she performed with Rain Pryor's FRIED CHICKEN & LATKAS at the Cannon Theatre in Beverly Hills.

She has toured, performed and recorded with many artists, namely: Pink, Minako Honda, Norman Brown, Vanessa Williams, Mindy Abair, Jermaine Jackson, Morris Day, Bobby Womack, Ray Parker jr., Vesta, Howard Hewitt, Bobby Lyle, Brian Culbertson, OC Smith, Paul Jackson jr., Pamela Williams, Phil Perry & yes Milli Vanilli. Her various television performances include: BET on Jazz, MTV, Lou Rawls/Parade of Stars, Soul Train, The Arsenio Hall Show & The Tonight Show and various video performances.

Learn more about his incredible artist at <http://gailjhonson.com/>





The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, starring Oprah Winfrey and Rose Byrne, will premiere at 8 PM Saturday, April 22., on HBO.

Told through the eyes of her daughter, Deborah Lacks (Winfrey), the HBO Films project chronicles her search, with the help of journalist Rebecca Skloot (Byrne), to learn about the mother she never knew and understand how the unauthorized harvesting of Lacks' cancerous cells in 1951 led to unprecedented medical breakthroughs, changing countless lives and the face of medicine forever.

Co-starring alongside Winfrey and Byrne in the story of medical arrogance and triumph, race, poverty and deep friendship between the unlikeliest of people are Hamilton alum Renée Elise Goldsberry, Rocky Carroll, Kyanna Simone Simpson, Courtney B. Vance, Leslie Uggams, Reg E. Cathey, Reed Birney, Ruben Santiago-Hudson, John Douglas Thompson, Adriane Lenox, Roger Robinson and Melvin Van Peebles.

Henrietta Lacks from his screenplay, and Winfrey, Alan Ball, Peter Macdissi, Carla Gardini and Lydia Dean Pilcher executive produce. The telefilm is a Your Face Goes Here Entertainment, Harpo Films and Cine Mosaic production.



George C. Wolfe directs the Immortal Life of Henri-

The VICE logo is displayed in a stylized, white, outlined font on a black rectangular background in the top left corner.A large photograph of a man with short dark hair and a beard, wearing a grey t-shirt with 'IMG COMBINE' printed on it. He is holding a brown football with both hands and looking upwards. The background shows a large outdoor stadium with red and blue seating, tall light towers, and a building with 'MILTON' visible on its facade under a clear blue sky.

SEASON 5: End of Amateurism

Correspondent: Gianna Toboni

College athletics have seen explosive revenue growth in the last decade, fueled by media contracts and corporate sponsors. In order to enter this system, the NCAA requires players to forego profits, and are instead offering them scholarships and access to state-of-the-art facilities. But with college sports now a multi-billion-dollar industry, the question being asked in U.S. federal court is still whether that compensation is enough. VICE travels the college sports landscape, meeting with athletic directors, coaches, sports marketing minds and the players themselves to see the role money plays in amateur athletics today.

VICE takes viewers around the globe as its correspondents investigate the stories not being told.

Reporting on the world's most pressing issues, VICE uses an immersive documentary approach to bring a unique perspective to the events shaping our future.

This fifth season of VICE will feature 30 episodes, up from 18 episodes in season four. HBO and VICE Media also recently expanded their relationship to include the launch of "VICE News Tonight," a nightly news program that debuted Oct. 10 and can be seen weeknights at 7:30 p.m. (ET/PT) on HBO, as well as HBO NOW, HBO GO, HBO On Demand and affiliate portals.

Hosted by VICE Media founder Shane Smith, VICE is executive produced by Bill Maher, Shane Smith, Eddy Moretti and Josh Tyrangiel; co-executive producers, Tim Clancy and Jonah Kaplan; consulting producer, Fareed Zakaria.



An Exclusive
Interview with
Jazette Lane English
and
AJe' English



By Ross Guity (www.facebook.com/Ross.Guity21)

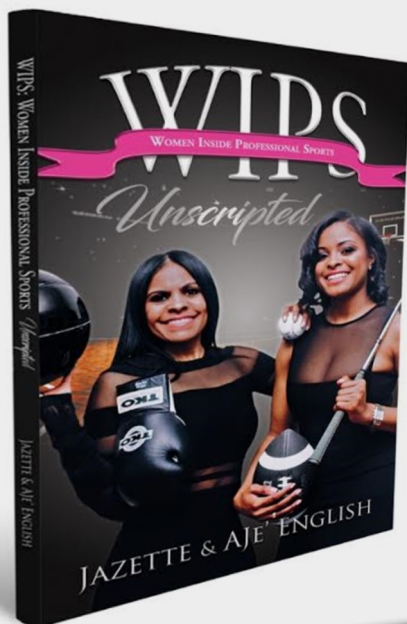
There is nothing in the world quite like the beautifully organic bond between a mother and her daughter, and in the case of CEO Jazette Lane-English and her equally brilliant and gorgeous daughter - CFO AJe' (pronounced AH-JAY) English, they are looking to leave an indelible mark and create big change as co-founders of ***SpeakEnglish5 Sports Communications Group*** based out in the U.S. nation's capital of Washington, D.C.

Together, their aim is to provide a voice for not only the pro female athletes, but for all women inside of pro sports - the wives, mothers and children of professional athletes, as well as agents, coaches, etc. so that they are empowered, uplift-

ed, inspired and highly-motivated to be their greatest, successful selves. There are so many immensely talented and bright-minded female professional athletes across the country, but they are rarely given much-deserved kudos for their amazing physical exploits and philanthropic contributions. I strongly believe that with both Jazette and AJe' leading the way, SpeakEnglish5 will indeed be a force to be reckoned with for THE NOW and THE FUTURE! Look out for the release of their debut published work titled '#WIPS (Women Inside Professional Sports): Unscripted' in early April 2017, as well as the launching of their website, SpeakEnglish5.com.

'R

ecognize the universal language of women inside professional sports.'



JLE: Avid readers can expect intimacy, transparency, and real talk from '#WIPS: Unscripted.' They can also expect the truth and insight into what it's really like in our world. There are NO SCRIPTS. These groupies think they want it, but it takes a special woman to thrive and land on her feet in this world. It doesn't mean that we are perfect or better; it means that we are chosen, and we should be respected, acknowledged and appreciated. Put some 'respeck' on our names! There is substance behind the pretty faces. The readers will be amazed and shocked. There is a fire that burns. SEE THAT!

AAM: Briefly break down how the company name of 'SpeakEnglish5' came about.

Jazette Lane-English: 'Speak' - Use your voice...We all have one; 'English' - Our last name and the most common international language; '5' - My basketball-playing sons A.J. III and A'Jen both wear the #5 jersey....Our tag line is 'Recognize the universal language of women inside professional sports.'

AAM: What can avid readers expect from



put some 'respeck' on our names!

It takes God, Intention, Productive Action & Perseverance



"THE SECOND I STOPPED TRYING TO MAKE MY CIRCULAR LIFESTYLE FIT INTO A RECTANGULAR BOX EVERYTHING BEGAN TO FALL INTO PLACE."
AJE J. ENGLISH



AAM: *Will there be notable pro female athletes on board with 'SpeakEnglish5' in the very near future?*

JLE: Current WNBA player Betnijah Laney, and former WNBA players Val Whiting-Raymond and Chasity Melvin are just a few of the notables that are on board. More to come in the near future.

AAM: More African-American women are needed to be leaders - not just in the sports landscape, but in the community and corporate world as well. Is it just a matter of having belief and confidence in your uniquely special abilities?

JLE: Beyond confidence in your uniquely special abilities, it takes a source to keep you fortified; a source that you can retreat to for restoration, recovery and guidance - GOD! After that, it takes intention, productive action and perseverance.

JLE: I expect that SE5 will have a movie or TV show based on our book. A scholarship fund for student athletes whose careers were derailed by a mistake made in their youth, and growth within our international network where women can patronize and support each other's businesses and female athletes. SE5 Synergy (our annual conference in D.C.) will be huge - as well as Socials With Espresso (SE5 subsidiary), which focuses on providing networking opportunities for millennials and the children inside of pro sports. We will have an even larger team and platform to share the huge voice that is WOMEN INSIDE PROFESSIONAL SPORTS!

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The Los Angeles opening features appearances by current and former Black Panther leaders.

ICONIC: Black Panther Los Angeles will open April 8, 2017 to May 14, 2017 at Gregorio Escalante Gallery and Medina Gallery on Chung King Road in Chinatown. The organizers and the artists seek to present a powerful and fitting homage to the Panthers, their principles, and the Party's tremendous impact on the trajectory of the American experience.

ICONIC Black Panther highlights art as an inimitable force in America's most profound social justice movements; it has brought people together from all walks of life in recognition of our shared history. This show is officially sanctioned by original members of the Black Panther Party, including Emory Douglas the Minister of Culture, Hank Jones of the San Francisco 8 and Kathleen Cleaver.

Proceeds from the sale of the artwork benefit the artists, Panthers in need, and their families.

ICONIC: Black Panther is a production of SEPIA Art Collective in conjunction with Gregorio Escalante Gallery and Zack de la Rocha + Razor Step.

The fiscal sponsor for ICONIC: Black Panther Los Angeles is Road to Artdom, an L.A. based non-profit organization dedicated to art outreach in underserved areas.

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