

READING and WRITING in the

DARIK

A space for avid Black readers and Black authors

NEWSLETTER

ZOMBIES and DINOSAURS and HARPIES,
OH MY! Three people are confronted with the
task of ...

SURVIVING the WORST

The new series on Kindle Vella
that changes EVERYTHING!

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And:

Who is ADRIEN M. LANE?! Page 3

**News and Information about Completed and
Upcoming Projects and MORE!**



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WELCOME BACK!

A LOT has happened since last we spoke dear friends! As of today (September 30, 2022), *MELANIN: A Novel* was released a month ago and since the initial release, I noticed it when it was at number 61 in the top 100 best sellers in Black (African American) SciFi. I was excited to see my novel in the top 100. Then it slowly drifted down to the low 130's. I wasn't disheartened, but honestly wasn't looking forward to the fight to climb back up in the rankings so that *MELANIN* was at least back in the top 100.

ENTER: **The INFORMATION MAN SHOW.**

I prerecorded an interview with "The Information Man" on YouTube, (a solid Brotha who I would recommend to ANY Black people who are looking for content that is Black Loving and for our people). The interview aired on Sunday September 25th 2022. When I went to bed that evening and awoke to find that *MELANIN* had moved up over 100 spots to NUMBER 35! That evening, it moved up to 30, the next day it went to 18! What was HAPPENING?! Then I saw something NEW... it was a small banner next to the image of my book that said NUMBER ONE!

I clicked on it and found that *MELANIN* was now at the NUMBER ONE position in Black Science Fiction New Releases! The position fluctuates hourly and I'm so glad I was able to document it and catch it in the number one spot several times. I'm confident, with your help, our *MELANIN: A Novel* will make it to the NUMBER ONE position in Black SciFi and SciFi in ALL SciFi! I have seen the future, THEORETICAL EBON FICTION is the BEST! So I would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to everyone who has purchased the book, or will in the future! You are not only helping MY dreams come true, but showing that our people are tired of being insulted and we are ready for media that is created BY people who LOVE, HONOR and RESPECT Black us, FOR people who LOVE, HONOR and RESPECT Black us!

THANK YOU! We have premed and now the next level of work begins. Thank you for helping to get the word out so that more of Black US can enjoy our *MELANIN*! I Look forward to giving you the next update.



What are readers saying about MELANIN: A NOVEL?

"Melanin is an uncompromising and timely tale of speculative fiction, brimming with thought-provoking ideas and imaginative twists."

- Brandon Massey, award-winning author of *The Quiet Ones* and *Dark Corner*

"Iyapo Yapa has earned a place among the great science fiction writers with *Melanin*. The plot twists will keep you reading long after midnight. As well the imagery is captivating. Replicating the Black experience, you are drawn into the story as if you are there."

- T.J. Riley, author of *The Path to Brightness*

"The whole world needs to read this book!"

- M.A.D.M. Precious, author of *Michelle's Story* and *Loving Betrayal*

"Every Black person needs to read this book!"

- Gwen B

"It was exciting! I stayed up a few nights wanting to see what was coming!"

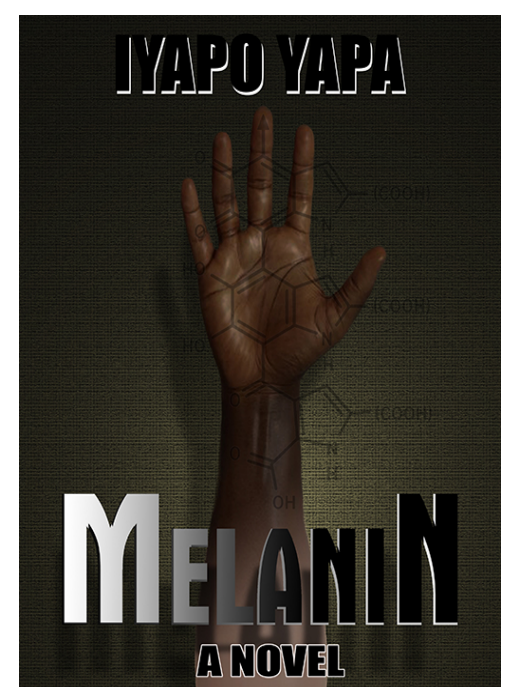
- Ayoka

AVAILABLE NOW!

MELANIN: A NOVEL

Buy it now by clicking the cover to the right or

by clicking on the logo of one of the retailers below.



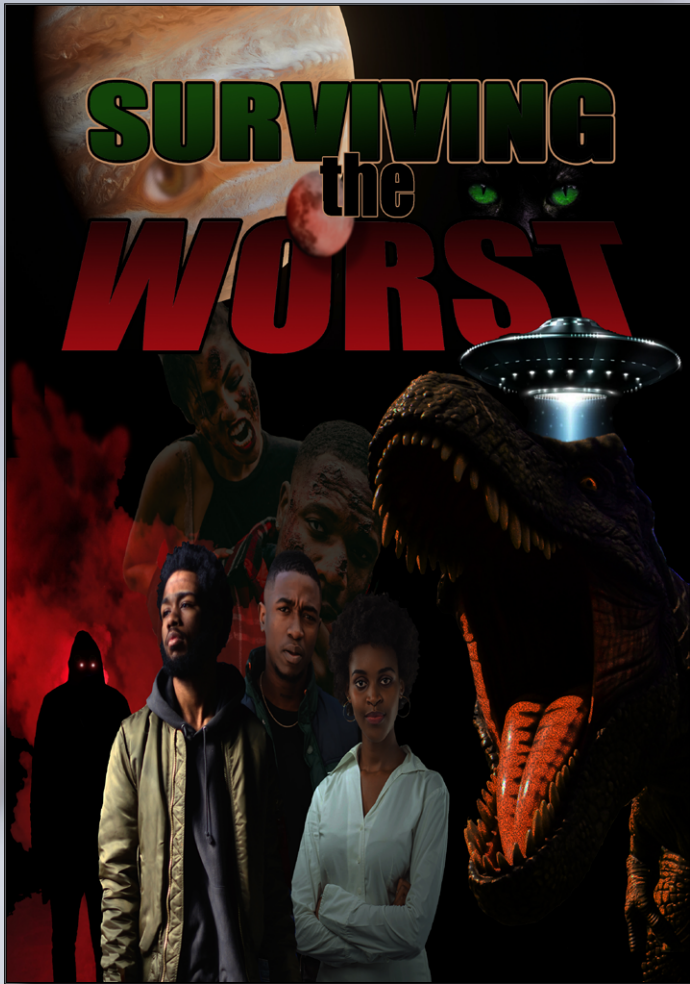
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SURVIVING the WORST!

What do you do when everything goes to crap?!



I have several stories I thought would work well on the Kindle Vella platform, but as I considered each one, none of them quite did it for me for one reason or another. Some of the stories lent themselves better to novels or novellas and others were definitely more geared toward working as short stories, but there was this one story--an idea I had several years ago but never fully fleshed out.

As was the case with a great deal of my work, I had started on the outline of it and had actually written several pages of the story, but then stopped and let it languish. In time, I lost my story in the world of bits and bytes, never to be seen again.

Or so I'd thought.

After dealing with a catastrophic crash that all but wiped out nearly ten

years of my written works. After searching every available hard drive, thumb drive and SD card I owned, I was convinced that once again, my hard work was gone into the ether.

EMAIL TO THE RESCUE!

I remembered that there were MANY of my stories that I emailed to myself specifically so that even if MY computer crashed or my removable media became corrupt, my writing would be available on a server that had no connection to me except my ability to access my little space in it remotely.

For a couple hours I sifted through literally THOUSANDS of emails and went back as far as over a decade, and eventually BINGO! There they WERE! Not ONLY the story I'd determined I would use for Vella, *Surviving the WORST*, but several other stories I thought were gone forever! There was one story in particular that I was especially glad to have retrieved, called "The Call Center" (A story which will be appearing in my second short story collection: *Further Journeys into the Paradigm VOID*, the follow up to *Paradigm VOID*.)

So what exactly IS *Surviving the WORST* about?!

It's about aliens, vampires, dinosaurs, zombies, harpies, unicorns and everything in between. It's fantasy, it's horror, it's SciFi that turns into a LOVE STORY?!

Five years ago, a cataclysm now known as THE COLLAPSE occurred. Dimensions merged with horrific results. It is now common to see creatures of myth, legend, and nightmare along with once long extinct animals populating the landscape. Carl, LaTanya and Lester embark on a quest to find a lost book that can't change the madness of the new normal but may assist them and others in the now nearly impossible task of: *SURVIVING the WORST*!

That's the world of 'surviving' and it's a rollercoaster So head on over to Kindle Vella using the Kindle Vella logo, and hang on to your seats, you're in for one WILD RIDE!

This story changes EVERYTHING!

kindle vella



If you're needing to get your **THEORETICAL EBON FICTION** fix, THIS is the place to go!

PARADIGM VOID is a collection of short stories written by Iyapo Yapa, one of the new leaders in the field of Black Science Fiction and Speculative Fiction. Each story explores possibilities and concepts that were not long ago only within the domain of the standard Sci-Fi reader.

Now, with the insurgence of Black writers of T.E.F., Iyapo is adding his powerful voice to the chorus, and moving at full speed to produce work as a Black writer reclaiming and controlling our Black narrative!

In *PARADIGM VOID*, Iyapo explores things like:

- What if somewhere in the universe numerous alien races observed earth and concluded that there is a faction on the planet that in no way should ever be allowed to reach out beyond the bounds of its own atmosphere?
- What if the universe itself started taking noticeable measures to correct and bring balance to itself in terms of justice?
- What if time slowed down nearly to a stop ... but only for YOU?

PARADIGM VOID is presently in the editorial stages and will soon be available at your favorite book seller!

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Who is: ADRIEN M. LANE?

Adrien M. Lane, or “Addie” as those close to her affectionately call her, was born in Costa Rica into a large family and has eight siblings. She always enjoyed spinning stories for family and friends but never committed anything to paper, until her mentor and fellow writer R.J. Blakman said, “Baby, you have a head full of stories the world is just waiting to hear and you need to put them on paper so everyone can read them!” So, she took her mentor’s advice, dug out an old laptop she hadn’t touched in years and after typing the first few sentences, has never looked back!

Adrien lives in the tropics (because she hates the cold) with her pet gecko (whichever one has wandered into her home at any given time), and is a member of a local Black writers group.

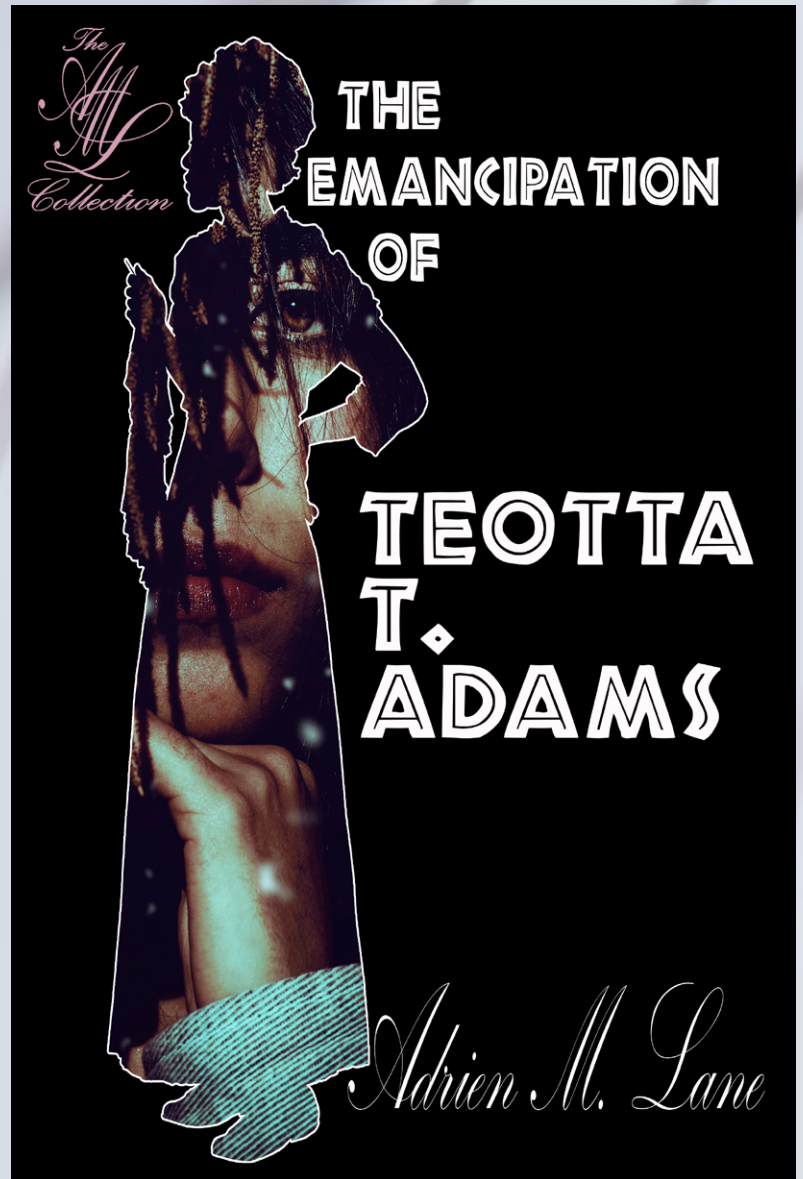
She enjoys looking at the lush colors of her surroundings, taking walks on the beach, and always, always thinking of new stories to write!

Even as Adrien works feverishly to bring to the audience the VERY BEST in “BLACK LOVE with a TWIST”, she had decided to take a dive into the world of Kindle Vella!

Kindle Vella is a platform that authors can use to share their stories with readers in an episodic style. The big feature of Kindle Vella is its serialized format—authors publish content in ‘episodes,’ and readers consume that content one episode at a time.

So while you’re impatiently waiting for Adrien’s next mind bending romance novel, you can keep up with her ongoing story, *The Emancipation of Teotta T. Adams!* Coming SOON!

In the meantime click on the Image to the right to visit Adrien’s website!



Be sure to take some time to visit my website at:

<https://www.iyapoyapa.com> - or just click the image to the right!

There are a LOT of things to see and interact with! There are also a couple special surprises hidden in the site. They aren't marked, but if you take a little time to search for them, you'll definitely be pleasantly surprised!

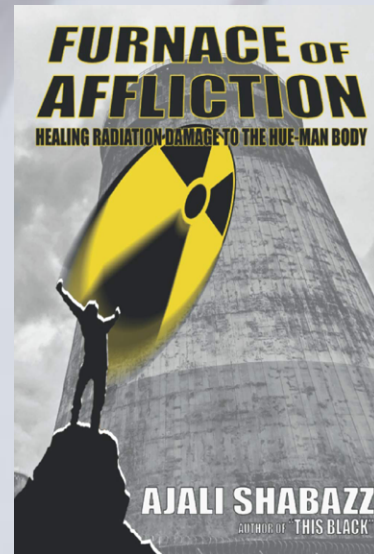
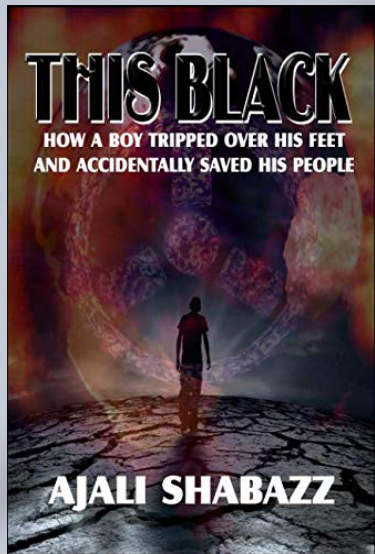


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Now you can hear
AJALI SHABAZZ!



Author of: *This Black - This Black NATION* and *Furnace of Affliction!*

The Reading and Writing in the DARK Podcast Interview!

You don't want to miss this discussion with this new POWERFUL voice in PRO BLACK FICTION in the genre of Theoretical Ebon Fiction, and Non Fiction!

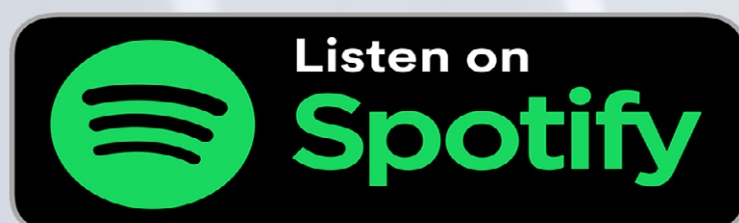
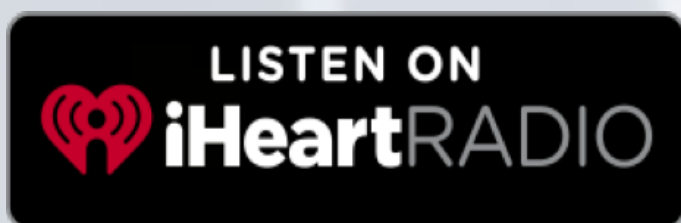
Listen to the interview on  by clicking the link below:

<https://www.spreaker.com/show/a-conversation-with-author-ajali-shabazz>



Did you know there is also a **READING and WRITING in the DARK PODCAST?! Well there IS** and you can tune in to it and listen just by clicking the block to the right.

You can also hear the **READING and WRITING in the DARK** podcast on:



CLICK THIS BLOCK TO LISTEN TO THE

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podcast!





Alright, enough about ME!

Below are AWESOME stories on the KINDLE VELLA platform by some authors I know!

Just click the the cover art to be transported to their stories!

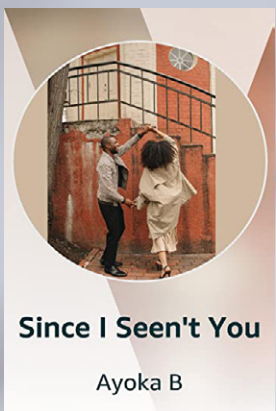
And remember, the first THREE episodes are FREE to read!



I DeClaire Love

Angela Riley

DeClaire and Tyrone meet and sparks fly. They fall in love with each other quick, fast, and in a hurry. It seems to good to be true. But is it? Is it safe to love? Are there any “good” rules when it comes to love? Do we have to fight for love? Are there always games being played when it comes to love? Is simple, sane, “old-fashioned” love out of style? CAN LOVE SET US FREE? *** New Episodes Weekly!



Since I Seen't You

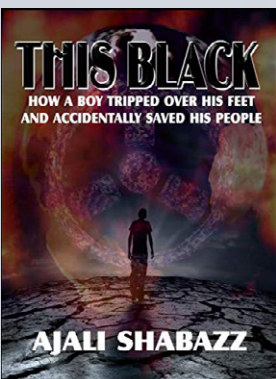
Ayoka B.

She and David met when they were 18. After a rough start, they build a friendship that would span decades: marriages, children, love and heartache. When they lose touch, she thought that she would never see him again, but she was wrong. Can men and women truly be just friends? Can their friendship withstand what life has in store?

ALSO AVAILABLE on AMAZON and OTHER PLATFORMS!

Below are stories and books by some authors I know!

Just click the the cover art to purchase their book.



THIS BLACK

Ajali Shabazz

This Black' is the opening story of how Black People permanently freed themselves, and thus the world, from the grips of any persons who brought lies, and thus brought global oppression. An oppression which has, in real time, ground the entire planet to the brink of extinction through the ongoing hemorrhage of radiation from Fukushima Fallout. This work is designed to spread vital knowledge in an edge of your seat adventure, brimming with conflict, treachery, triumph, and fantastical scenarios. It's true Black history made irresistible, spanning thousands and thousands of years and millions of lives. Written for any age, from 12 to infinity, this tale depicts the Black Community as it actually is - in an ongoing process of freeing Ourselves from Mental Slavery

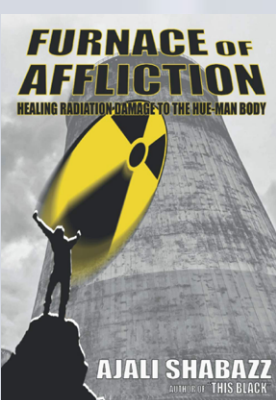


THIS BLACK NATION

Ajali Shabazz

The highly anticipated follow-up to 'This Black', 'This Black Nation' continues the saga of Tyree's determination to achieve victory against the increasingly radioactive reality we each face, and his growing precision in defeating his people's enemies. But, first? He has to defeat his own self-doubt. Good thing this time? He has a few hundred thousand friends.

'This Black' is vital Pro-Black-Speculative fiction, which delivers a passionate clarion call to Our Family, intended to educate us about the dire nonstop hemorrhage of radiation from the crippled Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant that is still spewing unchecked deadly isotopes, every minute of every day. By transforming the specter of a frightening catastrophe into nail biting great storytelling, this work increases common knowledge of that real time disaster, so we can employ the proven methods that will protect and repair this wounded planet, which is the only planet we have to call our home.



FURNACE of AFFLICTION

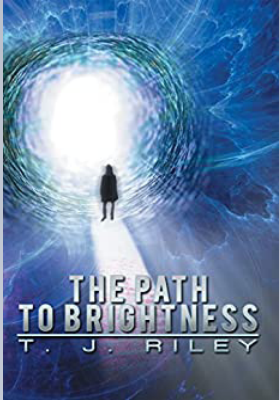
Ajali Shabazz

Following this book's guidance for withstanding the radioactive scourge of Fukushima Fallout and all things nuclear (turns out there's quite a LOT of sources of man-made radiation, with all of it deadly, down to a single atom or ionizing wave) – taking the enclosed steps as your new life enhancing permanent endeavors will eventually lead to many of your family, friends and even your coworkers (share it with just the ones you like) – eventually seeing you withstanding even the common cold, let alone the inevitable organ eviscerating carnage caused by this invisible atomic sized dagger.

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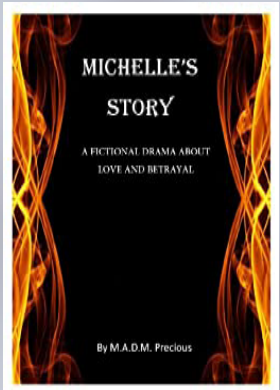
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THE PATH to BRIGHTNESS

T.J. Riley

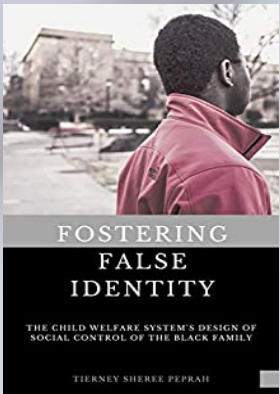
Fatima, a young woman, has a near-death experience. When she awakes from a coma and recovers, she has mystical powers. She begins to see auras and experiences life with her new abilities. For the clever character, Fatima, life is about to dramatically change. Follow Fatima's journey as she tries to convince others of the astounding esoteric knowledge she has brought back from beyond the veil. However, there are some that wish to stop her from sharing an ancient secret. A secret that will change life on earth, forever.



MICHELLE'S STORY

M.A.D.M. Precious

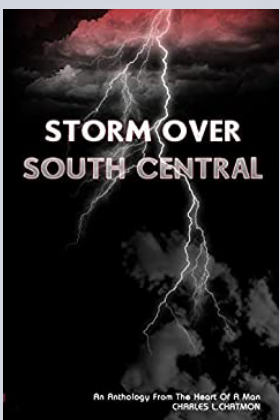
When Michelle met Michael, she thought that she found the love of her life. She was young and coming out of a bad marriage. A single parent of two children, she was scared, broke and had no self esteem. Michael seemed perfect, except for one little problem...



Fostering False Identity: The Child Welfare System's Design of Social Control of the Black Family

Tierney Peprah

THE ORGANISM OF RACISM IN THE UNITED STATES CRAFTS VARIOUS SYSTEMS MEANT TO ACHIEVE ONE OVERARCHING PURPOSE, that is to ensure that peoples and groups designated for an inferior existence pose little to no threat to the social structure of wealth and privilege that is propped up on their backs. These systems are allowed to exist, oftentimes unchallenged, by propagating dishonest descriptions of why these systems exist. Many people are without the proper means to challenge these systems, camouflaged as being charitable or in the public interest, for their unjust outcomes. In Fostering False Identity, the American child welfare system is explored as such a system. While the child welfare system is portrayed as a moral arbitrator in the abuse and neglect of children, in actuality this system was formulated for the specific purpose of regulating disenfranchised populations by removing children from those communities to assimilate them into White society. Thus assimilated, they are believed to pose minimal threat to the social order. Fostering False Identity will explore this phenomenon through a lens of Black liberation and self-determination of African families who are consistently victimized by this system.



Storm Over South Central

Charles L. Chatmon

The Storm has been unleashed, which means it's time to share what's inside the much anticipated anthology by author Charles L. Chatmon.

Chatmon, a refreshing voice in the world of modern poetry and author of *The Depths of My Soul* & *The Voices of South Central* returns with engaging short stories and thought provoking poems.

Read *Storm over South Central* and discover the thoughts he writes about in this volume filled with verses and tales of despair, stories of hope. It will also reveal a lot about American society – its strengths, its flaws and its people. This is a literary journey you will enjoy taking.

And there will be more authors to come, who are working to

TAKE CONTROL OF OUR NARRATIVE!

THANK YOU for subscribing to the newsletter, I genuinely appreciate it! Be sure and spread the word about my work by telling others about my website, books, podcasts and such at: <https://www.iyapoyapa.com>

You can also find Iyapo Yapa on:



SEE YOU NEXT MONTH!