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Be Not Afraid Of Greatness

By Austin Akalanze

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Have you noticed that poets are probably the most under rewarded, of all the literary practitioners in the whole wide world. Like teachers, we are not rewarded enough for what we do. And honestly, I believe poets are a lot worse of than teachers with the exception of a very few. It is not as if poets do not bring value to poeple. We do. And it is not as if people do not desire our poetry. They do. So what is the deal? I am not sure what the answer is to that, but I do know that it should not be so.

In any given month, over two million people log on to the internet searching for love poems only. Now add on to that, searches for all other kind of poems and the number can be staggering. This can be verified by searching the searchers on any reverse search engine. There is a huge demand for poetry, that I know. So what is the deal? I am still not sure that I know. But I do know that, that can be changed.

And it is not by rushing to the next ondemand publisher to get your collection published. You will only end up with a stack of books in your basement or artic collecting dust. The way to do it is to use the technology of the day- the INTERNET. This may sound pretty obvious but to the newbie and to some seasoned writers who are technophobic, it is a different world.

You know, someone once said, "if your are not making money while you sleep, you will never get rich. That makes good sense, since there is so much you can do in a day. However, with the right knowledge, the right mind, some determination, and the right technology, you may not become a poetry Bill Gates, but you may become comfortable or even very comfortable. But wait a minute you may say, how is it possible to make money while you sleep? The answer is in the "I" word.

But this is not just about making money while you snooz away. It is about making a living doing what you most enjoy doing. Malcolm S. Forbes (1919-1990), once said, "The biggest mistake people make in life is not making a living at doing what they most enjoy." We enjoy writing and we should make a living doing writing.

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Truth is, you can make a living doing what you love doing— writing poetry. And not just poems but any genre of writing that you do or any knowledge, especially special knowledge that you have. And aren't we all walking encyclopedia and living museums of sorts.

Wealth, I have learned is not something you pursue, but something you attract by the person you become. My challenge to you is to become that person that attracts wealth, not just financial wealth, but wealth in relationships, family, faith and all, and people will beat a path to your door to give you their money even while you sleep.

This is not about how to make money alone. It is about going to work on yourself by adding value to yourself. This is about how to make money with whatever knowledge that you have. It is about becoming knowledgeable about how to package the knowledge in your head and selling it to people.

People will pay you good money to loan your brain, and if you are able to loan your brain to millions of people at the same time, even while you sleep, that translates to even bigger opportunities. The test is in having the staying power to learn.

Jim Rohn once said, "We go the direction we face, and face the direction we go." For those who don't know Jim Rohn, he is one of the greatest business and inspiring minds of our time. My question to you is, where are you facing? When you wake up tomorrow morning, are you going to be facing a future filled with hope and excitement, or a dead end job that you hate and despise? Are you one of those millions of the world's masses trapped in a dead end job, who wake up every Monday morning with a heart attack, still living under the illusion of building wealth with a corporate job and retirement plan? You can change all that starting today.

If you are here and have read this far, I believe you have already won half the battle. You have shown that you have the staying power to succeed. You have shown a determination to win. You can attract wealth by the person you become and all that you need now are the nuts and bolts to stitch all this together.

Are you afraid of greatness? You should not. William Shakespeare, once said, "Be not afraid of greatness. Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and others have greatness thrust upon them." Remember, if you never go out on a limb, you will never get the fruit.

Austin Akalanze is an Educator, Freelance writer, and webmaster at <http://www.power-profit-systems.com/pips.html>

Woman Thou Art GREAT

By Lisa Bartley-Lacey

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"Be not afraid of greatness,

Be Not Afraid Of Greatness

some are born great,
some achieve greatness
and others have greatness
thrust upon them."

–William Shakespeare

You are GREAT!

No matter what aspersions have been cast upon you by either yourself or by others, you were born for GREATNESS. Greatness is within you Woman. It is true. Deep within every woman alive is the seed of the awareness of her queenhood. In her soul every woman knows that she is infinitely more than the prime cuts of meat that popular culture attempts to dissect females into. I know this because I live this. As a child I was never accepted. I was called ugly, useless, "black" & stupid. I was the offspring of a domestically violent household. My mother eventually escaped with my siblings and I to live on welfare and government cheese in Detroit City.

By 15 my virginity was stolen from me by a 24 year old child rapist. By 16 I was drinking and trying to forget myself. By 17 I was suicidal. By the age of 18 wounded by a difficult childhood and troubled teenaged years, I got pregnant with the first of my 3 children. I was a mess...yet there was GREATNESS within that mess. GREATNESS is within you too.

In order to be useful to you, I had to go through a process. This process was very painful. In this process I might have perished. It continues. This process is more commonly known as "life." My demise, however, though supported by this world, was not sanctioned by the Universe. By God I am still here. You could have died before reaching and reading these words, yet you are still here. We are here! We have arrived in this moment for a reason and with a divine Purpose.

When you learn...

Teach

When you get...

Give

–Maya Angelou, Our Grandmothers

When I was just a little brown baby girl hiding and cringing in the closet listening to my mama being beaten, GREATNESS was within me. When I was just a skinny little 15 year old Black girl in Detroit City being physically threatened, emotionally annihilated and spiritually devastated, GREATNESS was within me. I was a Queen, but I did not know it yet.

When I wallowed in despair weeping as a young adult in the wake of self-destruction and negativity, GREATNESS was within me but I did not know it yet. When I cried alone as a poverty stricken unwed teenaged mother, GREATNESS was within me but I did not know it yet. As I bore the weight of being a divorced single parent of three children thumbing through my food-stamps, GREATNESS was within

me but I did not know it yet. While lying up under benighted males in search of love and validation as a lost woman, GREATNESS was within me but I did not know it yet. As I walked across the stage to collect my BA then my MA degrees, thinking that they were legitimizing me, true GREATNESS was within me, I thought I knew but I did not know true GREATNESS yet. God knew it though. My Purpose

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is to proclaim the Creator's gift of GREATNESS within YOU as I reveal it within myself.

No one, no, nor no one million
ones dare deny me God, I go forth
alone, and stand as ten thousand.

–Maya Angelou, Our Grandmothers

I have suffered. You have suffered. Women have suffered uniquely in patriarchal society. With women of color, the double whammy of simultaneous sexism and racism can be particularly devastating. Let us consider the resultant GREATNESS of women who have gone through great trials and lessons. Everyone who has achieved any substantive modicum of greatness has suffered in one way or another. Our pain makes human. Overcoming our suffering through perseverance, grace, wisdom and determination exemplifies triumph over adversity. This is how we tap into the inexhaustible Source. Our suffering becomes our strength. This strength is our gift from the Creator to the rest of the world.

... All my life I have always known I was born to greatness.

–OPRAH WINFREY

It's time to reclaim your rightful inheritance. Ascend the throne beloved daughter of the most high God. Your prison is an illusion. Your smallness is a lie. God sent you here directly from Heaven. Woman thou art loosed. Woman thou art beautiful. Woman thou art loved. Woman thou art powerful. Woman thou art safe. Woman thou art successful. Woman thou art free...

Woman thou art GREAT!

LB Lacey, MA. is CEO of SOULutions for Dynamic Living, LLC, a holistic consulting service dedicated to providing products and services that support individuals in their intention to live dynamically and effectively in the world. LB is a holistic (meaning "whole") modality based practitioner.
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