



SPRING HAS SPRUNG ...

and life is life-ing! Like weather, people are running hot and cold; very few are luke-warm! Most are unsure of what the future holds. Are we destined to repeat the transgressions and aggressions of the past? The progression we were certain of just a few short years ago, no longer exists. In an alternative universe, might I, a Black woman, be better off? We shall never know, but I can still wonder!

The Henrico County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Arts and Letters Committee:

CALLING ALL AUTHORS!

Register now to promote your books and connect with readers at our **2nd Annual Author Showcase Event!**

REGISTER NOW	EVENT INFO
Super Early Bird (includes brunch) \$75: February 14 – February 28	WHEN APRIL 25, 2026 FROM 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Early Bird \$100: March 1 – March 14	WHERE SAINT PAUL'S BAPTIST CHURCH 4247 CREIGHTON RD RICHMOND, VA 23223
Regular \$125: March 15 – March 31	
Last Chance \$150: April 1 – April 10	

Register at <https://events.eventgroove.com/event/121843>;
Email inquiries to HCACDSTARTSANDLETTERS@gmail.com



SAVE THE DATE!

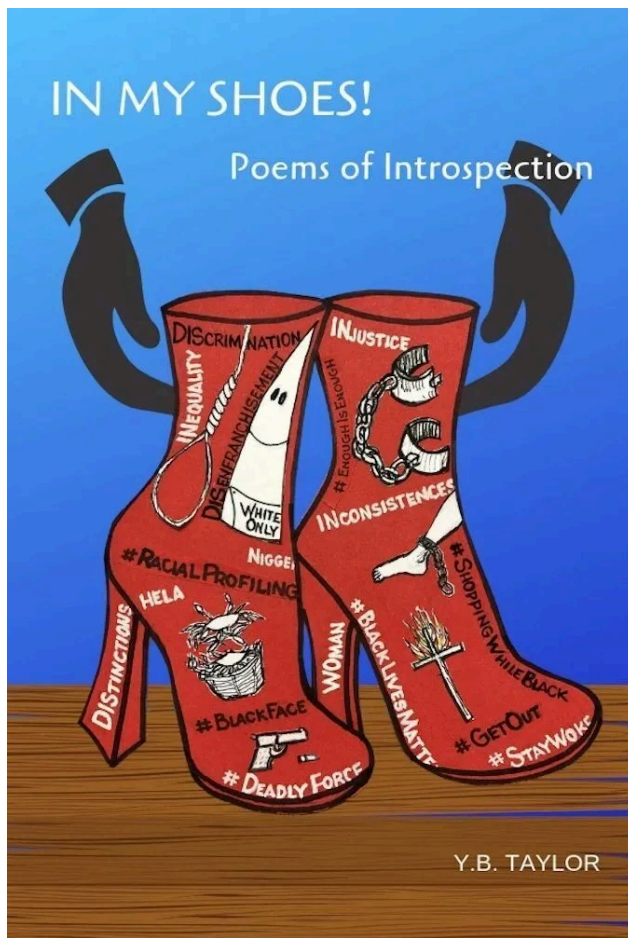
The Henrico Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority INCORPORATED is presenting its **2nd Annual Author Showcase Event!** Word on the street is -- at least two celebrity authors will be present. I am not a celebrity, but I will be there with my literary family!

FYI, April is NATIONAL POETRY MONTH!

All genres of writing will be present! The event is **FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**

Come by, chat, peruse and support authors by buying lots and lots of books!

BTW ... If you are an author, there is still time to **REGISTER** and **PARTICIPATE!**

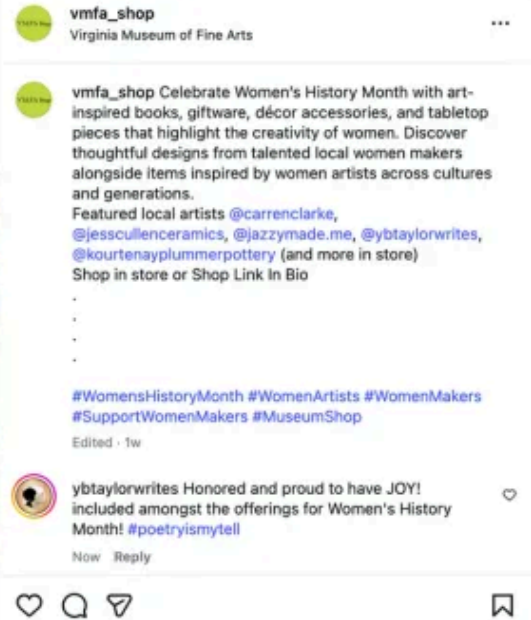
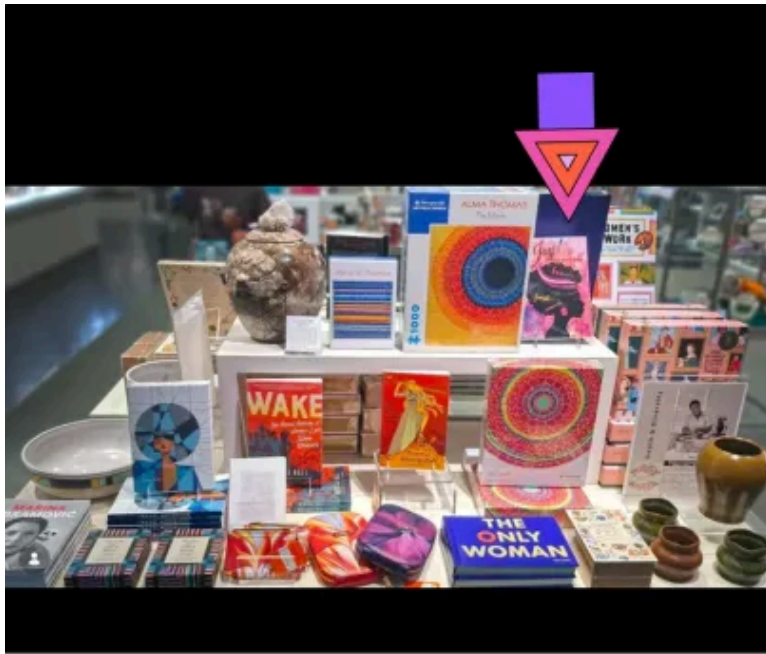


A BLACK HISTORY MONTH MOMENT

On February 25, WWBT-12's Black History Moment featured renowned local and international artist Dennis R. Winston. Dennis' artwork is the face of two of my covers, **KEEPING IT REAL!** and **IN MY SHOES!**

Unbeknownst to me, **IN MY SHOES!** had a quick cameo towards the end of the news segment. If you blinked or turned away from the screen, you missed it!

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



"I spy with my little eye **JOY! Another Book of Poetry!** April is **NATIONAL POETRY MONTH!** Perhaps, this literary child will be on display again! And yes, there will be copies on hand because twenty copies were just dropped off!

**WHEN I'M GOOD,
I'M VERY, VERY
GOOD! ... [a
political message]**

You are probably being inundated with mailers and text messages encouraging you to VOTE "no" by April 21! There was nothing I could do about the mailers BUT I hope the text senders take note of my response to them. As my *Forever President, Barack Obama*, has stated in television ads as well as the NAACP and others who truly care about the future of the Commonwealth ... **"VOTE YES!"**

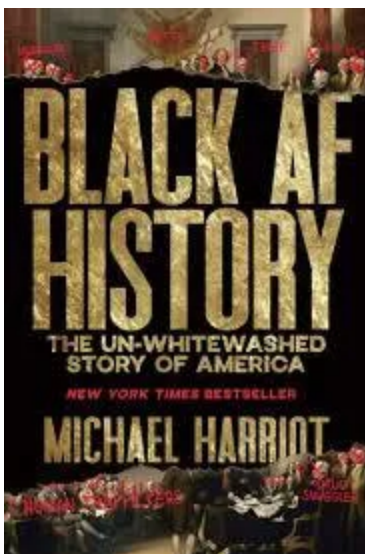
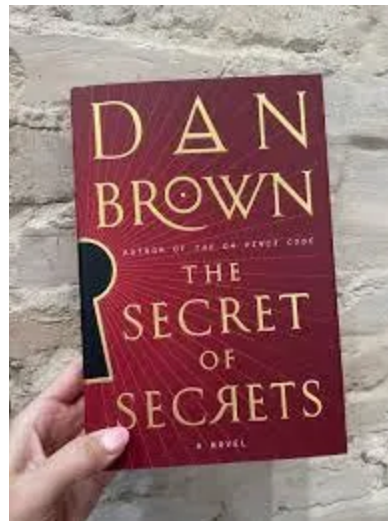




HOOKED ON AUDIBLE!

Yours truly took a momentary break from ethnic-based historical fictions and non-fictions and listened to Dan Brown's *THE SECRET OF SECRETS*, an adventure crime fiction. Brown did not disappoint!

I enjoyed the twists and turns of this suspenseful "ride" through New York, Prague and London and was genuinely surprised by the turn of events at its end. I suggest *THE SECRET OF SECRETS* as a summer read if crime fiction is a genre you enjoy. *SECRETS*, in spite of allusions to corrupt government ... sound familiar ... will provide a break from our current state of crazy!



I cannot tell a lie! *BLACK AF HISTORY* should not be read or listened to by anyone who is thin-skinned and/or has delicate sensibilities! The internet states, *Michael Harriot is an award winning journalist, bestselling author, celebrated poet, and public historian hailed as "one of the most eloquent writers in America. When CNN wanted to trace the origins of the word woke, they called Michael Harriot. When MSNBC needed someone to unpack critical race theory, they called Michael Harriot. And when the culture needed a name that captured the collective voice of Black Twitter, Michael Harriot was the runaway answer.*

I knew nothing of Michael Harriot and was not familiar with this book BUT I learned a lot.

Harriot's inclusion of detailed and not widely known Black history was beyond anything I could imagine. After listening to the Audible version, I purchased a hardcover for my library as a future resource for poetry writing. I am certain it will look like a coloring book by the time I highlight significant passages. There is a treasure trove of Black history contained in the 16 chapters of this book. Surely, BLACK AF HISTORY is ranked high as a banned book! *May its banning serve to raise its profile more!* Get a copy quick, fast and in a hurry! Michael Harriot also has a wicked sense of humor!



RESISTANCE! reading appears to be what this author is gravitating towards lately.

After finishing BLACK AF HISTORY, I listened to WE REFUSE by Kellie Carter Jackson. Much of what I have heard thus far is similar to what I heard in BLACK AF HISTORY. However, WE REFUSE is probably more palatable to those with delicate sensibilities and delves deeply into the contributions and involvement of Black women to THE RESISTANCE! This book will let it be known that you DO NOT TRIFLE WITH A BLACK WOMAN!

Both BLACK AF HISTORY and WE REFUSE contain copious amounts of unacknowledged history and history often denied and rewritten.

WORKS IN PROGRESS!

I Laugh, I Joke, I Do Not Play: Memoir of a Black Woman Born Colored exists only as a work in progress. Close to 300-pages, the writing has been cathartic! If published, the memoir will include snippets from my life which have inspired poems published as well as poems written since **JOY!** (©2024)

"Poetry is my tell!" One of the poems written since **JOY!** is *FALLEN EMPIRE* reflecting my perspectives of the current state of this country? Why have we gone forward five-steps to go back twenty? Where are you America?



*"The loudest person in the room often has the least to say.
Wisdom doesn't scream. It whispers. Selah!"*

Ab Isong (1981-)

Pastor, artist, influencer, actor,
Brand Ambassador, counselor

FALLEN EMPIRE!

A ... am I not a citizen of this country?
M ... marred by White nationalism
E ... energized by denigration of non-Whites
R ... riddled with negativities of bigots and misogynists
I ... infrastructured to benefit the "haves"
K ... "klandestined" and "kloaked" in boardroom suits
K ... "kausations" of havoc on weak and ill-prepared
K ... "kataclysmic" failures by those "in charge"
A ... America, home of the brave, land of the free

Where are you?

Seduced by greed

A nation once powerful

Succumbs

Fractures

Splinters and breaks

Under false promises of power and privilege

Of a solo actor

With showmanship of riches

All being fool's gold

A nation once powerful

With leadership respected

Built on backs of immigrants

Now, "ICED" out

A nation floundering

Under leadership of excrement

America, home of the brave, land of the free

Where are you?

Seduced by greed, power, false promises

Blinded by shine

Succumbing and realizing

Promises are lies

Gilded with gold

Fraudulent and painted

Power fleeing

K ... "khaos" reigns

K ... "kalamity" is on the horizon

K ... "kausation" identified

Man-child in seat of power

America, home of the brave, land of the free

Where are you?



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WHERE TO FIND MY LITERARY CHILDREN

...

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Gift Shop - **JOY! Another Book of Poetry** (only!)

[My Website](#)

[Amazon Author Page](#)

Thank you for your continued support,

Y.B. Taylor, Writer



3408 Corrotoman Road, Glen Allen, Virginia 23060, USA [Unsubscribe](#)