



TRUST YOUR GIFT

An Interactive Guide To
Achieve Your Purpose

BY BRYSON "CUPID" BERNARD
With Best-Selling Author Elvira Guzman

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Arivle Productions

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California

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“Your talent is God's gift to you. What you do with it is your gift back to God.”

-Leo Buscaglia

*“When you discover your purpose, you
will never work a day in your life.”*

- Cupid

DEDICATION

I want to dedicate this book to everyone who has been told their dreams are unrealistic because they're too big. I promise you they're not! Our dreams are visions of our future and many times the only person that can see it is us. That's ok! That shouldn't discourage us from pursuing it! I'm here to encourage you to fight through that negativity! Stay focused on your gift and you will not only live a successful life, but you will also help many people along the way!

FOREWORD

BY ELVIRA GUZMAN

With tremendous courage, Cupid blesses us with a wealth of wisdom, gained through personal life experiences. Highlighting that one's gift is something we can never disrespect, Cupid teaches us how to realize, develop and pursue our purpose in life. He powerfully shares his obstacles certain, that without them we would never know how resilient we truly are.

The beauty of "Trust Your Gift" is Cupid gently reminds the readers that when we stray away from our purpose God will always get us back on track by using an obstacle, a mentor, a book or all three.

The book you are about to read is filled with valuable life lessons and it is sure to inspire you to

pursue your purpose in life. Cupid's journey is like no other and his strength through his obstacles is honorable.

My business relationship with Cupid started in 2007 when he got booked on The Steve Harvey Morning Show. At the time I was Steve Harvey's Publicist & Brand Director, and I quickly knew Cupid had the "it" factor.

When I started my publicity company that same year, he became one of my first clients (*now lifelong friend*) and the rest is history! I feel privileged to have worked with him for 14 years now. It's felt like a blink of an eye because he's incredible to work with. EVERYONE LOVES HIM! For a publicist or brand manager that is music to our ears because it's easy to book them on shows.

Through the years I've attended several of his performances at The Essence Music Festival in Louisiana, Disney Dreamers Academy in Florida or Steve Harvey events in Las Vegas/Atlanta and Los Angeles and I can attest that no one gets the crowd going like Cupid. He has this energy about him that makes everyone feel great. That you cannot teach, that is something he was born with.

We live in an age where people are glorified for being bad or negative towards others and I'm so happy that Cupid decided to rise above that for God. He knows his purpose and he doesn't let anything, or anyone distract him from sharing his gift.

Cupid is an excellent example of how to be a father, husband, bonus dad, son, friend, and entertainer. I

hope the book you are about to read blesses you just like
it blessed me!

Namaste!

Elvira Guzman

Brand Manager, Best-Selling Author & Friend

INTRODUCTION

My wakeup call came when I had a stroke at 36 years-old in front of my son Christian. He was just eight years-old at the time. That day changed my life forever!

At that moment being a multi-platinum artist meant nothing. All I cared about was being a good father. I saw my son scared that I might die in front of his eyes. I knew then, I needed to change so I could see him grow up.

I'll never forget that day! Christian and I had just gotten back home from going on a bike ride. We saw my friends on the ride and they asked me if I wanted to play basketball with them. I told them I appreciated the invite, but I was going to take Christian to get ice-cream.

My son and I went to the ice-cream shop and then we biked home. As soon as we got home, I

collapsed, and I tried to tell my son to call 911 but I couldn't speak. Christian was able to read my lips and he called, but the 911 operator could not understand me. Once she realized what was happening, she immediately sent an ambulance.



While I was laying there, my life flashed before my eyes. I really thought I was going to die that day. Those minutes seemed like an eternity!

As soon as I hung up on the 911 operator, I texted my friends the word **STROKE** twice and they knew something was wrong and rushed to my side. Trust

me when I say, I'm so grateful for my son, the 911 operator, and for my friends who were there for me that day!

When I got weighed at the hospital, I realized I was completely out of shape. That contributed to my stroke. I was 260 pounds! I had no idea I had gotten that big. I was a track star in college and now not even ten years later I'm having a stroke?! It just didn't make sense to me! I had been touring and not taking care of my body like I should have, but I never thought my health had deteriorated to that extent.



I didn't tell anyone about my stroke because I feared losing upcoming gigs, so I kept it to myself.

Two weeks after my stroke I had a show in front of five thousand people, and I still couldn't sing or dance. I kept praying and asking God to please heal my body. That show was the first time I had to lip sync in front of a crowd, and I put a stool on the stage that I leaned on for balance and thank God the audience didn't notice.

I didn't do it for the money, I did it because I love my purpose. I enjoy uplifting others, even though I needed uplifting at that time.

What I've learned to do is when I feel the worst, I do something nice for others and it automatically makes me feel better.

My focus and determination comes from my sports days and doing whatever needs to be done on “game day”! As a music artist, just like an athlete, we can’t be sick, and we can’t have anything wrong with us! People paid their hard-earned money, and they deserve to see a good show. We must perform no matter what!

My stroke happened back in 2016 and it took me a while to recover but thank God now I am better than ever!

From this experience came many lessons and blessings. I learned to take care of my body, I learned to have more balance in life, I learned patience, and this began my fitness brand *CuRobiks*. So, looking back it was a huge blessing in disguise.

My journey has taught me that everything happens when it’s supposed to happen and ultimately,

it's meant for our good. We just have to stay positive and find the seed of opportunity in every obstacle like Napoleon Hill says.

For over 30 years now I've been working on my purpose, and I can tell you that true success is not just about how many awards we get, how much money we acquire, or things we accumulate. Success is determined by how well-balanced our life is and how much time we dedicate to God, ourselves, and our family while still pursuing our purpose.

I'm grateful that I have over 500,000,000 views online for my music. I appreciate that when people hear my music it automatically makes them feel joy! I will forever be grateful for that, but all of that would mean nothing if I was a bad father, or if I was a bad son or

friend. We can't just excel in one area in our life, we must excel in every area.



I wrote this book because I want YOU to succeed! The only way you're going to do that is by discovering your purpose, developing your gift, surrounding yourself with the right people, and then taking the leap of faith.

We must remember that God intended for us to succeed and everything we need to accomplish our

purpose, we already have within us! We just have to trust Him, and we have to believe in ourselves.