



AUTHOR: LESLIE SHORT

FROM BALLET STUDIOS TO BOARDROOMS, CRUISE SHIPS TO CORPORATE AMERICA, LESLIE'S JOURNEY IS AS UNCONVENTIONAL AS IT IS INSPIRING. WITH HUMOR AND FEARLESS CANDOR, SHE SHARES THE REALITIES OF RACISM, SEXISM, AND THE COURAGE IT TAKES TO STEP INTO SPACES WHERE NO ONE EXPECTED HER TO BE. MORE THAN A MEMOIR OF FIRSTS, SOMEONE HAS TO BE THE FIRST IS A CALL TO ACTION.

KEY THEMES

- **FEARLESSNESS & SELF-DETERMINATION**
- **BREAKING BARRIERS IN BUSINESS & CULTURE**
- **LEADERSHIP THROUGH INCLUSION & ACCESS**
- **RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF BIAS**
- **CREATING PATHWAYS FOR OTHERS**

FOR SPEAKING & EVENTS

Leslie brings this message to life through dynamic, high-impact conversations on:

- **Building culture beyond the mission statement**
- **Leadership rooted in identity and purpose**
- **Expanding access and inclusion in real, actionable ways**
- **What it truly means to be "the first" in any space**

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