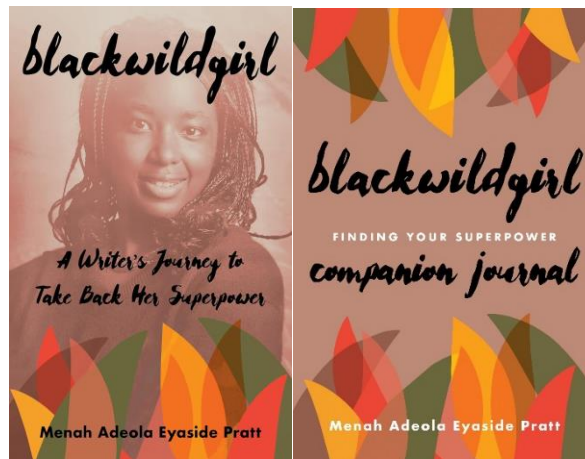




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New Memoir **BLACKWILDGIRL** is an Invitation for Girls and Women to Discover and Cherish their Superpower



****EARLY PRAISE****

"A journey into girlhood, ...Menah Pratt ...invites us to travel with her." —**NIKKI GIOVANNI, poet**

"Blackwildgirl encourages all of us to reclaim our superpowers and be change agents in life."
—**KATRINA M. ADAMS, author of Own the Arena and former CEO of United States Tennis Association**

"Menah Pratt has written a book that offers the chance to cry, to be empowered, to be educated, to be healed, to be liberated." —**NAOMI TUTU, ordained minister and daughter of Bishop Tutu**

"A pathway to step up, speak up, and stand up." —**VALERIE LEE, author of Sisterlocking Discourse: Race, Gender, And The Twenty-First-Century Academy**

"Menah Pratt reminds us of Toni Morrison, Maya Angelou, and Oprah Winfrey." —**GABRIELLA GUTIERREZ Y MUHS, Professor, Seattle University**

“In a generous act, Pratt invites the reader to join her in a personal journey through the inclusion of reflection questions that serve as a guide toward one’s own (re)discovery.” —**BERONDA MONTGOMERY, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean, Grinnell College; author of Lessons from Plants**

“An invitation for us to grapple with the thoughtful reflection questions she offers us . . . to mourn, celebrate, reckon with, imagine, and heal.” —**ANDREA N. BALDWIN, Associate Professor, University of Utah; author of A Decolonial Black Feminist Theory of Reading and Shade: Feeling the University**

“A gift to ‘wild women’ everywhere.” —**BEVERLY GUY-SHEFTALL, Ph.D., Professor and Founding Director of the Women’s Research & Resource Center, Spelman College**

(November 13, 2023) Blacksburg, Virginia – In a life filled with meaning and accomplishment, Dr. Menah Adeola Eyaside Pratt is a highly educated and talented Blackwildwoman who is a nationally recognized and diversity-award winning author of four books on race, gender, and diversity. As a scholar-activist and academic advocate, she founded the Faculty Women of Color in the Academy National Conference and the Black College Institute at Virginia Tech.

In **BLACKWILDGIRL: A Writer’s Journey to Take Back Her Superpower, Dr. Menah Adeola Eyaside Pratt (She Writes Press, April 2, 2024; ISBN: 978-1-64742-632-3 \$17.95; 392 pages; paperback)** invites readers into her evolutionary journey with artistic creativity, deep reflection, and compelling storytelling. Raised by highly accomplished parents, including her father, Dr. Theodore Pratt, a nuclear physicist and immigrant from Sierra Leone in West Africa, and her mother, Dr. Mildred Pratt, a professor of social work, and the granddaughter of an enslaved woman from Alabama, Pratt’s autobiographical journey from girlhood to womanhood unfolds like a play through acts, stages, and scenes. In her own words and on her own terms through 45 years of journals, poems, and letters to Love, she chronicles the transformative experiences that have shaped her: proclaiming to her parents at the age of 5 that she was Queen of Sheba, the beautiful queen in the Bible; earning five degrees, including a law degree and a Ph.D. and becoming a tenured full professor in the fields of education, critical race theory, critical race feminism, and Black Feminism; balancing the demands of marriage and motherhood; navigating a miscarriage and the death of both of her parents; becoming an entrepreneur, owning a frame shop and art gallery; and undertaking a seven-year search for knowledge about the spirit world and the Divine Feminine.

Her journey of self-discovery led her beyond America to the culturally rich lands of the Bahamas, Barbados, St. Kitts, Cuba, Israel, Egypt, South Africa, and Sierra Leone to connect with ancient, indigenous cultures.

When asked why she wrote BLACKWILDGIRL, Dr. Pratt says, “I want to share my journey in the hope that it can help others on their life journeys. In particular, I want women and girls to feel empowered to discover and share their superpower with the world. Now more than ever, women's voices are needed worldwide.”

The intimate narrative concludes with the unearthing of a Black woman who has claimed her BLACKWILDGIRL spirit and owns her wild and unruly nature as her power in the world.

This book is for anyone who wants to understand the experiences of girls as they seek to become wild women—women who are fierce and fearless; women who are warriors for themselves and others; women who are committed to cultivating and excavating their spiritual gardens and tilling their spiritual souls to blossom and bloom; and women who want to move from invisible underground lives to aboveground lives of impact and influence by reclaiming their original power and role as women in the world.

Narrated in Pratt's own voice, BLACKWILDGIRL comes in audiobook, as well as a companion journal (**She Writes Press, April 2, 2024; ISBN: 978-1-64742-632-3 \$12.95; 144 pages; paperback**) for writers to begin their journey to becoming fearlessly free.

For readers who love Alice Walker, Audre Lorde, Nikki Giovanni, and Maya Angelou, this work amplifies the voice, breath, and life of Black girls and women.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

MENAH ADEOLA EYASIDE PRATT Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and raised in Normal, Illinois, Menah received a BA and MA from the University of Iowa and an MA, PhD, and JD from Vanderbilt University. Honored as one of the Top 50 Women Leaders of Virginia for 2023 by the website Women We Admire, Menah lives and works in Blacksburg, Virginia. She is Vice President for Strategic Affairs and Diversity and Professor of Education at Virginia Tech. A former tennis player on the professional circuit, she is a talented pianist and mother of two adult children. www.menahpratt.com



Menah Adeolola Eyaside Pratt

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She Writes Press is an award-winning hybrid publisher for women authors.

www.SheWritesPress.com

The Literary Lobbyist is a women-owned book publicity and publishing consultancy amplifying the voices of BIPOC writers since 2024. www.TheLiteraryLobbyist.com

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