

DARK BLOODS

CREATED & WRITTEN BY: AZA A. SHUKURA

Aza A. Shukura is a writer, creator, director, performing artist, storyteller and public speaker whose work explores identity, culture, humanity, authenticity and worlds that exist beyond the expected.

As a member of the Black Women Film Network, she has trained with film professionals including Christine Swanson, and Tammy Williams.

Aza is the creator and screenwriter of Dark Bloods, a live action supernatural goth horror series born from her love of imaginative storytelling, Black culture and worlds where Black characters command the mythology rather than exist in its margins. She wrote Dark Bloods in a notebook while in recovery and experiencing homelessness. Once recovered she bought final draft, formatted the script and presented a practice pitch at a Black Women Film Network Summit for the series before BET executive Shante Paige and award-winning film director Lisa Cunningham, receiving rave reviews and strong feedback.

Beyond screenwriting, Aza is a theatre and showcase director, producer and performing artist. Her original work has been performed on prestigious stages such as the Jimmy Carter Presidential Center. She holds a bachelor's degree in Africana Studies from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, with additional continuing education credentials with the University of Ghana and Harvard Medical School.

She is also a national mental health advocate. Her advocacy is inclusive of authoring federal oversight and contributing to congressional resolutions for legislators. She is the Founder & CEO of Authenticity of Recovery LLC and the Miss Natural Nation Co.

Aza is an Atlanta, Georgia native, and lives by her motto:

“YOUR AUTHENTICITY HAS THE POWER TO SET YOU FREE.”