

Amber: The Untold Truth

The writings of Miss Zellner

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Section 1

Ambers Blog: <http://misszellner.spaces.live.com/>

(June – December 2008)

June 25th

Grudges...Hold them or Leave them?

People would say that I am a pretty well off individual. Standing on my own, doing my thing...for the most part anyway. But time and time again, I look back through the course of my life and really concentrate on the things that didn't go quite right. Like just recently, my boyfriend and I broke up because he had told me lies and had me thinking one way when there was really something else going on. Or, the time that I wanted to be a cheerleader as a senior in high school but my father didn't want to pay for it. But the thing that really ticks me off is the fact that I am a 22 year old with a crooked set of teeth. It is hard for me to say publicly because this isn't my best feature, and I despise the way I look when I smile. Now, being the responsible Amber, I have to take matters in my own hands and suck up the \$6,000 getting braces. But I just can't accept the fact that this was a problem way before I was in middle school - and the responsibility of my parents to do something about it. (They were for one time because we did actually go to the orthodontics before, 1 time.) Anyway, yes it did cost a lot back then like it does presently, but it is solely on me now to do something about it. I already have external issues going on with my body, the last thing I don't need is another issue to deal with. I HATE my smile. How am I supposed to get someone significant if I can't present myself well enough?

It hurts because now that I am grown, its like they don't even care that I look like this. Yeah, I am pretty decent with my mouth closed but not one of my sisters have this problem - no one knows what I go through, wanting to smile and laugh with my friends without covering my mouth. Last week I had an orthodontal visit and in all those braces cost 6,000!!! Where am I supposed to get that kind of money??? I just wish God can turn back the hands of time so my parents could've did the right thing and put my needs before their own. Of course they had bills to pay and needed essentials, but something could've gave as a sacrafice for their child. I didn't ask to be brought into the world. But I was, and I was the responsibility of them two to give their child what she needed. And I hate it. I just needed to vent because sometimes I get in one of my moods and really tell how I feel. Maybe I shouldn't feel this way, but they know they had an obligation.

Like now, if I were to bring a child into this world - he/she would be my responsibility -
HE/SHE WOULD COME FIRST and not convenience.

You get me?



June 25th

I want it for FREE!!

Today I went to work. (This isn't going to be a bitch fit, because all who knows me know I get emotional about the job I work at.) Anyway, there were two ladies that came in and ordered some ribs TueGo. They then decided that they wanted something to drink and ordered two strawberry lemonades TueGo as well. (NOTE: we didn't order enough togo cups obviously so we had smaller togo cups in their place.) So I explained to the ladies the situation...

"Umm...do we get them for a dollar then?" one of the ladies asked.

"No, but I will ring you in for a kids strawberry lemonade which is \$1.99, the regular price for it is \$3.29."

"Ummm....okay then." they replied.

Even before they said something about it of course I made up in my mind that I wasn't going to charge them the regular price, but we sometimes jump the gun when something goes wrong and say, "Well, is something going to be taken off for it??" Granted, Ruby Tuesday, and any other establishment supposed to create an environment for our guest, supplying them with everything they need. But there is a thing called HUMAN ERROR that sometimes don't register in peoples' minds. We make mistakes just like the next franchise and the next person, so why is it that people don't understand that?

I was in Publix one day getting a Philly sandwich from the deli. (Whew! They are so good.) And they were out of tomatoes because of the salmonella scare that was going on. One of the cusotmers asked the deli manager, "So do we get like something off because you guys don't have any tomatoes?" How IGNORANT is that??? Who in their right mind would ask a dumb question like that? I really get embarrassed sometimes because we should know better. (Not saying it is only US that does this.) But come

on...get real! Do you really want to have salmonella??? If certain people say, "You know what, that's okay." or "Yeah, that's fine with me." I know it is tolerable.

Come on people, GET REAL!!



June 28

Be Humble...for Gods' sake, please!

The story...

...I went in to work yesterday and there was a girl by the name of Sherese that works there. She talked down to me acting like I didn't know what I was doing. (I've been at Ruby Tuesday for 2 years, longer than her. I just transferred stores so she thought I was new.) Anyway she had an attitude and tried to put me in my place when in all actuality, she was the one who was wrong. Anyway, she was just being nasty towards me and everything yesterday. So I didn't get an attitude with her, just kept doing my job, but out the corner of my eye she was watching me all day. You know me, I was just laughing and playing with my other coworkers, not really paying attention to her. At the end of the day, she got fired because of some unrelated mess she got into on her own. So she was being outrageous and carrying on. Boo hoo! Sad story, but no one owes her anything! She just thought she was "it" because she was one of the "pro's" that worked there. But her attitude didn't cut it.

Tell me why people have to be so bitter? How do you get that way? I mean, there are reasons why people get upset and discouraged, but to stay bitter?? Man! Don't they know to put it in the hands of the man who calms the sea then RELAX, RELATE, RELEASE!! Let it go! It is more fulfilling on your part that you have serenity in your life and not chaos. And if you do, don't have people to know that you are in chaos! It is a turnoff!! Really. It kills me when people have attitudes like I owe them something. Like I REALLY OWE THEM SOMETHING! Yeah the customer is always right, in my case, but I don't owe you a damn thing! I am a person too who goes through ups and downs like the next person, but I don't go taking it out on people I don't know and expect them to feel sorry for me. They don't care, so I move on. It's not good for your health, heart and soul. It really isn't - it builds us high blood pressure and hypertension. We all have our days, but not everyday.



June 29th

Shake It Off!

"You gotta shake it off...when the lovin' aint the same and you keep on playin' games like you know I'm here to stay..." Nicely said, MiMi!

I just hate breakups! Enspicially if I am in one. Like, okay, its over and done - no more between him and myself. I am still taking it one day at a time and I would lie to say I don't think about him. But when you find someone, a friend, that is doing so much better - as far as treating me and just being in company with each other, then you begin to think about all the stuff that you were missing.

But let me tell you what my ex said to me. Since we agreed that we weren't going to be exclusive with each other, he asked me if I was still going to come to his place and help him with moving in. I said, sure whatever. But he is proving so hard to me that he has changed, that he ain't the same man he was before. He don't do the things he used to, he don't cheat - none of that. (But when he used to cheat this is what he would do: He would go outside when he would get a phone call, pull over at a gas station and said he had to use the bathroom when someone would call while we were riding - just that sneaky sort of stuff.) So he called me today, he was in a bathroom at a gas station and called me. WTF anyway???? He talked and everything, and when we washed his hands he told me: "Alright then, I'll call you later."

LOL!

I mean, I am sort of pissed because he supposed to be moving to Atlanta, want to revisit the situation with me in a couple of months (and I said sure - I mean it wouldn't hurt to revisit.) And he saying that he don't want to let me go and wanted to be exclusive with me when he moved to Atlanta. But in fact he is still doing the same thing, trying to be sneaky and from all that we have been through, enspicially him, you would think he would learn and, if not me, just have someone to settle down. Or better yet not have anyone at all. But, NO, men have to have their cake and eat it also - instead of lying in the bed they made. Maybe or maybe not I wanted to have one last shot with him - but please. I see he is back to his old tricks. I am a grown woman, not really trying to get in some mess AGAIN, so I'll just have to pass on that.

So I now am about to hopefully just let Rhianna ride this one on out....whatcha say
RhiRhi...

.....YOU PUT ON QUITE A SHOW.....REALLY HAD ME
GOING.....BUT NOW ITS TIME TO GO.....CURTAIN'S FINALLY
CLOSING!!

Oh yeah, I asked him to please prove me wrong and call me to let me know he wasn't
with a young lady....

....I'm still waiting for that call!



July 9th

Talking about YouTube - Lackabackbone

Quote

YouTube - Lackabackbone

Self explanatory*done earlier this morning, FYI

This is really funny. Like I am so happy real people go through the same things as I do. I remember females not liking me in high school because they didn't know nothing about me. I was a transfer student, along with my sister, so we didn't go to elementary or middle school with them. They all know each other, but they didn't know us. So when I started going out with this guy named David, they just started hating. They was asking him, "Who is this b***h you go with? She this and that, and you don't need to go with her blah, blah, blah!" But they never said hey to me, never interacted with me, none of that.

Like get real people. Make your own decisions, do what makes you comfortable, not what someone says. Believe it or not, Jia, people still in their twenties and thirties act like that. They don't want their friends to not like someone because they don't...WEIRD! And you are supposed to be a grown man or woman, but going along with somethings you heard about someone and not finding out for yourself is juvenile - grow a back bone ladies and gentleman.

FYI - I was the one hated on always!



July 17th

Obama for President

I have been wanting to write about Barack Obama for the longest, well since Monday when the New Yorker came out. (I have just been lazy!)

I have an issue. According to barackobama.com, "His father, Barack Obama Sr., was born and raised in a small village in Kenya, where he grew up herding goats with his own father, who was a domestic servant to the British. Barack's mother, Ann Dunham, grew up in small-town Kansas." Also the website tells us that, "Finally, his advocacy work led him to run for the Illinois State Senate, where he served for eight years. In 2004, he became the third African American since Reconstruction to be elected to the U.S. Senate." GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENT MR. OBAMA! But even with your biography and your years of experience, America doubts that you are an African American and that you have the competency to lead America.

My issue is with the New Yorker Magazine cover. On MSNBC, the editor stated that the cover had nothing to do with what was on the inside of the magazine. True. He also said that he approved, I guess, to have the scene on the cover because that particular issue was the "happening thing" in America. America depicting Obama as a terrorist because his name is BARACK OBAMA and that he and his wife gave each other a "pound" on national television.

He has told America that he isn't a Muslim. Nothing against muslims (in which they were a little bit upset) but he is a Christian man and values that Christians have. He wasn't dissing the latter culture, but he were trying to remove and fictitious stories about him that will hinder him from taking the Oval Office. But what I don't understand is that because he is not your traditional candidate running for office, he has to get bashed twice as hard. There are many aspects that he has going for him. He is a people's person, a real person, has a swag about him, looks out for the middle working class, he came for a middle working class, he is well rounded, a good speaker, a good listener... so on. Yeah the media talks about him FLIP FLOPPING - yeah so?? Can't a man change his mind? And he really actually didn't change his mind - but just had a different insight on an issue. But he has remained solid on a variety of issues.

I see it as he is a black man who has proved to America that he can, and might, be the President of the United States - but still can't get a break! Come on man, let's jump out of the 60's and come to the new millenium! Everyone knows that he is a good candidate for the presidency. He beats Bush anyway - In my opinion anyway! Yeah, most people say that we are going to vote for him because he is black. Well to some yeah, and to others yeah. But he is a BLACK MAN that has GOOD SENSE - HAS SOMETHING VERY GOOD TO SAY - if THEY only would listen and stop being ignorant assholes! His economic policy can be seen at: <http://www.barackobama.com/issues/economy/>. Which is a very great one indeed. We are on the verge of changing they traditional way that our FOUNDING FATHERS established back in 1776. More than two centuries have passed, TWO CENTURIES! Can Obama get a break?

I AM A PROUD SUPPORTER OF OBAMA. CLEARLY I, AND THE REST OF AMERICA, RECOGNIZES THAT HE IS A BLACK MAN. BUT NOT THE STEREOTYPICAL BLACK MAN THAT IS SO EASILY PORTRAYED IN MOVIES AND TV SHOWS. NO HE IS ACUTALLY TALKING A GREAT DEAL ABOUT MAJOR ISSUES THAT AFFECT US ALL. BELIEVE IT OR NOT, HE IS MOVING UP TO GREATER HEIGHTS - AND I PREDICT HE WILL WIN AMERICAS HEART, TRUST, AND VOTE.



July 20th

The Boss is Right

My manager is a cool guy. I mean he has turned the Ruby Tuesday's on Ponce around, from the clientele to the workers. I applaud him for what he has done.

BUT,

He seem to have this issue with black women. He flirts with us, sort of fun and not really serious flirting, but he does flirt. He always has stories about everything, and even though they are not funny, I laugh at the fact he is trying to impress me by his sad stories. But my demographic is sort of the punch line of his jokes. He, indirectly, say that all black women have hair weave when it is straight because there is no way our real hair can be straight. He indirectly say that we are ghetto with no higher education. And he think that he can say this because he has a BLACK WIFE. I guess he jokes like that with her, but it isn't funny to me that he sets us in this one jar.

Black women are enlightened with differnt shades of color, different textures of hair, and different attitudes. Granted yes, some black women dominates the scene acting irrate and foolish in certain situations and in certain environments, but not all of us are like that. For a man to be in such a high place in the restaurant industry, he isn't very much educated on the issue. We are not all "ghetto" and "hood". One day he said something and it got to "yo' mama" jokes. He said, "You don't want to go there with me. I went to an all black high school, so I know what the deal is." Is he trying to say that all blacks do is sit around high school and waste our lives telling yo' mama jokes?

I mean just because he has a black wife and kids doesn't make it right that he can say these things, INDIRECTLY, about black women. We aren't all ghetto, act out, and talk slang. (Not downing my sista's who do.) But some of us do talk proper, not white, but we talk PROPER because we are trying to be the stereotype. I mean what the hell?

Yes my manager is a white man. A co-worker told me that I was his Ruby Tuesday's "trophy wife". (Which means that he will put me on a pedestal and a reflection of what he has worked so hard at Ponce Ruby Tuesday.) He said I wasn't like the rest of the black girls there. He is a nice, caring man, but does this give him a right to make my kind the butt of his jokes sometimes?



July 23rd

Second Chances

What's so bad about second chances??

First and foremost, I have been to the lowest point of my life. He took me there, and I thought that I was going to stay there. I even had this little fling with someone in trying to get over him. It worked for the most part, but he came right back in my life.

What is it about our "significant other" that no matter how hard they messed up, we are willing to forgive them? (This could be a woman or a man, I am not sexist, for this conversation anyway.) But seriously, they mess up with us - they take their time to test the waters, and realize they had someone GREAT at home. So what is the big deal if I would like to get back with that person. To me he has genuinely proven his wrong, constantly say that he has to deal with the fact that I won't be able to trust him right away, and we are taking things slow.

In the back of my mind, I wanted him back. No matter what anyone says, I really wanted him back. Now I have the most hard working, genuine, sincere man I could ask for. He is so grounded in his aspirations that he doesn't have any time but to do that. I know everything is cliché but, deep down inside I know he has changed. That gut feeling that I once had while he was lying and cheating on me, somehow he has proven that he doesn't do that anymore, and now I really don't have that mind frame. I think that he realizes his mistake, knowing that I am that woman he always had a need for, and somehow I proved that to him while he was messing around. He realized that there was actually a girl out there that wasn't trying to get the best of him. I didn't want his money, his good looks, his charm, his success...He realized that I wanted him. And this vulnerable girl he saw was the right one for him. He didn't have to take abuse no more from his ex anymore because he genuinely saw that I wasn't out there to hurt him.

So again I say, what is so bad about second chances? I mean, God gives us second, third, a hundred chances, so who am I to be such a judgemental person? Deep down inside, I really want to be with him because he has my best interest. We may not get along someday, but he is there for me GENUINELY! (I keep saying that, but it's true.)

And it feels so good to know that someone has your back. I feel like Sheila off of Why Did I Get Married when she found her 80. I already had mine, but he had to grow into an 80. (He wasn't a 20, but more like a 50.) And you know me, any guy who is with me is very lucky to have me. I think I am a 100 but I don't want to toot my own horn! LOL.

I know the saying goes, FOOL ME ONCE SHAME ON YOU, FOOL ME TWICE SHAME ON ME. But I know I aint going to be fooled twice. There is a thing that people have to realize, its alright for you to go back to the person that hurt you if in your heart you want that person, and they want you to really work out. (It'll be a fool to go back and that person doesn't want you back.) But if they know they messed up and messed up a good thing, they will do everything in their power to make it work. Prayer and taking your time with things this time around will make it work.

I know it was a mission of mines to correct this brotha of mine. He had all the right potential but his priorities were in the wrong place. It took me, someone he actually loved, getting hurt for him to straighten up and fly right. And I am so lucky he did and did with me.



July 28rd

PEOPLE

Like for real, here it go.

Ignorant people are the most selfish, inconsiderate, pompous assholes one will ever meet. Like shawty, so many situations went on today - too much for one blog, but I am going just let out a breakdown of my day.

First of all, this asshole who calls himself a man, and protecting my feelings, sent me 7 voicemails cussing me out, degrading me, calling me out of my name, showing out - and on the eighth one he going to say, "You know what, I am just going to pray for you." WTF?? I'll take prayer any day, but you, mf, going to pray for me when you said some dumb *** ****, and saying that I ain't ****. YOU GONE' PRAY FOR ME! Nah, bruh, but thanks though. Maybe you need to get your ass together and meditation on your own damn time. Fuck you and what you got to say because:

- a) I was wasting my time with your ass in the first place
- b) I don't respect men who call women out of their names. Disrespect me? **** Nah!
- c) Nuff said.

(But I did mean everything I said in "Second Chances". I do believe in those. I did believe in him, I still do. But that ain't for me.)

So, shake it off Nikki, because he ain't worth your time. There are people in your corner who cares and actually respects you. Okay, have a good day at work and call it a day.

So at work, right, I got to deal with this asshole of a boss, who is so in love with me, but still doing the same dumb **** and thinkin' it is okay. I just thought about it the other day. Innocently flirting or not, he shouldn't be doing his wife like that, and he shouldn't be doing me like that because i am tired of his games. He play to damn much and I

ain't got time anymore. They treat their employees like shit and expect us to put up with it. The best way they are going to learn is if I up and quit, and if all my goals are met this week, that will be pretty soon. NO TWO WEEKS, HOW BOUT SURPRISE UP AND QUIT. So he acts the usual, so I had to put up with it for the night.

Aiight. Middle Eastern announce themselves because they had a party of 60 come into the restaurant tonight. K. But 30 minutes before they arrive is not enough time for us to get ready. We had 3 servers on and me, the bartender. Then, on top of that we had people still coming in, ordering after 10, the time we close, coming in at 10:30 and joining a party to eat. I ain't got time for that shit. The cooks were upset and so was I. How in the hell you going to do that, and how in the hell our manager is going to let that happen? Then leave you a 3 dollar tip in a \$70 check and think it's cool.

NEW LAW IN EFFECT: PEOPLE NEED TO SERVE AT LEAST 2 WEEKS OUT OF THEIR LIFE WITH NO OTHER MEANS OF INCOME, BUT JUST TO WAIT ON TABLES FOR TWO ENTIRE WEEKS. (I guarantee, promise on my life some people won't do some of the dumb shit they do at restaurants.)

You know what else? I hate people that can't do their job. I went to Walmart the other day to get a key made and I waited for about a minute until the keymaker was done talking to whoever he was talking to. Like, what the hell is that? Why do I have to wait for the conversation to end. And then they get an attitude like, "No this heffa didn't just interrupt my conversation because she want a key made?" Like, the hell?

Or when you driving and you pass someone on the left because they are driving slower than you, but when you try to pass then they speed up? Like, is it a race? Why the hell you weren't driving that fast in the first place. What you mad cuz I am passing you?

LOL! All this shit funny to me for real! Can't do nothing but laugh, but I am so serious though.

(Yes I did a lot of cussing in this blog. This wasn't even a blog. I was just venting because I am frustrated with dumb shit. But I truly apologize that I cussed so much in this blog. I try to do the right thing but sometimes I have to learn that everyone isn't like me. I didn't mean to curse. I know I am a lady. I'm calm now.)

Goodnight y'all!



August 1st

August 1, 2008

No name for the blog, just thinking about all that happened this week.

On my other blog, at the end, I was just wondering why people have bad customer service. I went to the library today at 9:00 in the morning. (I thought that they were open.) The doors were locked and I couldn't see any hours on the door. So I went on to work. Had a good day, came back to the library at 4:54 pm. I was very polite to the nice man there. I asked him how to use the computer. (I know I may seem slow but you have to sign in to a computer first to get on a computer.) He was explaining it and laughing with me. All was cool. Then this old lady, obviously who worked there, came in our conversation. I told the man that all I wanted to do was print. He said, "Well you better hurry cuz we close in 5 minutes." I said, "For real?" The lady says, "Yes we do." *Where the **** did she come from?* I said, "Oh, well I am sorry. I don't know the hours of operation." So he proceeded in giving me a sheet of the DeKalb county librarys' hours. I told the man, "Thank you," looked at the old bitty, and kept it moving. She must of thought that I was trying to mess up her groove and I was playa hatin'. I really wasn't! (For more on the elderly tune in to [You Think I Owe You Something?](#))

Just horrible attitudes!

Like the Wal-Mart situation. Where I go yesterday? I went somewhere and I had to wait until they were finished talkin'. Like, that's what's hot on the street? Say word? LOL!

Whew!

What else? My manager is still acting retarded again, like the hell! I think I should report him. This is what he does (painting the picture):

I'd say something like: *Man, bartending have my nails rough!*

He'd say: *We'll gon' get your man to take care of it!* (Was he saying that black women depend on our boyfriends to get our nails done? Why can't I get my own nails done?) ~ Or am I reading too much into it? I just got a lot built up from him making smart remarks.

I'm done having a Bitch Fit!



August 1st

You Think I Owe You Something?

I have much respect for the elderly and white people. (And if they are both, double my anguish!) The elderly paved the way for us, GENERATION NEXT.

But...(smack)...just because they are like 50 years older than me don't mean that they are right, always!

I mean, from the time they were my age and now, there have been a lot of updated technological innovations, more inventions - basically they have moved out of the "cool crowd". Both demographics walk around, with their nose stuck in the air and act however they please. For instance: have you ever walked behind them in the mall or at a theme park? They will stop all in the way of you and make sharp turns in your way, cut in front of you, this and that and expect for me to say, "Excuse me." They think that they can talk to you any kind of way and act like manners only apply to me, a younger or a blacker person.

The hell?! THEY ARE JUST PLAIN RUDE!

I don't know how they ran stuff back then, but in the new millenium, we respect everyone. I don't owe anyone, not even my mother, anything. I don't mean it in a disrespectful way, but I don't. I do owe her a lot of respect for what she has done for me and sacrafices she has made for me, but I am her child - I don't neccessarily OWE her. Moving on, I definitely don't owe anyone an apology for me being in their way. I see it as they are in my way, so who wrong?

I feel like I'm not.

Like manners is a universal thing. It isn't for just the young to obey so when we get

older we can expect the same thing?

That's whats hot now? Say word?



August 1st

~YOU TUBE RESPONSE~ Bow Wow Interviews "The hata"

YouTube - bow wow interviews the hater

I thought I was done for tonight, but I have no life on a Friday!

I was watching U TUBE, surfing the website, and I came across Bow Wows interview with everyone's "hater". Its so funny because like he make some very valid points in this lil' video.

What is the real definition of a hater though? Like a good one? There was this lady named Atlanta Sista on U tube. She was saying how the definition of what most people think a hater is isn't really a hater. Atlanta Sista's closing remarks was that maybe the person just don't like you. You saying that he/she is hating on you but in all acutality, they just may not be vibeing with you on something. But just because a person don't like your outfit, shoes, hairstyle - they hating on you? *Really?* - This was her point. They ain't hating on you, they just don't like your outfit. You have your taste and they have theirs.

But really though, what drives a hater to hate? Jealousy, envy - same thing right?

That's the only things that I can think of. I don't understand, it but I guess everyone has a hater or two. Katt Williams said, "Let them muthat f****ers hate. That's they job." But Bow Wow said that at least if it's your job, get some money out of it, you basically hating for free. But a hater is a hater, some people don't know they are haters either. I am probably a hater, lemme think about it...ummm NOT.

Someone I was talking to told me that he was talking to some females about me and they was like, "Why you even talk to her? She ain't shit!" Whoa buddy, I'm not, but I guess you are? I thought I was for a minute until your hatin self told me I wasn't. Now, for real, what if I listened to what *he said she said?* I would think I ain't shit, but of course I do!

I give props to a woman who looks pretty, has a nice hair cut or one of those cute summer dresses. I do because why would I say under my breath, "She ain't all that!" when I know she is? Personally, a hater is a motivator - someone who isn't believing in what you said you are going to do, someone who isn't giving you your props when you know its due. A hater can be an inspirator - like Jia who has plenty of haters and without them she wouldn't have 10,000 subscribers on her you tube and her own website. A hater is someone who holds you to what you used to do and can't quite accept you as the beautiful, successful and mature person you are now, don't I know! If you have it going on, drive a nice car, got a nice somebody on the side, have their stuff together I applaud you. Go head! Do your thing! Don't give a fuck what a hata got to say (Rick Ross said this) and let a hata hate (Manio said this). Come to think about

it, a lot of people got hata's. So who really are the ones hatin' if everyone is getting hated on?

Hummmm. Say word son? LOL.

Watch Katt Williams: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZxxPLDZnqwA> and <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vQRbDSwZIME&NR=1>. He's so funny!

Y'all, Goodnight!



August 6th

Transformation

Everytime I pass through a stage that I think has helped me grow into the mature lady that I am, I go through a reflection and a re-evaluation of myself. I go through weeks of just beating myself up about a situation, or some situations, that I just experienced. "The best is yet to come Amber, so get yourself together!" I said to myself lately. I used to be so passionate, so energized, so helpful, so positive, so loving...and now I want it all back. I am this grinch at work, this grinch at home, and this grinch to the ones I love. WHY? I just want to be back to the libran that I am, ready to go and help others. I don't care about anyone but myself and it has been scaring me lately.

I think everyone goes through something like what I am experiencing. Maybe not so outspoken, so passionate about changing, but other people have ephiphanies too. (I am not the only crazy one.) I think I know why, for me anyway. God has this big plan for my life, and I have been straying from it for the past three months. I have been worried about the wrong stuff - men, money, and more money. Instead of putting my trust in him about all of my issues, I have been trying to do things my own. Now, I am back to square one. Numero uno. And it isn't fun to say the most! I have been feeling so drained in my spirit and soul, and my physical have been also drained. I am overworking my body, and I don't have to.

Last year around this time, I was getting myself together from a horrible summer with rumors, breakup pains, and sorority disunity. I was stressed enough, with the fact it was my last year in college. (Secret - I didn't think I was going to graduate until this December.) So last year was a big deal. New summer, new stresses. This summer I recently graduated, but not doing the thing I truly love, WRITING. It is hard to get an entry level writing job, period. Like most professions, you have to have experience. And marketing firms want to hire you right out of college, but I do not desire to do anything in sales. Maybe PR and Advertising, but no SALES! I found out my boyfriend was cheating on me, or cheating on her with me...something like that, but I was definitely hurt by that. Then, to make things worse, I am still waiting tables at Tuesday's. I would enjoy it if I was making a few hundred dollars more and my boss wasn't so sexist, but I just don't like it anymore.

So, with that, and the fact I don't want to live in the place I do now, I am in a real bind. My spirits are really low about everything. I am not enthusiastic anymore, I am not living

with a good spirit inside, and it is killing me.

Please excuse me if I have been distant, not really talking, or not really calling...but I have been moping in my sorrow.

Transformation begins today!



August 6th

Gender Roles: Old Fashioned or Right on Target?

Okay. Right, watching the *House of Paynes* tonight had me thinking about the roles men and women play in society. What are my roles and what are his roles. (His referring to the invisible man that I have.)

A lady is supposed to:

Cook

Clean

Prepare the kids for school

Work, but not make more money than him

Be a freak in the bed - that's if we want to keep our man

Stay a lady always

Look decent always

A man is supposed to:

Work hard all day to bring home the money

Pay the bills

Fix broken things - or pay someone to fix broken things

Get sex whenever time he wants

Maintain order in the household

First of all, are these correct? If so...read on.

Both parties have a lot to handle. Money is something, now days, that both man and woman make to have a combined household income to reach six didgets and to provide a good environment for their children to spend thier childhood. But SOME men ego trip if their woman has a higher income. They think that they aren't man enough to provide most of household income, being less of a provider than their woman. They have to wear the pants. They have to maintain order in the household, makes him feel like more of a man, and so does letting him pay for the bills. See the pattern, the job of the man is to have a big ego. When men think that they are inferior to a woman by any means, they do other random things in order for her to praise him.

Now the bible states that a wife should obey her husband. This is true. Some people misinterpret that verse. If you keep reading, the purpose of the wife obeying the husband is because the husband is supposed to lead his family wisely. But some men think that whatever he say do, the wife is supposed to do it - BUT THAT IS WHAT YOU CALL IGNORANCE, UGH!

Ladies, there is nothing wrong with making your man feel he is king. Make him feel he is your world. Men love this. This makes him know that he is doing the right stuff. Let him think he is maintaing order in the house, give him the love and attention he wants in the bedroom, shoot - let him pay all the bills if he want, because men are like dogs. No derogatory name, but like dogs, when you give him attention and "pat his tummy" he'll be good to you.

But that doesn't mean, men, that we have to do all the work affectionatly. You too need to know that we want to feel appreciated for the things we do. Putting up with nine months of kicking from your child, waking up while we are on maternity leave so you can stay sleep, catering to our children, cleaning messes we didn't make, preparing 2, maybe even 3, meals a day for you and the kids so you won't ask, "What's for dinner?", dealing with mother natures calling every month, maybe twice a month sometimes, and still have to go to work feeling like crap. We need appreciation too! I mean, it ain't hard work to compliment someone you love right?

I know what my step mother was saying when she wanted to be appreciated for cooking us meals. Technically it is her "role" but just for us to acknowlege that she wanted to feel appreciated.

We always want to say, "Well you supposed to do this and that," but just know what you are saying before we give someone a role.



August 12th

Tyra Show Commentary ~ Prejudice in Black Society

This show really heated me up on this topic. I have been wanting to write about it, but I was too lazy to, but this one guest on the Tyra Show today got me to typing.

Now, she said that light skinned women are better than dark skinned women. She used the word BETTER too, she didn't say that light skinned had more advantages, she said BETTER. Now to tell her side, she told Tyra that, growing up, her dark skinned friends were basically haters: hiding their boyfriends from her, telling her that she think she is all that, jealous of her long hair and things of the like. She also doesn't condone her son, who is 12 years old, to bring home a dark skinned black girl to her house. She said, "While he's under my roof, he isn't to bring one home, but when he gets out, he can do whatever." She then said, after Tyra asked why, stated that she doesn't want any dark skinned grand babies. Her son, as cute as he was, disagreed with his mother. He said that she was showing prejudice towards darker girls, but he said he likes all types of women.

Go boy! Tell your mama! (Not to mention the angry mob of dark skinned audience members who wanted to let her know that they are beautiful also and that she needed to check out her own personal issues within herself because self esteem played a major role.)

I consider myself in between, not light and not dark. I am in between those spectrums, a caramel color or as my name implies that I have an amber glow about me. But never would I think that I am better than a darker woman my age, and I don't think that a lighter person is better than me. We are all one race, African American or black (whatever one you prefer to be called) - so I don't think that the lighter you are the better because as black women, we are still at the bottom of the totum pole of life, degraded by our own men and looked down upon by others. So ignorance played a big role here.

I have come from a line of beautiful (blood) sisters who were both light and dark

skinned. All of them are gorgeous, and not to mention classy and fly. Personally, I confronted the issue of different complexions within myself earlier: I thought that two of my oldest sisters were prettier than I was, just based off of complexion. The other two older sisters were around my complexion, brown skinned. But they were pretty just as equally, not pretty to be a dark skinned chick.

What is the deal with that anyway? "Pretty to be dark skinned." The lady on the show said that dark skinned women have big lips, big and wide noses, and nappy hair. So what she was saying is that only lighter skinned females have good, long, straight hair. And only darker skinned females are the only ones to have nappy hair. I have seen both, and I have seen the opposite of both as well. So the misconception of dark skinned women is that they are "alright." When a dark skinned woman, however, steps out of that category of being "alright" she is labeled to be pretty for a dark skinned girl. I wonder do light skinned girls hear, "You are ugly to be a light skinned chick."???

I can understand that the lady was on the defense because, giving her the benefit of the doubt, she was friends with the darker skinned classmates and they did her wrong. But, dark skinned girls have been reaping the "consequences of being dark" (loosly stated) for a while. And while both sides of her argument have security issues, she shouldn't have said, "Light skinned women are better than dark skinned women." She was downing the latter to make herself look and feel good. She needs to take that up with the Lord or her psychiatrist.

As for me, I am friends with both shades with different types of hair, noses, and lips. But one thing we are confident of is that we are black women. Half black - half white, Asian, Hispanic, Latino, Alaskan, German - I warmly welcome all races, but more importantly on the topic, I welcome interracial blacks that feel they have no where to turn because their own race doesn't want to acknowledge them. The stereotypes of lighter skinned being "snobbish" and darker ones "ghetto" is ignorant and lame. Just plain lame. Like who does that? Because of insecurities within ourselves, if we see a lighter skinned girl - we got to stop saying, "She think she all that! She think she pretty and she not." (That's what you call a hater.) I used to do that, but I don't. People will tell you that I say a girl is pretty if I know she is. Why hate? And, "pretty for a dark skinned girl" line is played out. There are dark skinned girls who are pretty, prettier than caramel and prettier than high yellow.

This ain't the business black women, time for a change should come soon.

(Excuse any spelling, punctuation, grammatical errors - spell check isn't working.)



August 19th

UGH!

I really hate it that all these great dudes surpassed me in my quest to be with an "a"hole and now I am alone wishing that I hadn't've waited on this boy to grow up! Man! I just realized that I missed out on great opportunities because of him! That pisses me off! Whew alright! Glad that's over! 🤔



August 27th

~Drama within the DNC~

I have been really excited about the Democratic National Convention this week on CNN. I have learned a lot already in the first day of the DNC, and everything has been really exciting.

(Yeah, I am a patriot!)

But two things that really disturbed me that I have heard while the DNC is going on.

First: Like why would Hillary supporters support McCain now instead of Obama? Hillary is a Democrat and so is Barack - the first thing they have in common. Next, both share the same, or close to the same views - the second thing they have in common. Both do not want John McCain running the White House - so where is the logic in voting for a republican? If supporters were truly a fan of Hillary, they would join forces with her and equally support Barack Obama. But no, since their precious Hillary Clinton didn't win the Democratic ticket, they want to be anti-Obama and/or pro-McCain. It makes me wonder if they were TRUE Clinton fans to begin with - if they have to swing their decision from a Democrat to Republican. The news can cover it up by saying, "Well Obama hasn't reached out to Hillary supporters and haven't been in touch with the working class mothers (the ones who support Hillary the most) blah blah blah!" Obama doesn't have to reach an extra hand to Hillary supporters. Why? To work extra hard than he is already working? Umm....thanks but no thanks! This is only telling me that, and I don't see it any other way, is racism. I hate to throw that word out there, mainly because I am black, but that is how I see it. Point blank!

REAL TURE Hillary supporters will face the fact that she lost the Democratic nomination to Obama and equally supports her decision to help elect Barack Obama as president.

(But Hillary is the bomb though and that speech was outstanding!)

Next: I am speaking from my own thoughts. When Barack Obama is elected as president in November, many people are going to dislike the fact that the Commander in Cheif is going to be black. The very sound of that makes peoples' skin crawl. How I know this? I look on the History channel and see that White Supremacy groups are alive and well today. They think we, blacks, need to go back from where we came from. (This makes me wonder too because in all actuality I believe the Native Americans were here before whites invaded North America. I think I can recall that...I may be wrong, but this was taught to me in my high school and college history courses.) Anyway, so it is a little scary to me when I know, for an opinion, that some of these people will be out for him. It is sad, and ashame, but it is reality. I know that it goes across Barack's mind also. So the scare with the three idiots in Denver who was supposed to assasinate Obama on Thursday was quite terrifying.

Why in the world would those men try to assasinate Obama? He was running so that they could be living okay in America. I bet the cried about gas prices, no health care, no jobs - I mean c'mon they had to be low lifes. So they were really trying to kill someone that was fighting the system for them? Smart moves! Really smart!

People in their ignorance today is so funny. I swear, I hate ignorance.



August 28

I Like Quiche!

Have this ever happened to you?

Say you are eating something that most people have heard of but not quite tasted like escargot, calamari, scallions, or quiche! You like it right? So you eating it and the next thing you know some idiot says, "Eww! What is that?" or "Egh! You eat that?" or "Ewww, that look nasty!" while you were eating dinner, lunch what have you.

That is the rudest and most ignorant thing I have ever encountered while living. Like, I know I used to do that when I was young and rude and didn't know better, but don't you hate it when someone is rude enough to say these things while you were still eating? Like WTF?

This happened to me today. I was eating chicken and broccoli quiche today at work. I was tearin' it up too! Then my co-worker said, "Ewww! That's nasty!" I said, "What you don't like quiche? Its good! Have you ever had quiche before?"

He said no.

Like, the hell! First of all it is rude as H-E-double hockey stick to call someones' food nasty while they are eating. I'm sorry, that is improper etiquette and I really wanted to cuss him out for that. Like how is someone going to tell me that what I am eating is nasty? Am I not eating it? Why in the world would I eat something nasty to me? Do you eat food that's nasty? So obviously I enjoy quiche and that's why I am eating quiche. Just like some people like ketchup on their pickles, ranch on their french fries, ramen noodles fresh out of the pack, hot sauce on their chips, OR ketchup on their tilapia. Some people like sushi, scallops, crab, escargot, calamari, live roaches, or frog legs. Does that give us the right to let them know that we don't care for what they eat by saying, "That's nasty!"

Second of all, like, you never had it before? How are you going to tell me something is nasty and you never ate a piece? Like never? I was turned on by one of my friends by putting hot sauce on my ramen noodles. I spilled ranch on my fries one day and was turned on by that. So don't knock something until you tried it. (And even when you have and don't like it, don't be an a-hole still!)

My mother doesn't microwave her food, but warm her food up in the oven. When I microwave my chicken or something like that she turns up her nose and say "Ugh!" I mean stuff like that is rude. Like, for real, be adults and act like your mama taught you some manners. If she didn't, act like you got some sense. Excuse my french, I can't hold it no more Lord, but that shit is very irritating! Like you don't have to eat what the fuck I eat or how I cook my food! If I want my steak rare as fuck, shit leave me the hell alone! I'm the one that has to eat it!

Ugh! Get real people!

As you can see, yes it made me mad enough to write about! LOL!



August 30th

Okay parents, I am calling you out!

I went to the library today to print some things out I needed to study for. All 12 of the computers were held up so I had to wait until someone's turn was up. So I patiently waited: checking out SAT prep books, putting money on my card because I had to print. I look up - these two little boys, couldn't be no more than 6 and 9 years old, was giggling and the like. So I get disturbed a little - I mean a library is supposed to be quiet. But anyway, I live through it. Next thing I see is big bold green letters on their computer screen saying: (and I am going to show you how it looked too!) **yeah, ill f**k you anywhere, (something something) wit yo sexy ass (something something).** (Yeah, like in the 72 Ariel font!) I said, first of all these two boys need some glasses because that font is hella big! Next, do their little things even get hard yet to do that? I mean really? (Eww, that's gross!) Third, like you had to go to the library to check your Myspace page? What are they even doing with a Myspace page?

Like, what in the world? Moms? Dads? Anyone can tell me what is going on?

First of all, your kids are using a learning institution, the library, as a means of using up computer space for those who really need it to look at photos of people on Myspace. Like if it isn't for a project, researching and such like that, your butts need to be off the library's computers! Ugh! Secondly, where in the world are these kids learning to say these things to girls? They start so young! It kills me! I understand some households are only one mother or father who can't control or screen your child when he or she is out...but look at what they are doing with their time? You get offended when people, like myself, say, "Well you need to control your child," but who else is going to control them? Their DNA, I'm sure, is not the teachers or the government. Them kids are yours! Oh, I get it. When they come home saying, "Ma, I'm pregnant" or "I just got this girl pregnant," then you want to get upset?

I say, be smart in the first place when you say, I want to have children. If you have sex unprotected and/or don't have birth control, yeah, you ready! So don't get mad when situations get tough, your man leaves you or denies you and your baby, or when the mother wants to decide that she isn't ready or that she is a junkie - the child is still yours! You made your bed now lay in it! What does this have to do with what I am saying? Clearly, it is still your responsibility to grind in them values, lessons, education, manners and respect for others. If they see you doing it, no matter how much you tell them not to, they are still going to do it. **ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS** my dear.

If so, I wouldn't have seen what I saw today in the library. I wouldn't see the 5 year old girl booty shaken' on a 5 year old boy while the adult was filming it. Like you really think that is cute? Think again.

And then, let me tell you, at the library when it is your turn for a computer, and the other person has to get off, it lets you know who is assigned to that computer. I was looking at the screen because I knew my time was approaching. This girl just sat herself at the computer I was assigned to and started to type in her information. I guess she thought that it was her turn, but on the computer it said, **THIS COMPUTER IS ASSIGNED TO ZELLNER**. Now I know she could read and I know her last name isn't Zellner. This is what I be talking about, no manners! This is why your children get in fights at school.

Let me go.

Say word!

September 8th

Survivor

[YouTube - Survivor - Destiny's Child \[HQ\]](#)

yep. this is a High Quality rip from the 2001 UK release of the Survivor CD.

Another song on the Destiny's Child tip.

So, this song popped into my head a couple of days ago. (Right in the nic of time too!)

Why do people think that you need them in your life? Like life, without them, would be a struggle? That you won't make it without them? Humm...lemme think NOT! Actually, since they have been gone, my life actually picked up so thanks for the invite back into your life, but my life has been alright.

Destiny Child firmly sings, "Now that you're out of my life I'm so much better, thought that I'll be weak without ya, but I'm stronger...thought that I'll be sad without ya, I laugh harder!" LOL! (Whew! That's funny in itself!) Nah, for real though, with ex-friends, ex-boyfriends/girlfriends even family that you were once tight with like that, think that you are going to be a wreckage without them. (Like if I wasn't already a disaster with them – over exaggerating.) I checked my blood pressure today, boo, I'm fine! – Like Mary J.

You know what this fool said to me? "No one is going to treat you like I did. You aren't going to be truly happy. I know this." What jiggaboo? Huh? Repeat yourself? The next person I am going to be with is going to make me happy? You know my secret? Because the next person I am going to be with, God already ordained. So I know I am going to be straight! See, the problem is, is that you know you messed up. You know that you did wrong and the way to justify yourself is to tell me that I am going to be miserable without you. Please, don't speak that into my life. I speak life, not death!

I could see if you had it going on like that. You treated me like your queen, said everything you meant and proved it to me by your words – I can see how you can get your hypothesis. But it didn't happen that way. I was straight with you – and I'll be straight without you.

But, anyway, just needed to vent because this person is not going to hold my spirit down. I wasn't even going to write this, but writing is good for my soul. I let go of things while writing about them. You are officially let go. BE GONE!

“Wishing you the best, pray that you are blessed with more success, no stress, and lots of happiness!”



September 8th

The Retard National Convention – aka the Republican National Convention

Class reunion roll call...

The most likely to be a RETARD – Mitt Romney.

The most likely to be a success at RETARDATION – Rudy Giuliani.

The best all around RETARD – John McCain.

New, but well known, Miss RETARD 2008 herself – Sarah Palin.

(And a special shout out to all the retards in the RNC that really hooped and hollered down in the audience!)

Yeah! Whoooo Hoooo!!! NOT!

I just don't get Republicans. Like, I really think that the ideology behind these people have digressed over the past century. They are the ones who were so called "anti-slavery" activists, but now they don't give a flying fluck about no one but their own rich butts! Delegates at the RNC didn't say anything miraculous to us commoners. The middle and working class make up more than 50% of the U.S. population and not once did they include them, directly, in their speeches. You had to really listen closely to what the retards were saying. And even then I wondered, "Did he just say something to affect me?"

Republicans are supposed to have morals, dignity, and integrity – all the characteristics that Barack Obama possesses. The personal attacks against his character and judgment was flat out wrong and disgusting. (Judgment that he proved outstanding, given the fact he opposed Bush on more than a million occasions.) Rudy and Miss Sarah did a horrible job in portraying a real Republican. But the crowd just cheered them on. It was sickening!

Instead of sticking to the issues that America wants to hear, they stuck with bashing Obama. Instead of including the middle/working class in their speeches, they bashed Obama. Instead of talking about healthcare and the economy, they bashed Obama. So – my question is to them – do they not have a game plan for America? Do they not care about those people who are stuck with a job and no benefits, without healthcare, who lives off of tips, who lives paycheck to paycheck, and who need a tax relief. No sir! Their objective is to win over the old banker looking rich folk – who got their lives together, who have about 7 houses, who don't even know the word STRUGGLE. Sorry I don't have my life together like that – and neither do most Americans.

Grand finale – when McCain spoke last Thursday. I can't even hate on that man. The speech was well put together, trying to speak to ALL OF AMERICA and giving us some red meat to hold on to for those deciding voters and those swaying voters. (Swaying voters? I mean the ones who were Republican in the first place but voted for Clinton because she was a woman.) I give him that, because he was talking to all of us. He even gave props to Obama and all of his supporters at the beginning of his speech. And I do give him “big ups” because he was a POW, suffered for his country. Nothing but respect for the man.

But, McCain don't have that swag like Obama. He can't even read the teleprompter correctly. I mean I know Obama stutters a little, but McCain doesn't, and he was messing up big time! He showed no emotion in his speech, so it was monotone. On his key points in his speech, he didn't have versatility in his voice, so the crowd was kind of confused on when to cheer. I swear the teleprompter had breaks where it read “(SMILE NOW)”. (That smile he had was so scary in itself.) He isn't a peoples' person. He had to extend his stage so that for the first time he could be out there with his people. I mean, for God's sake, he is 72! Man enjoy retirement and have a seat McCain!

CHANGE? How is McCain going to steal Obama's campaign slogan? Dead wrong. He understood that people want change in the government. We don't want the next 4 to

imitate the last 8. Obama knew from the get go that America needs change, he didn't make up his mind in the middle of his campaign trail. That's going to be a negative in my book.

I think Obama is winning America's heart. He is a great example of black reality. We do have stable homes in our community and he represents that. His wife is beautiful, and kids are adorable. Yeah, he changed his mind about certain things, but deeper he gets understanding and more knowledge he obtains. He has been through two different spectrums, growing up in a working class home to maintaining his upper-middle class family. So he knows, and yet didn't abandon our dream. He know people are still struggling and trying to make it.

All I want to say on Sarah Palin is she is a nice lady, but she needs to maintain her family before trying to get to Washington. She has five children, and 1 with DS. Her kids are all minors too. They need their mother. Children crave a mother's touch before father's. That's reality, and she needs to deal with that. Ol' selfish McCain wanted her just to get Hillary voters – so she should feel used for sure! More and more of her skeletons are coming out. What if it comes out that two of her children aren't with the same father. What are the Republicans going to say to cover that up?

Hypocrites – definition of today's Republican.

VOTE OBAMA FOR REAL CHANGE!



September 11th

Throwback Joint - Ol' Dusty!

(Wrote this back in 2005!)

First and foremost, I would like to apologize in advance if I, in any way, offend anyone.

But I have to get this off my chest. If I call you a dusty, it is not a good thing. I am referring to a male individual. (Although girls can be referred to as "ducks," which is a later discussion.) Let me break it down...

The first characteristic of a dusty is a "grown ass man," or whatever he calls himself, still doing and acting juvenile. He is disrespectful and incompetent of doing anything that I, as a girlfriend, ask him to do. He would rather smoke and/or drink with his homeboys, matter of fact just chill with his homeboys, watch every game that comes on, check his email, ride around in his car all day, than to have, or keep up, a mature relationship. When I see him, he is doing aimless and pointless things. (Which makes me think he's aimless and pointless.) He is not on my level, for sure. He calls young ladies "hoes" and "bitches". He is in college just to be in college rather than an educational obligation... He's a man who may have no goals, ambitions, or career objectives. If the dusty graduated from college or dropped out, he's kickin' back letting his girlfriend and/or mother take care of him. He is a boy that would just rather stay in the street and "do him," whatever that means. If he is not at least on the same level mentally, spiritually, emotionally not trying to discriminate, then he cannot be with me.

Baggy jeans, white tee's - I'm tired of that scene! A young man who hasn't put his "GROWN MAN" on, that is what a DUSTY is!

Is that you?



September 15th

Men Problems or My Problem?

Yesterday I had a emotional moment.

I had a talk with one of my growing male friends. He said some stuff that really made me cry a little tear. For some reason, I think I can trust him with what I say, and he keeps it confidential, which is a plus in my book.

But he asked me, "You know how you said that your ex told you that no man is going to put up with some of the stuff that I did?"

I told him that I remembered.

He said, "I can see what he means!"

In a nutshell, he told me that I am too demanding, wanting things my way, and not settling until that happens. Otherwise I turn into this impossible to please woman that tends to push people I want in my life away! I close off from people when I get mad, and have sort of an attitude.

HUH???? (Am I this way for real?)

I took a gander, quick little gander, and how this can be true! I am the person, I admit, that I don't like people showing me the real me. I don't like to admit the negative aspects of myself. I respect their opinion, but I cannot seem to grasp what they say is actually true.

So my last boyfriend told me that, and my last last boyfriend also told me that I am this way. They both told me that no other person is going to put up with some of the things I put them through. Not that I was a bad girlfriend, in my opinion, but I had this idea of what a relationship should be like. They said I watch too many movies, and that stuff is for Hollywood. I am living real life. TRUE. But do we adapt to some of society's standards and not the others? (Like its cool for a woman to take care of the kids because it is her job as a mother to do so, but its not okay to expect a fairy tale relationship?) I have seen the fairy tale relationship; my good friend has one. And it is great! She tells me things about what they do together, surprises her with gifts to say "I love you" or "I'm sorry", takes her on trips (even on spring break when spring break are most couples' break from one another), helps her out when she really needs money to pay for her phone bill...stuff like that. (Oh, it's plenty more from their relationship. I am starting to get jealous.)

But, to some extent, I haven't received that treatment. Now, some people may say, "Well, Nikki, you are right for leaving him." THAT'S THE POINT I AM TRYING TO

MAKE!

If a man I am dating is going to talk the talk, I expect him to walk the walk. I am not going to just settle for someone who isn't walking, let alone talking. They are just standing still, content with what they are doing. Not me! I am sorry that I expect my man to do this and that for me because I know they can. (Taking my friend's relationship as an example.) My problem is that I tend to go with someone that isn't maturing on the same rate as I am. It really doesn't take that much to please me. I am more of a "spend time with me" girl than a "spend money on me". The little articles on msn.com that have the 5 DATES UNDER \$20 – the picnic in the park, the movie at home date, the errand date (where the two just pick up groceries, go get the car washed, go and get the oil changed)...stuff like that.

If a man wants to spend more money on me than time – GOTTA GO! If he thinks that spending time with me is when we go to sleep and I don't see him until then – GOTTA GO! If he thinks that the phone conversations are going to have to suffice – I'm sorry boo but you GOTTA GO!

So, until then, keep on Nikki and do your thing. Expect the greatest and don't settle. Sometimes, I get picky and a little feisty, but I have a right to expect a man to know me, inside out, to know what I want, don't like to do. I have a right to want my man to have a car, job, cash, career goals, dreams and still have time for me. I know HE is true.

So I'll wait, and I'm going to keep doing my thing until he pops up! (Or has he already?)



September 18th

Barack Obama Tribute

~Barack Obama: TRIBUTE~

For all the criticism that you seem to endure,
For all the hope in America you seem to restore,
I thank you so much for being that ONE,
Who fights a fair political fight until you have won.
I know the going is getting tough now,
Probably you look at some media remarks that may get you down.
But you, the first Black man to ever get the nomination
On the Democratic side, you are the demonstration.
You give me hope and raise much glee
As I see you on TV everyday fighting for me.
And this year will go down as the year to remember,
But don't worry, as you know, McCain won't win in November.
The thing I really give admiration,
Is that you came from the previous generation.
Where MLK stood firmly upbeat,
Where JFK took the presidential seat,
Where my parents watched the movement in the South,
And, 20 years prior we had a financial drought.
Past - gone, Present - changing,
Future - America, Obama's new baby.
You stand firmly to your word with such intamacy,
As you lay down your plans made just for me.
Tax relief, Healthcare, Moderate off-shore drilling
And this - so much more than McCain is willing.
He put me on the back seat of his economic plan,
To get the applause from his old banker friends.
Not you, oh no, you understand my trouble,
Trying to get a job with pay more than double
Than what McCain is trying to do.
So who would be the fool and not vote for you?
Thank you for being the hero of the century,
Someone for my kid to look up and read.
McCain tried to steal the focus of your campaign,
But what about him that even says the word "CHANGE"?
It's time to shake up Washington, throw out the old,
That's why I am going to Barack the Vote.

September 23rd

Rambling ~ Work, Traffic, and White families

I am so excited about my new job!

I get up everyday at 6 a.m. like a grown lady, stay all day, break, and get right back in traffic to go home! And this beats working a 6 hour day at Ruby Tuesday with no traffic and up the street! And the work isn't that bad! Once you get the hang of it, it's a piece of cake! (But I haven't got the hang of it yet.) But I will!

As I do drive to my destination and back home, I am stuck in this thing called traffic! It isn't that annoying, but I think you learn how to drive better if you sat in more than a weeks worth of traffic jams! There were plenty of cars behind me that shot over in the other lane because I was driving slowly. Yeah I was but, the only reasons were because

#1 – my gas was low and I need to make it all week

#2 – it was still traffic! By this I mean that they somehow thought traffic was only in my lane. They thought that by moving to the right lane, they were going to pass by with a breeze. NEGATIVE! I was going a constant speed, slow but constant, in my car so I would avoid having to make frequent stops along the road. So when they sped up in the other lane and stopping, I was cruising on by them. (Then they got in the back of me!) Ain't that crazy?

So anyway, while in traffic this morning, I noticed something. In the predominantly white elementary schools, parents really walk their kids to school! Like, I thought that happened in movies and books. But I saw it! (I am not ignorant to the fact, but it really surprised me!) They were all on the side walks, and it was a lot of them too, with their dogs, baby strollers, and their school aged kids with smiling faces and their khaki shorts! It was so adorable! To me, white people are always happy! When you see them, it's like there is no care in the world with them. They handle stress easily...that got to be the reason. There is absolutely nothing wrong with it, I am really admiring that they do walk their kids to school with smiling faces and baseball caps with clogs! It also seems to me that they must go in to work late, or don't work at all. They must have been stay at home/ work from home moms and dads!

WAY TO GO!

That's all for my randomness...

Bye! 😊



September 29th

Workplace Blues...sigh

Don't get me wrong, I love my job. I keep thanking God every time I get a chance because he has blessed me with a job, during a time of recession.

But I seem to not fit in with the other workers.

I have been there for two weeks now, and no one has extended their hand to talk to me once. I know how it is when someone is new to a company. They don't know the ropes and don't know people. While I was at Ruby Tuesday, with a whole cast of new co-workers, I extended myself as a friend because I know how it can get when people don't talk to you since you are new. When I was new at Ruby's in downtown Decatur, I stayed to myself, and eventually people warmed up to me when they saw how nice and genuine of a person I was, then I turned into a social butterfly there. (And they still joke with me about it.)

But I am at this great company, and no one wants to give me "hello" or "hey"? I have never encountered this problem before. When I am new at a job, someone always had the courage to be inviting guests to me. But now I feel left out, rejected by my new company that I love to work for.

I talk to the immediate people that work with me, the agents I work for. They are nice, especially the one I share an office with, Lisa. She is so nice and has a beautiful southern accent. But the agents I work for are a little older than me, however, and in another demographic, so there is but so much that I have in common with them. The black women stare at me when I come in or walk by and just look. It's one thing to not really care for me, but to stare at me too? Great!

Maybe my attitude doesn't mesh well with theirs. I am a little quite around the office, really don't be out of my office...maybe that's what it is! But then again, I don't know. I tried to be friendly with all of them, but they just be looking. So, now I am really contemplating on just doing me – I really don't have to talk to them, but I know it will be a pleasant thing to do so, but really, I don't have to.

Yeah, that's it! Just be Amber, do my work, and go home. Trying to impress someone is like taking an extra step to be noticed. It's if you sat at the lunch table by yourself by a group of friends and you laugh at all their jokes. You want to belong, and talk to someone while you are eating lunch, but the group of friends just doesn't include you, even might laugh at you. I don't want to be that person, so my best bet is for me to just continue doing what I am doing – making them stop dead in their work to look at me. I must be doing something right!

~laugh~

October 5th

Just because he did wrong...

Okay, I am a little perturbed about something.

I'm just going to give you the scenario because talking around it will get you confused, because it got me confused.

My friend had a boyfriend who cheated on her for their entire relationship. Like the ENTIRE time. So they broke up, and as much as she was heartbroken, she was finding ways to get over him, like I suggested to her. Not being a hater but just to let her know there are plenty of shells on the beach, no need to waste time on one that cut your feet up!

So anyway, she did. She has a little catchy feelings for this dude who she has known for a while. He even came to town and visited her while he was here one weekend. (Now I don't know what happened with that but I don't think she did anything crazy.) Anyway, recently she talked to her ex-boyfriend and he admitted that he went out and had sex with two other girls the entire time he was trying to get back with Sheila. (I told her he was no good.) He apologized to her and said he was just fulfilling his needs.

But, knowing that hurt her, he knew he was wrong. But, instead of taking it up like a man and admitting his wrong, he told her, "Well you went and spent the night with that nigga, so you wrong too."

Huh? She wasn't trying to get back with him, it was vice versa, and he is telling her that she is wrong for going out and getting a life outside of him? He really has some issues.

But really he said, "You messed up too." She was pissed at that, but what got me was that he can't man up for what he did and said it wasn't really nothing because he was just frustrated.

That make it right nigga?

I told her to gone about her business and leave that jigga alone.

But what is really the business with that?



October 5th

Me and My Randomness

This weekend was such a good time for me, thanks to Nikki, Jaye, and my co-worker Christian. I turned 23! Next year I am about to be 24....whew! That's old!

I saw Kesan from *From G's to Gents*. I am so lame. I said, "What's up? How are you?" He said "Blessed." I feel him. But I should have told him, "Man, I really wanted you to win," like Nikki said I should.

What is up with dudes and skinny jeans? Like, I am really questioning why would a dude want to wear skinny jeans that are tight around the knees all the way down to the ankles? I went to the FAMU game last weekend, and the SSU and Clark game this weekend and I was very questionable asking, "Why?" It is either Lil' Wayne or Lupe inspired. Lil' Wayne's jeans aren't that skinny though. Anyway, these dudes aren't them – but I admire the rock star look. But there are thickem dudes that have on skinny jeans. I am like, "Dag, he is thick and have on skinny jeans!"

This is the business?

Speaking of Lil' Wayne, doesn't he come out with a single every week? Like he is getting crazy paid. Either he has a single out or he is on someone's single. Either way, Lil' Wayne is getting down!

Man, I really can't wait until SSU HOMECOMING! I can't wait to see my sorors and old friends that are in Savannah. I miss them so much!

Speaking of skinny jeans and dudes, at the SSU and Clark game I saw that dude from College Hill, ya know the one that dude with the dreds thought was gay? The one that had the picture on the wall with himself with his shirt off, with his arm over his head? Yeah, he was at the game, with skinny jeans on!

My question for ya'll is why when you see someone that never talked to you while you were at school, say hello to you when you see them on the street? That kills me! Like, thank you for the southern hospitality, but you never talked to me while I was at SSU, now you want to speak? Maybe they just remembered my face and thought it was cordial to speak. That's so nice.

What else.....

Why give up a pearl for a pebble?

Nah!

Ummmm....that's it for all my randomness!

October 6th

Role Model

Do you ever wonder how other people see you?

Take a minute to just reflect: all the accomplishments, goals, important deeds, clubs, organizations, friends...the way you carry yourself, the way you don't carry yourself... the way you are. Look at all of those things that might reflect your disposition, demeanor, and character.

Now give yourself a pat on the back. Good job...well done!

You never know how others take the things you do as something they aspire to be or do.

I am just a 23 year old woman with a good job and my own car. I pay my bills and now I am getting my teacher certification at the end of the month. Things that I want to do, I persist until something pays off, and that's just me. I go through with everything that I talk about doing. (That is why I am so conscious of just "jumping" into things.) But overall, I would say that I am doing well for myself. Definitely don't want to brag because someone will always try to step on your while they are rising.

Yeah, my plans of having a family are put on delay as I am stepping into my 24th year of life. I was supposed to be at least happily engaged with the man of my dreams, planning the perfect fall wedding. But, I do understand that I want him, and myself, to be at least grounded and stable before all that happens. So I'll wait.

But the one person that admires me would be the same person that I admire – my closest sister. This weekend she deeply expressed her appreciation for me and how I am living my life. WHAT?? I am not doing anything out of the ordinary. I am just being me! Jaye has a wonderful life, she has a wonderful man that does everything she asks and provides everything she wants and needs putting his ego and wants aside just for her. She has a beautiful baby boy, who is melodramatic, but the joy that is in her life as well as mine. She has a good job that God blessed her with recently. (Or my other sister Kristy who, hopefully, has found her love while being an entrepreneur doing hair – she is very successful too! Or how about my two oldest sisters – have a family, kids, great husbands, and great jobs!)

Now that is something to admire!

Me, I am just her little sister – what does she want from my life when she has the great life of her own?

That's what I mean. You never know who looks up to you. It could be a friend or someone that went or goes to your college who see's you on a regular basis. You never know who is in love with your smile. You never know who admires you attitude

and confidence that you may think isn't a big deal. You never know!

You may not think you have it going on, but someone always thinks you do. So live your life to the fullest and know that you are just doing you – no one is better qualified for that position.

I'm out!



October 10th

~Musical Theme: Friendships~

I wrote this late in January, but never got to post it! Basically I was going through a lot with myself and the friendships that were burning around that time. Ladies and Gentleman, I have trouble with lady friends – keeping them and especially making them. So I wrote this just to clear my head and give myself some assurance. I sort of feel the same way now, but this was fresh in my mind at the time:

“That about your friends? Will they stand their ground, will they let you down again? What about your friends? Are they gonna be low down, will they ever be around...or will they turn their backs on you?”

Again TLC sings about something that is a social problem occurring everyday – at least in my little world anyway. That was from their first debut CD “OOO on the TLC Tip”. They sing about it again in their second CD “Crazy, Sexy, Cool”. In it they sing:

“I thought that I knew about them, thought they would never do me wrong. They smile in your face, all the time they want to take your place – them backstabbers!...Don’t want you to win that race, cuz if you do it’s gonna lessen their space, that’s when I decided to say...Goodbye, Goodbye to all the fake people in my life!”

It didn’t occur to me until now how fake, phony, two faced, backstabbing, say they are your “friend” people really are. If a person doesn’t like me, its cool. 9 times out of 10 the feeling is mutual, so no love lost! But I don’t go around talking about why I don’t like them...who does that for real?

Well she did. (But don’t want to call anyone out! ☐)

And for the littlest things a person can be so called jealous.

This is the reason why I can’t get along with other women. So many girls I know say that, but it is so true! They are sneaky and undermining, say or do anything just to put themselves in a “good light”, even if that means jeopardizing their friendship with you. And really, in all actuality, maybe they weren’t your friend to begin with.

‘Friend’ is a STRONG word that I don’t use loosely, especially now. I don’t call everyone a friend. I don’t really call some of the people that I talk to or chill with on a daily basis a friend. Because ‘friends’ have been stabbing me in the back since the 4th grade. (Now I am 22 and learning from them all.) And come to think about it, it was over some ignorant mess, but I can’t expect everyone to rise up to my level ☐

So hey, as for me – I learn from it and keep moving, still excited about life and happy that I am yet still holding on. I am comfortable where I am. I am finished making friends

and finished trying to hold on to acquaintances that weren't mean to last in the first place – they were in my life for a reason, and I do appreciate it.

Goodbye, to all the fake people in my life!

The reason, now thinking about it, for such backstabbing is because people used to take my gentleness for a weakness, thinking that I will be okay. All the secrets and confidentiality exposed – and some made up stories (that tickles me thinking about it). But, yeah, I'm stronger and I will carefully choose who I call friends now, best believe that! Cross my heart! And how stupid I was for being so personal with females that I hardly knew. But I was so "caught up" that I wasn't thinking. I really believed in the fairy tale friendship – ride or die. Yeah, they rode off – well some of them did. I buried the hatchet with some – it is now water under the bridge for me.

But it is a lesson learned.



October 14th

~sigh~

Broken heart again, another lesson learned, better know your friends, or else you will get burned....

...I gotta count on me, so I can guarantee that I'll be fine!

Just one of those not so good days, when trying to cheer myself up only leads to a dead end. I am just thinking about the advice I just received from a friend.

- I need to let things go! I have trouble holding grudges and think that someone owes me their arm and leg. It's about that time that I truly forgive!

- I am not extending my graciousness out anymore. Trying to catch up with old friends is a drag. Hoping that you two are on the same page isn't going to happen – because you aren't. Accept them for what they are and move on Amber.

- Next time for love (when it rings my doorbell) is going to be with someone that I don't know, or didn't go to SSU. That is my rule; like it or leave it! It's too much to deal with, too much to explain, and too much in the past.

...No more pain, No more games, No Drama – no more drama in my life, no one's gonna make me hurt again...

- I need to stop living for everyone else, and try living for myself. I am a people pleaser, too nice, put others before myself. (That's just me.) But I don't want to lose my character, but I am going to start living for myself.

JUST A QUICK RANT BEFORE I GO TO SLEEP (GETTIN' IT OFF MY CHEST – NO HEAVY BURDENS)



October 22nd

HE SHOULD PUT A RING ON IT - O, O, OH!

Hats tipped off to Beyonce!

All the Single Ladies! – She screams in one of her new singles. This song gets me hyped! I hope they play this in the club when I go to Savannah because this is my jam! She is telling her ex-man, “Shawty, if you liked it you shoulda put a ring on it! O, O, Oh!” Ladies, our ex shouldn’t be mad once he see someone else on our arm, once he hears that we have a new man, or once he notices that we are really out of thier lives – because we do move on and because he shoulda put a ring on it!

O, O, Oh!

Her next single, If I Were a Boy, almost had me crying in rage – yeah Amber is mad once again! I can’t even enjoy the beautiful song that Beyonce created because a brotha messed up my thinking and I can’t look at the video without thinking about this dusty! (Man, ol’ dusty!) But nah, the video really captures what men do often with women: put women off for their friends and work, skip out on meals that we especially prepared for him – that’s all I got to before I put it on pause. But, it gives a man a look from the outside how they really act towards us. (Mind you, not everyone notices the way he or she acts, but once he/she actually sees his/herself through an epiphany they begin to think.) Like, when someone tells me about myself – yeah I get offensive but I am mature enough to know that it can be true – I am bossy at some times! J

But, once again I say that women’s issues are expressed through the talented Beyonce. Some people may not like her, but I can’t hate on her – she is a legend, has her husband Jay-Z, makes hit after hit, and has a chunk of change in her wallet. Keep it up Beyonce! Men tell me all the time that Beyonce blows up our heads with nonsense talking about to tha’ left – she has her money so she can do whatever she wants to.

But the real reason is that Beyonce is telling the truth about busted and dusty nighas! LOL.

...and there are some that are busted and dusty!

But really, though, time and time again I see when Beyonce is interview in person or through some type of magazine, she tells that there are fans who write to her about their problems and circumstances – reason to make music to give encouragement to her fans. Take the Survivor CD, The Story of Beauty – she was telling someone that the group received a letter from a little girl who was raped by her step father. The group decided to do a tribute to her. So I imagine

that there are testimonies to Beyonce about busted and dusty nighas!

But let me stop co-signing for her and continue on with my life, but I just had to write this because Beyonce is blowing everyone away – rather it is because her music is bangin' or her name stands for itself – regardless though...

...he shoulda put a ring on it!



October 23rd

Don't know what to call this one!

10 things I wish I could say to 10 people right now:

(and yes they are 10 different people – even though some statements may look like it refers to more than 1 person though)

1. Thank you so much for being there as a friend and soror – my last two years of college was even more fun since we became so close. We hung out, had fun, meddled in drama, and drank gin and juice! LOL. I do consider you a friend – something that I don't consider everyone.
2. I don't know if I should proceed with this and make something happen just yet...I am cautious but flattered!
3. We both had something to do with it, but I am glad that it didn't work out – and also sad because we tried and it didn't.
4. Remember that I love you – even when you think that no one does or that no one is there for you. I understand that you are growing and maturing, and need a male figure in your life – but I am trying to make sure that someone will be there for you when you need them.
5. Shawty, you really ain't all that! Someone told you a lie.
6. Stop going back to your old college – leave it alone and let someone else have their college years. Get a grown up life!
7. Man, I thought you were a G, you let a woman change you around and took your pimpin' status.
8. I wish you hadn't said what you said – because you have so much potential and believe it or not, there are some females that like you and won't hurt you.
9. Honestly, I really don't care too much about you right now. You are totally stuck on yourself and stuck on stupid – and I refuse to be apart of that.
10. I am so freakin' proud of you! You are so intelligent and gorgeous! You make me wanna step my game up just a little!

9 things about me:

1. I am very appreciative and I get disturbed when it isn't returned.
2. I actually like being alone – undisturbed – most of the time.
3. I have big, brown, beautiful eyes – my best feature.
4. After much of constantly trying to manage my weight, I am now comfortable being my size – whether you want to call it skinny or petite, if you wanna hate – I'll still look better drenched in water wearing a sweat suit, with cowboy boots and a straw hat!
5. I love my sisters – we are the awesome foursome until we are dead! (LOL – if anyone watches GOOD TIMES!)

6. I wish I could be closer to my other sister Tellisa – and I am very excited that she is having a baby girl in March!
7. I am so random.
8. I am a funny, goofy, lovable person.
9. I really admire Beyonce's ambition, Jia's personality, and just everything about Tyra!

8 ways to win my friendship:

1. Be funny first of all – keep me laughing!
2. Be mature at the same time – and yes you can do that!
3. Know your goals and go after them – don't be dormant and I'm making moves!
4. Be sensitive.
5. Try not to be pessimistic in conversations and have negative advice.
6. Be a TRUE FRIEND – through thickness and more thickness!
7. Don't try and take my kindness as a weakness I have.
8. Have respect for me, my ideas, and my morals.

7 things that run across my mind:

1. It is funny how everyone's steps are ordered and karma is a bitch!
2. I can't wait until I finally grow my hair out.
3. When will I get married and who is the lucky man?
4. I am so glad that we are going to have an African American president – I hope there is nothing sneaky on election day!
5. Why can't people learn to agree to disagree?
6. Why are women trifling, sneaky, and backstabbers, or at least most of them I encountered?
7. I can't wait until homecoming!

6 things I do before I go to bed:

1. Study my GACE study sheets
2. Pray
3. Take a shower
4. Talk on the phone

5. Get a cup of drink
6. Stress/ worry/ meditate/ think

5 people who mean a lot to me:

1. Parents – without them it would be no AMBER NIKKI
2. Nikki Pooh – one of my closest friends now who keep it real
3. Adarius – friend for thousands of years
4. Alene – HS best friend
5. Devonni – 1st best friend

4 things I am wearing right now:

1. Turtleneck babydoll sweater
2. Jeans
3. Brown heels
4. Khaki jacket

3 songs I listen to often:

1. *Miss Independent* - NeYo
2. *I need you now* – Smokie Norful
3. Any Beyonce

2 things I want to do before I die:

1. Go to Europe by cruise and back
2. Become a professional writer, devoted wife, and caring mother of 1 – maybe 2

1 Confession

Sometimes I may feel like the most unattractive woman somewhere – then I snap back into reality!

(Whew glad that's over!)



October 23rd

SELFISH PEOPLE

There is one thing that I can't stand...

...and my friend and I was talking the other day about it.

Suppose I lent my friend some money so he could buy this outfit. He didn't get paid until two days after that, so I expected that he was going to go ahead on that day he got paid to put the money back into my account.

And he didn't.

(He was so eager to get this outfit and asked me on the spot if I could lend him the money. I said sure because he was a good friend of mine and since I was so punctual in getting the money to him, he would be punctual in returning the money.)

But he didn't.

This was last Wednesday.

On Tuesday I texted him, "Did you put the money in my account yet?" as a courtesy reminder that he needed to put the money in my account.

He told me, "No, but since you reminded me I will tomorrow."

Reminded? REMINDED????!!!

So I checked my bank account today and it is still not in there.

TICK TOCK GOES THE CLOCK.

Why? Why do we do this? Like it irks me to death that someone asks you for a favor borrowing money and need it ASAP, but take forever to give you the money back. A couple of people I know do this, and he is on the list as my third one. Ugh! Now I have to track him down again and ask politely for my money. Its money we are talking about, and I'm going to need that back. He said he got paid on that Friday, and here it is next Friday! That is the last time that I would attempt to do a favor for someone who needs my help.

One of my other guy friends was talking about it the other day and he said, "Yeah, its like this girl asked me to do her a favor, and I did because she was one of my close girl friends. So I didn't think of it. Two days later she got mad over some stupid mess and didn't want to talk to me. I really did something for her ass and now she acting real shady."

Similar situation, but not the same. I feel what he is saying though. People live for themselves, do things that will help them get by, and like the next day they forget. People are selfish, want what they want at the time and live in the moment. We are all like that! Put it tickles me when people forget who you are...

...like hello – I'm going to need that money back soon! We are in a recession for crying out loud!



October 24th

Random: Sarah Palin, McDonalds, and Leftovers

I like to do random stuff because occasionally I think about random things. So today, on this rainy day in the ATL, I decided to write about what crossed my mind this morning while driving to work and while at work!

(Yeah, I am kinda bored, but oh well.)

DRIVING IN ATLANTA

Why do people like to drive the craziest when it is pouring down raining? Like you just want to get in an accident? Let me tell you about his SUV driving crazy behind me. We were going through a school zone – yellow lights flashing and everything. So there was a side street with a whole bunch of cars waiting to pull into the main road. I was at the side street and I let this van go ahead and cut in front of me. So I wanted to proceed because the cars were moving forward. (My philosophy about this type of situation is when there are cars waiting on a side street, I let one car go in front of me and hopefully the car behind me will let the next one go and so forth.) But anyway, the other car, a Volvo that was behind the van I let in front of me proceeded to cut in front of me also, like I was letting her go. So I stopped because it was raining and I didn't want to get into an accident. So when I stopped the car stopped. So I proceeded forward, and she then proceeded like she was unsure whether to go or not – I mean she was already half way in the road so I just let the Volvo go. Then I hear the SUV's horn go off behind me, and I blew my horn right back, I look up – his hood is already in the backseat of my car. I hate when I look back at a car and all you see is window – you don't see the lights or the hood, all you see is window! How are you going to honk at me for letting a car go? And then how are you going to honk at me when the other car acted like she didn't know how to drive? It is insane because that SUV was probably late for work, and that isn't my problem – so I did the Nikki. When we were out of the school traffic, I drove slowly just to get on his nerves! I was laughing so hard! So when the two lane hwy came, he sped off in the heavy rain! I said, "He is going to get into an accident. (The funny part about it is that he didn't even go anywhere because we ended up at the same traffic light later down the road!)"

MY PLATE OF LEFTOVERS

Have you ever eaten at, let's say, a great dining restaurant? Fine dining experience, everything looks great! The ribeye that you ordered – med. well – comes out looking juicy and great, along with the broccoli and baked potato. Bon appetite! Then you cut into the steak and guess what? It was undercooked! It looked more like a med. rare steak – all cold on the inside. I bite into my broccoli – it too is cold and unseasoned. The BP is hard – rare also. In disgust I tell my waitress that the food is under prepared and I don't want it anymore, but thanks though, I thought it was going to be wonderful. Does anyone want my plate of leftovers? I'm sure someone who is just hungry and will eat anything would, but not me – I'll just go to another restaurant! Can you tell that I wasn't talking about food? (LOL)

MCDONALDS

Like people really down play McDonalds. But, in all actuality, McDonalds is really awesome! I suggest you try their egg, cheese, and steak bagel. OMG! Like, I never tasted anything so tasty from a fast food place, I swear! That steak is so tender and juicy – with the seasonings and onions on it! It was orgasmic! I had one two days straight, and I just wanted to go back and order another one it was so freakin' good! Also, their spicy chicken with ranch sandwich is off the chain! Get some fries and a large sweet tea – the bomb diggity! Don't ever under estimate McDonalds – at least the food. The service may suck really bad – it ain't Chick-fil-a, but the food is actually good, coming from a food expert of course! J

*Why did lil' Wayne hide his baby mama identity? I mean though!

*Why did TPain do his thing at the BET HIPHOP Awards? Why does his wit somehow attract me? (He reminds me of my old boyfriend!)

SARAH PALIN

I know McCain is really regretting this decision for real! He may be hiding his true feelings, but inside he is probably saying, "Why in the world did I pick her as my VP running mate?" Easy, he wanted Obama to win! LOL! Like, I haven't seen her in a while, I think she fell off the map there a little bit. She needs a comeback...but she was never here so she can't do that...she needs an introduction! LOL. Am I a hater?



October 27th

Drink Some Prune Juice and Let It Go!

This is a response to a post in ESSENCE Magazine.

There was a lady who wrote in asking for advice for her relationship. (We're going to call her Hopeless.) She has been in the relationship for about 4 years and she is very confused about what to do about her situation. She is afraid that her relationship isn't going anywhere because the man that she is in love with is married. She asked ESSENCE what to do – whether to leave him or hold on to his words, “Baby, my wife and I are getting a divorce soon.”

Now I don't know how long Hopeless knew that he was married – and I don't know how long after that he told her that him and his wife were getting a divorce. This reminds me of the LIFETIME movie where the husband had a wife and kids in one city, and while going out of town on “business” he had a finance in another. He even told the fiancé to go and pick out a little condo that she likes because he was going to leave his wife and move in with her. (This is a very vague picture because I haven't seen that movie in a long time.) But in all, Hopeless is in desperation – because I can tell that she really wants to be with him, if she didn't she would have never asked for advice.

Now before I say my side, I discussed this with a friend of mine. I expressed my views on the situation, but he told me, “Don't act like people can't be fooled sometimes. Like, she probably really believed him.” That is so true. From personal experience, there can be two faces of a man. (Men are such good actors when they are playing the double role.) But, what he said was so true, so I can understand that part.

There was a guy who was very interested in me. He worked with me and had a smooth way of letting me know that he was interested in me. So I said, “Why not?” We went out a couple of times and a couple of times was all it took for him to let me know he has kids and a wife. “WIFE?” I thought to myself while I was still riding with him in his car. That disrupted the interest that I had in him. I was weary about going out again with him – so I stayed away from that subject. But he wasn't ashamed that he had all this baggage with him – and I give him that much. At least he told me in the beginning the deal. Legal separation or not, he was still married to this woman – so I had to leave that alone. To me it is a woman's job to let something go. When a woman come out of the oblivious to the fact that a brotha has someone on his side – whether a girlfriend, wife, or whatever - she should wrap that up quick, charge it to the game, and keep it movin! Selfish of him to be mad at my decision. I don't know whether he was lying to me or not, but I wasn't going to find out. That was wrapped up when the lady called my phone in the middle of the night! (Ya'll know that is like 11 pm on regular time.) But I was in a good sleep and the woman disrupted that – that's a problem! (And on another subject, why do women call the girl's phone anyway? She should be dealing with her man, not

the girl stupid? – and that's another story for another day!)

But back to Hopeless – sad to say that she wasted 4 years of her life with this man, who obviously isn't going to divorce his wife. You know how break-ups are: you break up for a few days then get back together and agree to try to make an effort to make it work blah blah blah! That's what this man is doing – and it is sad that Hopeless is getting the short end of the stick. The man who responded to Hopeless in the magazine said, "All it takes for this man to become your husband is a few more clothes and his TV. in your house." She is just the Sideline – like Monica said in her song, "Ain't you tired of being on the sideline, tired of getting yours after I get mine, baby second place don't get a prize, when you gon' realize you wasting your time?"

Ain't it the truth?



October 29th

NOBAMA - How rude can you be?

I don't know why I didn't mention this before, but a conversation at work got me heated about it.

When I was hired by my company – the Vice President, who interviewed me also, asked about the Sarah Palin pick for VP. I told him that I'd rather not talk about politics because a lot of people have different views and it is also improper workplace etiquette. (Being the VP of a major company, he should know that! Duh!) But anyway, he went on to tell me that he got a NOBama bumper sticker on his Hummer – and laughed about it thought that I was going to laugh. It wasn't funny to me and it shouldn't have been funny to him, but you can't cover ignorance.

I totally respect his point of view – to me he isn't racist at all. But what he asked me in my interview to him was totally uncalled for and inappropriate! Talking politics to a hard core democrat or a hard core republican is kinda redundant. No matter how good a point you make, the person will come back with a rebuttal – no matter how dumb or retarded it may be. (And I am talking about both sides!) When you talk politics and share your own political views you are expressing why you feel your way about a candidate or a party – not to try to persuade them into thinking the other way. If you are going to do that – join the national campaign team and really get out there in the streets. If you aren't, then get some cold water and have a seat!

I just can't believe that! But the most surprising thing that was said was, "You know why he is voting that way? Because Obama is giving tax cuts to those who make under \$250,000. So he will be paying taxes!" I guess – if that is the only real reason voting against Obama.

On another note – talking to black people – have you had a white friend or co-worker that continuously gave you hints that he/she isn't racist and definitely likes black people? I have a co-worker of mine who subliminally reminds me that she likes black people and likes Obama.

The other day, she wrote this short story about the bombings that happened during the civil rights movement. It was a very great story, fictional based on true events, and the storyline was right on point. But she had to let me read it to see what I thought. I thought it was fine. She told me that she had to use the word nigger for the context of the story, which she couldn't have made the story without it, but all in all she did her thing. She kept saying, "Ya, know what I mean. I had to use the word for the context of the story." I kept saying, "Yeah, I see." She based it off of a true story in which she and her brother were called "nigger lovers" because they had friends who were black. She said, "I didn't care they called me that – I am proud to be that!" Over exaggeration to me! (But she didn't let no one else read the story?)

Or today when I was telling her what me and another co-worker, who is black, said

about Obama and the VP. She got very excited. She said, "Did you tell her that I am going for him too?" Like why would I say that? She also came in today asking me did I hear about the assassination attempt on Barack and 120 more African Americans in some school. I said yeah I heard about that mess and it makes me sick to hear that. She went on to say to tell me this story about her run in with a Nazi who had a tattoo of a Swastika on his back. She said, "Yeah, I had to get up out of there. I am a lucky one with my blonde hair and blue eyes, but he just got out of jail for murdering a Jewish person." Letting me know that these extremist groups think that her and I are so much alike than different. I mean the lady is really sweet and reminds me of what I am going to be like when I get in my forties. But it seems to me like she is really trying too hard – am I reading too much into it? It's more things to it than that, but I know some people are going to be like, "Amber, you are reading way more into this." But she is Jewish. And what she was telling me, which I already knew, was that Nazi groups can't tell an African America apart from Jewish people. So I get what she is trying to say. Other than this, she is alright in my book, I just don't think that she has to go out of her way to let me know that she is a fan of black people.

Just been thinking because this has been on my mind for a couple of weeks.



November 3rd

Backbone: So now you think you are the s*?**

(This one is going to be a lil' hood because I am so hot about this!)

Okay, so those who are my friends know what is up with me and this note. So I am about to call some people out without saying their name.

Don't you hate it when certain people get around other people they start developing a backbone they never had before. This is not how I wanted to describe it...Okay...so don't you hate it when certain people hang around other people and lose their own personality and adopt someone else's? That is what I witnessed this weekend. Like I heard about it, but when I finally saw that mess, I said, "Whoa! Like for real?" It's crazy – because through everything with me, I haven't change 1 bit. I am still the same person I was as a freshman – plus a little age. But when nigga's start to have attitudes because they have been around certain people too long it really ticks me off because now you want to jump fresh with me! Nigga, I will cut you off in a heartbeat – and I won't look back twice either!

It's just like what I witnessed when certain people received their letters from a fraternity or a sorority – they hopped up and jumped so fresh! I said, "That what's up! Dang, like I remembered you from the FLLC shawty! You didn't wear that, you didn't talk like that or nothing!" Hum...now you really acting like you are all of that? Like I do remember, kinda, you from freshman year and you definitely wasn't at all the person you have become. So you trying to say that the letters made you and not the other way around?

But like I said, I have now cut that certain somebody off the list because she was actin' brand new. Last time I saw her, she was all friendly, buddy buddy – no wait, the last time I saw her I started sensing that she was losing her touch a little bit. Now it has gotten worse and I don't appreciate the lil' tude that she had towards me – after I helped her out last year for something she needed to pass....

Nigga what?

I just hope and pray that she doesn't ask me for anything because I would hate to tell her no.

But my perspective on this situation is this: I understand completely if a person matures into a woman or a man and loses some of their spunk. I know that I have put some things aside to better myself in my maturing process. But If a person makes a 180, from one end to the other, then something is terribly wrong with him/her. Attitude - need to lose that because YOU ARE NOT THE S***! You never have been it, and you are not it now. (And no I am not a hater either but if you would have witness the 'tude she had on her, you would be saying the same thing, especially if you were real cool.) I know that I haven't been around all summer, but dang, like 4 months got you like that sweetie? It's

ahame! But it is a difference when you mature and when you just start smellin' yourself (like my mama say)! There is a big difference, and she doesn't understand that.

And she is officially cut!



November 11th

Aimless Sex Relationships

(And this isn't directed towards anyone, as inquiring minds would like to put together two and two!)

So. This has been bothering me for a while. Like, I am grown – well at least grown enough to put away foolishness and aimless things. But my thoughts are as follows: I am not going to sleep with you for the purpose of sleeping with you! Like who does that anymore? Cut friend – cute when you just want something that only the opposite sex can give you with no strings attached, but when you are really trying get somewhere in a relationship – all that goes out the window and should be more attracted to the other person in other ways! So when you propose this interaction, you must want something serious with me...you don't?...then I suggest so keep it moving! But maybe I am just growing up too fast for my age, because there is still some that do this – and there is nothing wrong with what you want to do with your body. If you need that – then get that by all means! No relationship you want in your future – go ahead! But as for me and what I am trying to accomplish with my life, I don't need an aimless person with aimless objectives with me to want me to sleep with him – are you crazy? Like for real, are you really crazy?

Sex, by all means, in a relationship is good. That rounds the relationship full circle – give it that extra kick! LOL. But I mean, gosh, if you want a relationship built on sex, you looking at the wrong woman. Those aren't my intentions, objectives, and goals. I was listening to Ryan Cameron on V103 one afternoon coming home from work and they were talking about this. A lady called in and said, "Well if a relationship was built on sex to begin with then there is no need to try to even pursue the relationship even further."

She is absolutely right, to me. I mean, if you start from the jump having sex with your partner, then that is all you are getting out of that relationship. If you don't start with that, getting intimate with the mind and soul of a person first, then that is when it is truly something in the making. (And when two people get to the sex stage in that relationship, it just makes it all the better!) I don't know –

I am just really confused about this when it pertains to "grown men." Like, you say that you are grown, put all the petty stuff behind, but all on your mind is SEX. Like whoa!

Take two steps back negro and listen to what you just said. I think this is one of the reasons why women like older men and men like younger women. Women mature faster than guys – it doesn't apply to all guys, but a large group of men my age aren't with me mentally. (I am not trying to sound arrogant.) They say they are ready for a real relationship, but context clues in their actions should give reason enough that they aren't ready. Then, the funny part is when two years down the road, they have matured into a wonderful man, but now you are taken! Isn't that so funny? I am not trying to say, also, that men are very sexual beings, because women are just like them. The 1 big difference that I can point out is that a woman can be sexual indeed, but can so to

only her man! When men are sexual, they want so much that they have to find it in two or three women – until they slow down.

I just say, men when you sense that you are messing with a more mature woman than you are used to, come with something else besides what you want out of the relationship – unless y'all both agreed what it is going to be!

Or am I wrong? This is just my observations. That is all!

Say word.



November 12th

Jennifer Hudson: We Gon' Fight

So, as a gift, one of my friends gave me this CD for my birthday. I was so ecstatic about hearing the wonderful Jennifer Hudson in her first CD – we all know what she should have been one of the finalist, if not the winner of American Idol that season! Anywho – there is this song on there that pinches my nerves, being the Libran that I am, I get what she is talking about in her lyrics. She is basically saying that all that her and her boo been through in their relationship, she isn't going to give it up without a fight. (Now that I paraphrased her song, it sounds like the Beyonce song RING THE ALARM.) So here are the lyrics just for those who hadn't purchased this fabulous CD:

Verse 1:

They told me love was simply not enough
With all that we've been through
We should give it up
Why sweat and cry
Just leave and make it easy
I told 'em it would hurt me worse
But they just don't believe me

Hook:

Been locked up, bailed out
Broke, overdrawn
Staying at my momma's house
Ya'll don't know what I'm talking bout
Like gangstas we gon strap up for this war
And I'd die for mine
Cause you're worth fighting for

Hook 2:

Can't nobody tell me bout this here (oh no)
Now let me make it clear (I won't)
Let everything we've done in the name of us (us)
Done in the name of love (love)
Be nothing

Chorus:

So I'm a fight for you
You gon fight for me
I'm a fight for you
That's how it's gon be
We gon fight

Verse 2:

Why trip on conversations bout our past
Like we didn't make it
Like we didn't man up and take it
Straight up I'm with you
We go back like Philip Bailey
I know I'm crazy
That's how you made me

Ending:

Fight because we should
On everything that's good
I can't leave
(We've come too far to turn back)
And to the haters that we shook
Giving us dirty looks
Watch and see
(No matter what goes)
(No matter what stays)
Ain't gon let nobody tear us down
We're going all twelve rounds
Let's put 'em up (no)
No giving up (we)
We gon make it just because
We gon fight for love

Man, if anything, this song really inspired me in so many ways! However, I am sort of confused about what to really think about it. Ladies, and y'all know this is a sore subject for me, when do you really fight for a man? What makes him worthy of us fighting for him? What she was saying in the song was that – if I have been broke and locked up for this nigga, too much of me was invested in him, and I am not going to leave him!

Or, is this all fictitious? Women really don't think like this, or do they? But, when you really think about it, what is your own definition of love, and what would you do in the name of LOVE? I mean, Jennifer been through a lot in this song, and she is not turning back over some BS. Like Beyonce said, "She gon' be rocking Chinchilla clothes if I let you go. Getting the house of the coast if I let you go. She gon' profit everything I taught if I let you go. I can't let you go. Damned if I let you go!" Like, she was really serious! Everything she put up with a man isn't going down the drain. It's like hard, hard work at your job, and you don't get paid? Forget that! I guess that's how you got to look at it from another perspective. Hum. But the song is really inspiring – just to take a look at another woman's perspective on how she is going to keep her relationship going, despite difficult times from their past.

Foreshadowing?

Maybe.

PURPOSE DRIVEN LIFE - ALL ABOUT ANGER

Resolve Anger Quickly
by Rick Warren

If you are angry, be sure that it is not out of wounded pride or bad temper. Never go to bed angry – don't give the devil that sort of foothold. Ephesians 4:26-27 (PH)

*** **

It's okay to be angry, but anger becomes wrong when it's not resolved quickly. The apostle Paul teaches, if you become angry, do not let your anger lead you into sin and do not stay angry all day.

The Phillips translation says, "Never go to bed angry." That would keep a few of us up all night! If you said, "In our marriage, we'll never go to bed angry," you might work toward resolving problems a lot faster.

When anger is not dealt with quickly, it can turn to resentment and, then into bitterness. Bitterness is always sin; resentment is always sin; those emotions are always wrong.

But that doesn't mean anger is always wrong. When you care about people, sometimes anger is the correct response. I get angry when I see people blowing their lives on things that don't matter. I get angry when I see people walking right into the middle of something they know is wrong.

Regardless, we're to resolve our anger quickly, or else we're giving the devil a chance push us into bitterness and resentment.

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November 20th

A Sigh of Relief

sigh

I am in a terrible mood. And it is not like I really enjoy being upset. But my scenario is – I am 23 years of age, a college graduate, have a alright paying job in a rough economy, don't really pay any bills, and have really an easy going life – right? So I don't understand why that I can't live my life the way I want to. I know that I need to take the initiative in getting my own apartment. My logic is this, though, I need to save in order to get my own place. In order to save, I have to get money. In order to get money, I have to stay at my job and work. In order to stay at my job, I have to get there and keep being productive there. In order to have adequate means of transportation – I have to get a new car! (Like me or what?) Now, if I stay with the Sebring, my baby, I have to get new tires, electrical work done, engine work done, and find a way to get more gas mileage on this car – no way possible.

What I have in mind of getting is either a Honda or Toyota. These are great cars and economy efficient – I have to wait to get my luxury vehicle when the big bucks start rolling in. I mean, I traveled up and down I-16 for two years in the 1998 Sebring adding more miles on it. When my daddy sold me this car in 2006 it had 119,000 miles on it. No payments, no extreme work that needed to be done to it. But now it is 135,000 miles. So in the two years, I did 16,000 miles on my car – including road trips to Savannah. Now, you telling me that it is a bad idea to get, let's say, a 2004 Toyota Corolla, a 4 year old car, for 10,000 with 45K miles on it and you get 28 city MPG and 38 hwy MPG? It is really sad that I can't get any support for this action. I am going to buy my own car, with the help from NO ONE, and pay my monthly payments by myself because I have the funds to do so, and you are telling me that you don't think it is a good idea? I fill up for about \$25.00 now – that is good, but it is 4 days before I have to fill up again. If I had the Toyota, I wouldn't have to fill up as much.

I am just so mad and upset. Like, I think that I deserve this – something new, or almost new, and who is going to get it for me besides myself? I think that I have done a lot for myself to make my family proud of me and my accomplishments. Not saying that I am the jewel of the family, of course not! But I know I deserve something nice – something that is mine that I did for myself. It's sad because I know I can't get financial support, but can I at least get emotional support?

Or maybe, I should take the advice and just wait a while longer? Maybe, I should just hold off and hope that my little iceberg doesn't give out? But if it does, and I pray that it doesn't, what now? I am so confused, upset, disappointed and angry.

sigh

November 26th

You Called Me What?

I was over someone's house yesterday and there were some guys over there also. They were talking about going out and hittin' up on some white girls and my friend told me, "Yeah, if I weren't for me, they wouldn't speak to you because you are a black woman." I said, "For real looking at one of them." He nodded his head – looking so serious! I was like dang, that is messed up. I asked why does he feel this way? He replied, "Y'all women just complain, nag, and bitch all the time."

WTF? Hold up just one minute! If it weren't for a black woman, his butt wouldn't even be on the face of the earth! Hell he talking about?

Did he ever wonder for a minute that we complain, nag and bitch about their behinds? If they didn't do the stuff they did, they would have nothing to worry about! But, they keep doing dumb mess – I know for sure me and my man are going to exchange some words. And then I would have been alright, but he kept on going. Like I said he was going to go and get up in some white girl, but while walking out the door he was referring to us a black bitches!

I got so heated! I am heated while writing this because it makes me sick to my stomach that they think it's easy for us to be with them! I mean damn! (Excuse me!) IN MY OPINION FROM PAST EXPERIENCES: Black men, and I am just generalizing, don't have a clue. They think they can get away with stuff all the time, want us to be their mamas most of the time (because black men are big babies), and want everything to go their way without any thought to look back and see how we feel about things. Maybe black women don't like to see your butts all out when your pants saggin' low and see nothin' but draws and high a** tee-shirts...maybe we don't like to worry about our men when they go out doing something they have no business doing... maybe we don't like to wait until they get home...maybe we think that y'all are idiots sometimes...just maybe (sometimes) we don't like to have sex with y'all, but guess what? We put up with some of the dumb mess that y'all do!

And then acted though my feelings were hurt because he said that's why he prefer a white chick? Maybe, she can sit, roll, sniff, and scratch when you ask her, but hell no a black woman won't do that for no brutha! If you want that, then maybe a white girl is what you need because we been through too much – through slavery up until now – for a black woman to take any mess! Believe that! Wrap that on up and charge that to the game! Dueces! But you know what though? It's funny because black women go for white men because they know how to treat their women. That's the stuff that you see like on Lifetime and Oxygen movies – someone who really knows how to treat a woman.

Bitterness? No, just mad that a black man would say some dumb mess like that! (He needs to go on the Tyra show and talk about his problems!) It ain't the first time I heard this, no, but someone who was so intense about what he said – I had to write about

this! It's hard enough for a black woman to get accepted into this world – but if she is neglected by her own race, what is the struggle for?

I know people just have their preferences, I do understand that one, but to degrade me and call me a bitch, in a negative way...???

I know girls take it as a compliment when they are called a bitch. I do this myself, but I just felt so degraded when he was talking. I'm glad he left!

(And then to top that off he was unattractive! A white girl can have his tired @\$\$!)

Is this the business?



November 26th

Im Just Trying to Live MY LIFE

Every time I try to take 2 steps forward with my life, I am ALWAYS pushed 3 back!

It's sad. People want you to grow up, move out of parent's house, get a car, get a job, save, get somewhere to live – and always, always it will be those who prevent you from doing just that.

This is why I have to live MY LIFE, not my mother's, father's, sister's, niece's, cousin's, nephew's, or even my boyfriend's – but MY LIFE! Yeah, hard to believe but that's what I am trying to work on! Now I understand why my sister feels the way she do – she has a man and a child to take care of and we aren't a significant part of her life anymore. I probably complained about it, but now I understand that she has to live her life. Family always, always borrowing money from me. It's one thing when you rarely ask, and I mean rarely, but there are those who constantly ask – inconsistent with their finances or are living well beyond their means! These are the people that are holding me back... and sorry to say it is just not family that is doing this.

I have a job just like everyone else...I have bills to pay just like everyone else. But unlike everyone else – I am trying to make a steady future for my 23 year old self, but can't because just when I begin to save the little money I have – someone is always holding their hand for me, wanting me to do things, needing me to buy this and that! I mean damn! DAMN! Can a sista' get some kind of break! Can I get just a little money saved up? Can I get my car that rides well? Can I get out of my mothers house? Can I please do that first?

Ugh! *tear*

It makes me sick to my stomach now that everything I am trying to work for isn't working because someone is always getting bailed out of their situation. I do understand that sometimes life deals us a sucky hand of cards – I know this – but you have to work with your problems and solve them by yourself. All I have at the end of the day is myself and a pillow – I don't have truly anyone that can help me out. Who can I run to if I need help, but all the ones that I thought I could depend on are depending on me? (shakes head) I live inside of my means: if I have to buy GV in Walmart instead of name brand, I'll do that...if I have to eat a cup of noodles for dinner, I'll do that...if I have to sacrifice going out because I know that I don't have any money to do so, I'll do that...But I will not go out – spending lavishly, and asking for handouts when I could have prevented the entire situation! That doesn't makes sense to me, it really doesn't.

Now, instead of enjoying the holidays, this next month is going to be a real drag for me. I can't even go out on Black Friday because I don't have any money to do so. Instead, I'll be watching marathons on TV and just chillin'. You know what? I may want a new car for Christmas or to move out into my own apartment for New Year's, but I know no one is going to do that for me. So for Christmas, I want everyone to know that I

absolutely don't want anything! Nada, Zero, Zilch! Nothing from no one! I want everyone to buy themselves something for Christmas – whether it is to pay a bill, buy a sweater, some new boots, get that root canal whatever you need – I want them to get it for themselves, because that is what I'll be doing, getting myself what I want for Christmas!

Scrooge, maybe. But I know that I am not happy this holiday season!



December 4th

2009 Promise

Resolution? Nah, more like a Promise to me!

Going into 2009, again like going into 2008 last year, I am making a promise to myself. Last year, I was in the same boat. But last year, this day, I started to officially date this guy named Mark. That was a joke, because low and behold, I really never dated him in the first place for many reasons. (I said that to say that I basically put myself in a predicament that I forced the situation onto us. Last year I told myself, the next person that I give my heart to won't break it, and I held on to that truth all year with him. I need to finally admit that what God has for me, it is for me, and what isn't meant to be won't. Like on the TV show EVE, when Shelly and JT broke up, she had to be comfortable with herself first before she got into another relationship. So if that means dating myself, like she did in one episode, then that is what I am going to have to do!) I admit, I have trouble hearing God and deciphering what way to go when He give me signs. So what better way to promise myself honesty and truth than to start over on the day the day I let my heart go for the last time? I am starting over my life today! Next year is the year of the Ox, in Chinese zodiac – and low and behold, I was born in the year of the Ox. Not saying that I am just so caught up in the zodiac, but I know next year for me is full of promises fulfilled. So from December 4, 2008 until December 4, 2009 I promise:

no more worries,
no more lies,
no more cheating,
no more pain
no more giving away my heart to someone who isn't there,
no more commitment until something is real,
no more love,
no more cries,
no more trying,
no more faking,
no more "baby Imma do right"
no more going along for the sake of us,
no more thinking that we can,
no more thinking that I can't,
no more mediocre,
no more sitting watching to world go by,
no more unproductiveness,
no more unhappiness
no more slippin'
no more running to find
no more running from the truth
no more upset Amber
no more deviousness

no more jealousy
no more giving
no more passiveness
no more holding my tongue
no more complaining
no more drama – well...
no more



Section 2: *From G's to Gents* –

MTV Reality Show Tries to Shape Up Rough Men

By [Amber Zellner](#), published Aug 26, 2008



The object of MTV's *From G's to Gents* is to turn rough necks, players, womanizers and thugs into successful, courteous and caring gentlemen. The executive producer of the show is Jamie Foxx and is hosted by Fonzworth Bentley. The show started with 14 young, hopeful men to win the grand cash prize of \$100,000, but, most importantly the lessons of how to be a gentleman at all times embedded in them.

However, as with all reality shows, there isn't a show without some type of drama to keep viewers in tune to the show. The first episode, E6 made a rant about The Truth always talking but can't man up to what he says. Soon after, everyone is starting to agree with E6 and by the end of the show The Truth was one of the two who went home that night. Excuse the stereotype, but for men, they are acting like a bunch of women. (I thought that women were supposed to be the vicious and vindictive sex, not men!) But as each episode continues, the men start to get a sense of the other cast members, and personalities begin to shine. Viewers start to really see each individual character and the clashing personas. Even Cee, the conniving liar, and E6 start to show their two faces.

Despite the drama, I see that most of the cast members want a change. My first pick is Kesan, the black brother from Atlanta who can't see himself resorting back to the streets and hustling because if so, he fears of losing his life one day. He was in the bottom three the second week because Cee plotted against him and Kesan lost his temper. "X"ing out his own picture and portraying that Kesan did it, Cee turned the entire house against Kesan. Mr. Bentley gave Kesan a second chance because he sees potential in him. Cee was let down, his plot was ruined. Way to go! You really showed him who was boss! My next favorite is Shaun who attentively seeks the lessons out of the challenges. He is the peace keeper in the house to me: he tried to keep the peace between Kesan and the others, tried his best to talk Kesan out of leaving, and sort of neutralized the situation when T-Jones had gotten drunk the night the men were supposed to be working on their marketing strategy. He is also a cutie to me, which is a plus, and I don't want to see him go home just yet.

The most important thing is that the "thug", and I use the term loosely, are learning how to treat a woman with respect, good sportsmanship, how to be business savvy, and creating a great resume - the lessons learned so far on the show. Not only for the cast to learn, but also for male viewers, those who think and know they are in the same boat as the cast. Monique's *Charm School* taught me a few pointers that I haven't learned yet, so there is always room for growth, especially for reality shows based on learning such as *Charm School* and *From G's to Gents*. Despite the fact that other people say that the show isn't good, or doesn't seem appealing to them, I think the show is a great idea and I am looking forward to season 2.



Section 3 – Biography Of Amber Nicole Zellner

Amber Nicole Zellner, a twenty-three year old writer, has much to say. She developed this passion at an early age, admiring her mother for her free-lance work in local magazines in the Atlanta area. Amber was born on October 4, 1985 to Alan and Deborah Zellner, in a small hospital in Dunwoody Georgia. She stayed on track through her years in her primary education graduating in 2004 from Shiloh High School in Snellville Georgia. She realized that English was her favorite subject, allowing her to be creative in the literature she wrote. She then entered college as a freshman, graduating four years later with bachelor of art's degree in Mass Communications at Savannah State University.

The more her professors embedded in her that mass media is a vital source for communication, the more Amber wanted to become a print journalist. It took a while for her to jump on that bandwagon, but by the end of her junior year of college, everyone knew her for her debut article in SSU's campus paper *The Tiger's Roar* entitled, "The things men say...will they ever get it?" Since then, her work has been non-stop. She contributed to numerous issues of the Tiger's Roar her junior and senior year of college. But these weren't her first writings. While in high school, she published a number of poems on poetry.com. Amber discontinues poetry writing – knowing she has a bigger voice that can't be put into poems, but rather opinion pieces. In 2007, going into her senior year of college, she took an internship at the *Savannah Tribune Newspaper*. There, she was put right to work, publishing her first article highlighting the high school graduation ceremonies in the Savannah area. In the fall of 2007, she was appointed as the editor-in-chief of *The Tiger's Roar* for the spring semester.

Amber wanted to pursue more editorial work and landed another internship at *The Savannah Morning News Newspaper* in 2008. There she was a contributing writer for DO – an insert in every Thursday's paper with highlights on dining, events, nightlife and the arts. Details included a bar of the week listing for every Thursday, and a summer eating guide for the summer of 2008. She also wrote articles and Q&A pieces on local and national artists and bands.

Aside from articles, Amber has written countless opinion blogs published on facebook, myspace, and live journal websites. Now she contributes to associated content and her own blog site misszellner.spaces.live.com. The only way she thinks that people can break out of ignorance is accumulating knowledge and breaking out of their one-minded way of thinking. This is why she writes: to prove that everyone has something to say, whether great or minute. If only people took the time out of their busy schedule to just listen and understand there is more to life than just their world.

In the words of one of her most influential professors at SSU, Kai Walker, she believes that "Ignorance is bliss, because knowledge is responsibility."

