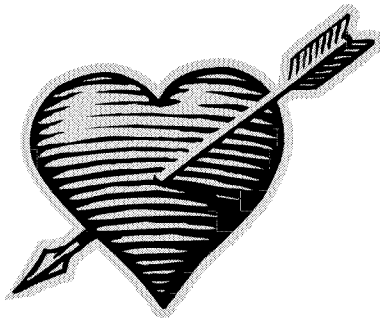


POETRY FOR THE SOUL



Life's Poetic Influences

Written by Joyce L Dowridge
aka
Ayodele Olefumi

POETRY FOR THE SOUL

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Dedicated to:

My Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
(Without whom this would not have been possible)

Quincy, IV, my eldest son

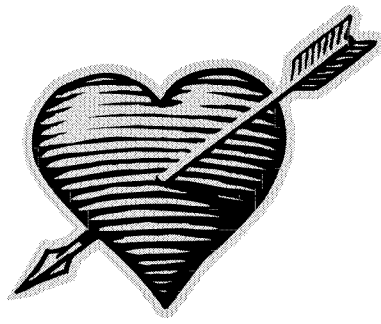
Jamal, my youngest son

All my grandchildren

Tamekia Smith ("Ms Lady") for believing in me

Bishop Wayne T. Jackson, my Pastor

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Life's Poetic Influences

FOREWORD

This section is about life.

Life has many facets. God allows us to go through struggles in order to obtain what He has for us. There are chapters in our lives that we have to live. Some are good and some are bad, but through it all, if you have Jesus in your life, you can have a successful life and you can make it.

Proverbs 3:5-7: Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your steps.

A little about the author:

Joyce L Dowridge aka Ayodele Olefumi

I was born in Baltimore, MD on December 25, 1955 and brought to Pontiac Michigan at the age of three.

I began writing poetry while in elementary school. I played around with poetry for fun for several years, not realizing my true potential with it, and then one day I just quit writing. That was over 20 years ago.

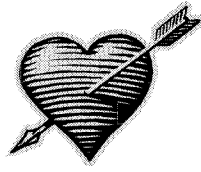
In November of 2002, I went to the first Poet's Night at the Upper Room in Detroit, MI and in listening to the different poets present their work, I got re-inspired to write again. I went home that night and prayed and asked God to restore my writing abilities and He did just that. I immediately picked up my pen and began to write. To date, I have written approximately 55 poems.

My eldest son, Quincy, gave me my African name, which is from Aruba, Africa. A-yo-dell-e means Joy comes home, O-lee-fu-me means God loves me.

I became a born again believer in 1977 and re-dedicated my life to Jesus Christ in 1983.

I have three children and 5 grandchildren.

My poems are about life, love and God. I aspired to put them all in a book to which I have begun my first project. I hope you will be blessed by this first book, Poetry for the Soul, Life's Poetic Influences.



Life's Poetic Influences

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