



# UnDaunted

...not intimidated or discouraged by difficulty, danger, or disappointment

GAME HANGERS  
UNIVERSAL™

Premiere Issue > October 2016



**CHANGING  
THE  
GAME  
OF  
SHOWBIZ**

FEATURE

MOVIE

MUSIC

MODELING

COMEDY

DANCING

ACTING





Some bridges are wide,  
Some bridges are thin,  
Some bridges are without,  
Some bridges are within.  
Each provide a path to  
Leaving something behind,  
Forging something anew!  
*Joseph James*

# UnDaunted Magazine

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# GAME-CHANGING FEATURES

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GCU's UnDaunted Magazine is a bi-monthly treasure chest of information on the spectacular journey through the entertainment and media industry.

Created to inspire, encourage, connect, and strengthen all dreamers who dare to explore this creative path through valuable resources and insightful, on-the-ground sources.

Walk with us through each heart-breaking challenge and each exhilarating mountain-top success.

Stay plugged in for exciting industry projects on the horizon and discover your destiny.

...Be UnDaunted!

## I WISH

I wish I could have grown up in the perfect family,  
With a mother and father who love me so dearly,  
With brothers and sisters who play instead of fight,  
With each day a joyous adventure and peace through the night.

I wish I could have grown up in a world full of love,  
One without wars, sin, grief, murder or strife,  
Where it's safe to walk the streets and live in homes without locks,  
Where everyone is full of love and each one like a friend.

This would be perfect, and then it would never end,  
But in my world, a dream is all this will ever be,  
Each one does his best just trying to make it through,  
Yet, this one has the potential to be the greater of the two.

It's in these places, we find out if true love exists,  
Without mercy and forgiveness, it's only shallow at best.  
How can we know its depths if it's never tested and tried?  
It only shines and glows when, by the storm, it's purified.

I thought there were many who loved me or so they did say,  
But when the storms came, they ran off and went away.  
"Where are you? I thought you were my friend."  
But they were all gone when I had looked again.

"Where did you come from, I didn't know you were there?"  
I thought I knew everyone, but what is your name?"  
"I am the Lord, and I've always been near,  
I've never left you, you are precious and dear."

My tears fell like rain as I ran to embrace,  
His love surrounded me and His peace and grace.  
He is all I need, we're together each day,  
He healed all my wounds, in His presence I'll stay.

Now, I have new friends and I know them by name,  
I know their limits and failures and I love them the same.  
Humans are fragile and weak at their best,  
But Jesus is perfect and His love passes the test.

*Joseph James - © 2011*

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# EDITOR'S REEL



Trinity Dobbs

Have you ever had that one dream that you always wanted to do but never had the guts to do it? That's what this magazine is for me - a dream come true. Someone once asked me what one of

my dreams was. I told him that it was to start a magazine. He said, "Let's do it." So we did.

And this is the result of someone believing in me. Someone willing to come alongside me and say, "I don't know what I'm doing either, but we can figure it out together." Because of someone believing in me, I now have the courage to pursue the other dreams and goals I have.

This magazine will feature artists in the fields of acting, modeling, writing, singing, and dance. We also have advice from VIPs, casting directors, agents and fellow performers. You will get to know and love them as you continue to read about what they are currently doing.

*“Because of someone believing in me, I now have the courage to pursue the other dreams and goals I have.”*

The purpose of this magazine is to encourage you to pursue your dreams, whether it is in the entertainment industry or another field. I pray that it does just that. I remember a time in my life where I was in a valley. But, when a really good friend of mine realized just how low I was, he proceeded to encourage me, pray for me, support me, and most importantly, love me. Because of that friend and countless others, I

now know that I am loved and supported. Any decision I make, I will have support.

I hope that this magazine does the same for you. I hope you feel at home here. I hope you feel loved and supported. As you read the different stories and advice columns, you will see that you are not alone. Everyone struggles with something. If you feel like no one believes in you or that you aren't good enough, know that you are not alone. YOU were put on this planet for a reason. To do a task that no one else can do except you. Do what YOU are called to do. What YOU are passionate about. Remember, it's your life and you only get one. Make it count!

*Love Always, Trinity Dobbs, Editor in Chief*



Models - Daniel Hartmann & Trinity Dobbs - Photographer Alexis Lambert



# WRITING, THE JOURNEY

## THE JOURNEY BEGINS...



Joseph James

Writing, to me, is more about the journey than the destination. The destination is always great, but then the story, that wonderful journey, is over. Sometimes, because of the gift in me, the storyline comes

so fast that I am not able to add in the many facets of the scene as I am typing because I want to keep up. What are the colors, the smells, and what is the atmosphere like? Can the energy of the moment be felt on the skin of the readers and/or possibly in their hearts and souls?

Growing up, I was always good at math and couldn't stand English classes. English sentence structure seemed too complex to me, and it was always changing. The names of certain elements within the sentence structure changed over time as well, so it was just plain confusing to me. Who would've ever thought I'd become a writer? Certainly not me.

One thing I loved more than anything was trying to figure out poems. I had a teacher who liked to see how we, as individuals, interpreted them. Sometimes there was no wrong or right to the meaning of the poem, rather, it was like looking at a painted canvas and trying to discover the meaning the artist intended.

In the late '80s, I bought a twelve-string guitar to play worship and praise music for our small prayer group and, almost immediately, the Lord started giving me songs to write. Sometimes, I could write a complete song in less than fifteen minutes. It wasn't until several years later that I really began to understand that it was a gift. Since that time, I've written close to 300 songs, some of which I am recording for distribution.

In the early '90s, I started writing books. My first was an allegory, "Destiny Path Of Life: The

Journey Begins." In 1994, I got married and in 2011 finally finished writing my wife's miraculous journey from certain death to abundant life after the doctors had given up on her. It was my first and only nonfiction book so far. Her mother, shortly after we were engaged to be married, made me promise that I was going to write the book. Unfortunately, I didn't finish it until five years after her death, but I did feel that, at times, she was standing behind me and watching over my shoulder as I typed. It was a very difficult story for me to write because I was so close to it, but very necessary. I title it, "Sentenced To Death, Destined For Life: The Janiece Turner Hartmann Story."

In 2005, while studying for web design and multimedia at the Art Institute of Dallas, my instructor's assignment was to develop a blog on a website and start writing. At one point, my blog was being read in over 54 countries each month. I'd just sit down at the computer and most of the time the words would flow as fast as I could type, and I can type really fast. Several comments on the blog were questions of how I was able to be so transparent in my writings. My answer, after some careful consideration was, "How can we not be transparent?" How can others identify with us if all we ever write is from behind a wall of privacy and safety? No, we must be transparent and dare to expose some intimacy. Our readers must know that we are real if they are ever to give us their trust.

I have just finished, at least for now, a three-book fiction series, "Islands In The Sea," that is a romantic prophetic novel. It involves a wild romantic journey on three continents, serious interaction with the spiritual universe, and the building of a new city. There is a lot of interaction between the characters with the angels and demons in the story. I plan to publish the trilogy by the end of 2016.

Going back to my first statement in this article,

## THE JOURNEY BEGINS... Continued

writing is more about the journey than the destination and here is why I believe that. I felt the Lord pressing me in late 2007 to start writing a book about building His city. As I sat down to write, the Holy Spirit started giving me the words and visions. I literally saw them in my mind as I typed. The difficult thing was to include the extras in the storyline, like the atmosphere, feelings, emotions, colors and all of the things that immerse the reader into the story because of the speed at which it was all unfolding before me. I had to ask Him to slow down many times but I didn't want to stop because I eagerly wanted to see what was next. How is it all going to end? It was an adventure, to say the least.

In December 2015, I was on my way back home from a men's meeting that Adam She had asked me to help him with, when I noticed an angel in the passenger seat of my truck as I drove. I asked him his name and he told me that it was Alex. It was at that moment that I realized that the Alex that I wrote about in the trilogy was the same Alex

that was sitting next to me. He had been with me in that journey as well. When I got home from the meeting, our townhome was full of angels and outside as well. I told my wife about seeing them and she calmly said that she had invited them earlier that evening to come. The story of what happened next will have to wait for a later time.

We have traveled on and off for many years of our marriage now, and almost exclusively for the last three and a half. I am always excited to go on a new trip and get to the destination, but the Lord is wanting me to be more about the journey. You see, there are people and connections to make along the way as well as things to see in His wonderful creation. He loves to show off, as my wife, Janiece, says. He loves us so much and He created all of this for us to enjoy. Life is about the journey and so is writing. The story ends when the journey comes to a close. Sometimes I think, well, this ending is only the conclusion of the chapter, so let's go on and write the next. And so we do! *The Journey Begins...*

The dawn of a new day is rising,  
The scent of the ocean fills the air;  
The sound of the waves reaching the shore  
Beckons to the dreamer to dream again.

Time to cast out into the deep once more,  
To pursue the dream, the destiny, the vision;  
The water is calm and a gentle breeze blows,  
The sea awaits, the birds call, the journey begins...

*Joseph James*

# MODELING

## A BEAUTIFUL PURPOSE



Karissa Hagemeister

Karissa Hagemeister is just an average girl with big dreams, a big heart, and a drive to see the world changed for the better.

In elementary school, Karissa was drawn to fashion design. The creative and

challenging aspect of the art drew her in. In middle school, she began to teach herself to sew and picked up quickly on it.

In high school, Karissa became interested in modeling. It was not because she desired the limelight or wanted to be front and center. She would much rather be behind the scenes, hidden from view. Karissa did not idolize any supermodels; she still doesn't know anything about any of them. For some reason, modeling just stood out to her.

It wasn't until after she got her bachelor's in college that she began pursuing both fashion design and modeling. She graduated with a BS in Business Management, International Business and Business Leadership. A few years after graduating in 2012, she incorporated her fashion business known as Kingdom Dezigns and completed the modeling and acting track with AMTC (Actors, Models and Talent for Christ).

Karissa had a passion for both areas of the industry but still did not understand why. What was the point of starting a fashion line? What was the point of modeling? "There has to

be a purpose behind what you do, otherwise it is just pointless," said Karissa Hagemeister.

It was not until she began blogging in 2013 that all the pieces fell into place. Karissa's blog, Bringing Beautiful Back, is about inspiring others to find beauty in themselves and in the world around them. "All people possess their own unique beauty. I am tired of the media

*“Be your own beautiful self. Accept yourself. You are worth it.”*

force-feeding everyone, telling them what they should look like and act like. Be your own beautiful self. Accept yourself. You are worth it," explained Karissa.

This became the purpose behind everything she did. Her clothing line became a route in which she was able to express the truth of all people being as beautiful as they are and accepting themselves as the masterpieces that they are. Modeling produced a stage for Karissa to be someone that others could look up to and listen to.

This spring, Karissa will be releasing her first book entitled "Who Am I?". This book shares much of Karissa's life story while touching on topics of finding your purpose in this life, seeing the worth that you already hold, and discovering your identity.

Karissa will continue to grow her fashion business with the goal of starting a #beautyrevolution; to model, expanding her sphere of influence; and to write and blog to share the message of beauty, worth and purpose with the world.

To view her blog and online store visit:

[www.bringingbeautifulback.com](http://www.bringingbeautifulback.com)

[www.kingdomdezignsfashion.com](http://www.kingdomdezignsfashion.com)



Made In USA

KARISSA'S FASHION LINE



# FEATURE

## LOVE-COLORED LENSES



Kim Baldwin

Kim Baldwin's creative talents began budding at a young age. Kim's accomplishment of winning the "Most Creative" award in her 1st grade class ignited her artistic fire and set the course

for her life of performing, art and fashion. Native of the small big city of Charlotte, North Carolina, Kim's big southern personality gained her a handful of pageant titles. In addition to pageants, Kim modeled and participated in many local community theater productions, which quickly opened her eyes to the wonderful possibilities of performing.

After high school, Kim made a slight twist by enrolling in college under the fashion marketing program. After receiving her BFA, she went on to Saks Fifth Avenue as a PR assistant, working in planning special fashion events and developing interesting angles to pitch products. This experience introduced her to progressive and stylish concepts that helped shape her creative edge.

A few months after graduating from college, Kim began working for Actors, Models & Talent for Christ, a national talent event organization. From scouting aspiring performers around the country to supervising casting calls, she dabbled in several areas.

As a working model/actress and co-host for INsight talk show for teens and young women, Kim's desire to encourage audiences and inspire love and hope within them led her to create The Love Lens, a passion-brand created to empower people to "see with love."

### KIM'S LOVE LENS STORY

"You know how it feels when someone sees you for who you truly are? When they get you?

When they identify the gold in you? That is what happened to me on October 12, 2014. I was in a desperate place in my life and felt unmotivated and purposeless. I went to a small group meeting and one of the girls at the meeting approached me and said, "When I see you, I see..." and she began to speak uplifting words to me - she called out the treasure inside of me! At that instant I felt alive. As soon as I left, another girl approached me and said "I think you should really begin to use your creative gifts". She confirmed something that had been on my heart for many years. On my way back home, I began to dream about how I could encourage others in a creative way. I wanted to make something tangible that would affirm true identity. Then Love Lens was birthed."

*"I wanted to make something tangible that would affirm true identity. Then Love Lens was birthed."*

A Love Lens is a necklace with an eyeglass lens pendant displaying a special positive word. Each lens is engraved by hand. Kim believes that everyone who wears a Love Lens will see themselves (and others) through the lens of love and truth. "I have a dream that all hate will be ruined because a generation of lovers will emerge from all corners of the world. These are ones who fully live their lives out in love. Love is their default.

The Love Lens necklace is a statement of true identity and a tangible reminder to always posture your heart in love...because love never fails."

For more information on The Love Lens, visit: [www.etsy.com/shop/TheLoveLens](http://www.etsy.com/shop/TheLoveLens)

# MUSIC

## SHATTERED SILENCE



Justin Gambino

I started the band in the month of November in 2010 with first/former drummer of the band, Gordon Smith. We started working on our craft and writing songs, playing gigs for a while. It wasn't until late 2012 when we were recognized by a

small indie label out of Oklahoma. But that's not where it got easier. That's where it got harder! A lot harder. Rehearsals, writing, paperwork, and, not to mention, the business side of things.

We released our first album in 2014 and celebrated that release in our hometown. Even before the band was recognized, we went through a bass player and a lead guitarist. Since the release, we have gone through two drummers, another guitarist and two bass players. Currently, there are only three of us left and we're looking for a full-time drummer, but we aren't letting that get us down and out. We're pressing on because we know that this is what God has called us to do. We've been on several radio/talk radio stations, played several festivals with bands such as Switchfoot, Skillet, Building 429, For King & Country, Newsboys and many more. Also toured across the country. Trust me when I say that none of this came easy. It came from lots of hard work and it hasn't gotten any easier. Seems like the bigger and more well known we get, it requires more work. We just finished writing the second album and we can't wait to release it, but just like before, there's lots to be done between now and that time.

We couldn't do all of this without the Lord's strength because He is our strength! Some people ask me, as the front man of the band, how I do it. I also pursue a side project and I am actually going to

be doing a solo tour for the next few months. So believe me when I say that you will not get as far on your own strength. This industry is tough, but nothing worth having is easy to achieve.

I've learned a lot in the industry, but still learning as I go. One organization that helped me a lot along the way was and is AMTC (Actors, Models, Talent for Christ). I went through their program from October, 2012 to January, 2014 when I graduated.

If you're pursuing the calling God has on your life

*“If you're pursuing the calling God has on your life and you feel that you're not getting anywhere, stay the course.”*

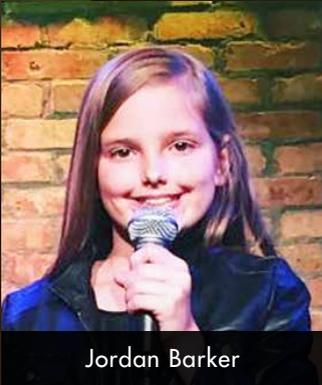
and you feel that you're not getting anywhere, stay the course. Because God blesses those who are faithful and consistent with their calling.

If you need prayer or just need advice on anything, send us a message on Instagram (@shatteredsilencemusic), Twitter (@SS\_Tunes), Facebook (Shattered Silence) or email us at [info@shatteredsilencemusic.com](mailto:info@shatteredsilencemusic.com). We would love to hear from you and keep up with what you're doing. I hope this article has inspired you to keep going and I hope to see you soon on the road.



# COMEDY

## THE COMEDY KID



Jordan Barker

Jordan Barker is a 10-year-old stand-up comic and recent graduate of AMTC. While attending acting classes, her coaches recognized her comedic timing and recommended she participate in the stand-up showcase at

Shine. Jordan put together a few funny stories, performed, and ended up winning the Overall VIP Choice Award for Shine Summer 15.

Since attending Shine, she and her parents have tried to follow the advice given by the agents that Jordan met with during callbacks and have started on the path to build her career. Her comedy show is clean, funny, and entertaining for all ages. She has found favor with Christian audiences and was recently given the opportunity to open for Bob Smiley at a marriage conference held at Lakewood Church in Houston, which was a major blessing.

When we joined AMTC, we were looking for a way to infiltrate the secular industry to reach people with the love of God and influence the leaders in the industry for Jesus. In this endeavor we have faced numerous challenges. The biggest challenge has been that almost all secular comedy work is performed in adult only situations, such as night clubs, so Jordan is often not allowed to perform simply because of her age.

She had quite a breakthrough in the Dallas area though, thanks to fellow comedian Chris Porter. Jordan is a big fan of his dry, sarcastic humor. Even though he tells his jokes with words she is not allowed to say, she caught his attention when she made a video doing a few minutes of clean versions of his jokes. When we took Jordan to watch his show live, he asked that she be allowed

to open for him at the Improv in Arlington. Since then, the Improv and other local venues have allowed Jordan access to their stages and have helped build her fan base in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area.

*“The biggest challenge has been that almost all secular comedy work is performed in adult only situations, such as night clubs, so Jordan is often not allowed to perform simply because of her age.”*

While many clubs will let her in to do her show, some still have a “no child policy” leading to some fun experiences. For example, one club could not let her in, but they have a window behind their stage. The solution - open the window and give Jordan a mic and let her perform her comedy from the sidewalk. Her performance was awesome, and she will continue to press on and reach people with joy, laughter, and love.

We are still praying for opportunities and are determined to build her social media and have her perform somewhere every week.



Photo: Brickhouse Grille & Tavern by Joseph James

# FEATURE MOVIE

## 8 DAYS

WORLD CHANGER



After sneaking off to a party with her friends, 16-year-old Amber Stevens goes missing. Forced into the world of sex trafficking, her family and community fight to get her back. Inspired by actual events. So much can happen in **8 DAYS**.

Screenwriter, Philipa Booyens, had been working on a story for an anti-trafficking organization for the past two years. As she delved into this dark world and the stories of these survivors, she knew she had to do more. After prayerful consideration, the After Eden Pictures team put their other projects on hold to create this feature film inspired by the actual events of these different stories.

We thought it was important to not just create another documentary. We discovered that most kids do not watch documentaries, and giving

facts and statistics keeps the pain of these victims and what they are going through distant. Our mission as a company is to transform culture through uplifting entertainment.

The original intention was to create a short film that organizations could use to spread awareness. We originally intended this to be a volunteer project. Since we are surrounded by so many talented people in entertainment, this was our way to work together and use our gifts to fight this crime. God completely outdid our expectations by creating a feature film with performances and a story that will haunt you and hopefully change how you see the world and those around you. Hopefully, it will inspire you to change and make a difference in this fight like it has for us.

*“Hopefully, 8 DAYS will inspire you to change and make a difference in this fight like it has for us”*

*Philipa Booyens:* Writing the screenplay was very challenging, especially on an emotional level. We were terrified of being completely inadequate to tell the stories of these victims. We had no true understanding of what that meant and therefore no idea how to convey the trauma of what these people went through. But, after prayerful consideration, we felt God impress upon us to do this, that He had called us to write and that their stories needed to be told. Throughout the story writing process for the book, we had three editors who were heavily involved in anti-trafficking organizations and had years of experience fighting this crime. Also, we were able to work with Homeland Security Investigation's ICE division, which gave us first-hand information and actually helped rewrite some of our scenes and dialogue to further the accuracy of this film.

*Jaco Booyens*: Directing this film was difficult, but when the cast and the crew were as fantastic as they were, then it was easy. The heaviness of the issue and personal reasons of my own made the film even more difficult to direct. Because of my faith as a Christian, I will never put an actress or actor in the degrading position of ever having nudity in any of my films. Needless to say, nor will I expose an audience to it. The question arose, how do we show sex trafficking without showing anything? What was the line that we could not cross? Obviously, we needed to show darkness in order to show light, all the while sticking to the truth. We needed to be accurate with the current state of the crime in order to have the audience, victims, pimps, buyers and those who fight this crime all be able to see themselves on screen, identify with a character, be informed and enlightened to the situation and fired up to do something about it. This was a daunting task which we could only surrender to the Lord.



Directing the actors was hard. There were several times during the filming process when the crew asked me for a timeout due to emotional heaviness in every scene to be able to find a way to deal with what was happening in front of their eyes.

In pre-production we made the decision that the film had to be PG-13. We looked at all the rules, obeyed them all, and turned the film in to the MPAA for a rating. The MPAA called me (you do not receive a call from the MPAA), but when they called they stated that they could not rate the film. They stated that we did not break any rules, however they felt like it needed to be rated R but it was at a stalemate. When I asked why, the reply I received was there was no reason to

rate the film R other than the film was emotionally disturbing. Interestingly, it was not a criterion to give a film an R rating.

I actually took this as a compliment. I told my crew I want to emotionally disturb people by making them aware of this violent crime, that it is in our society, that it is attacking our children and that there needs to be an uprising through information and then a call to action to stop the sex trafficking of American children. I declined the R rating and asked for a re-evaluation which resulted in a PG-13 rating with the endorsement of the MPAA board that the film is powerful and must be used to save lives.



Because of the heaviness of the subject matter, the number of emotional scenes and distress the actors and actresses had to go through, we spent a lot of time caring for and counseling Nicole Smolen who plays Amber, Katie Walker who plays the mom, and Nathan Hudson who plays the trafficker.

All the actors in this film did an absolutely fantastic job. Kim Baldwin, who plays a character far

removed from her own personality or lifestyle, became so believable that she was confronted after several screenings by the public telling her that she's a bad person and how could she do something like this.

The purpose was to show people the truth, which we knew would be disturbing to them, and hoping it would wake them up to do something about it. That is why this film was made.



This film has brought a new perspective to all of us who worked on it and helped produced it. We now see this crime of child sex trafficking for the horrific violent act that it is. To us it has become an awareness and a new way of life as each day we are fully aware of the happenings around us. As we work toward helping in the fight for our youth, it has been rewarding to see lives saved and transformed by redemption through Christ. A few of the actors have started speaking in public to bring awareness, started organizations to fight the crime, and even become involved in the making of additional movies regarding sex trafficking.

We never expected, planned or anticipated the impact this film would have, or the reach. God has completely blown our minds. He took our fish and loaves and fed thousands in His provision and impact with this film. 8 DAYS has helped bring awareness and education on the crime of child sex trafficking. We have seen hundreds of thousands shaken by the knowledge of this horrific crime.



8 DAYS was filmed in 2013. The landscape and knowledge about sex trafficking has changed dramatically from when we first started this project. Our current desire is that people not just be aware, but be convicted to do something to end this crime. Everyone can do something.

Whatever you do, use your gifts, your calling and platform to help end this crime. We've worked with news anchors, politicians, chefs, nurses, stay-at-home moms, radio and TV personalities, song writers, police officers, law makers, dress makers, makeup artists, photographers and so many more that have used their time and talents to raise awareness, fight this crime, and support these survivors. These are human beings made by God, and no one should ever be treated like this.

Most people we speak to think this crime is only an issue in other countries, however, it is very real in the U.S.A. It happens in our neighborhoods every day. Together we can make a difference and we can work to change laws and STOP this act of violence against our children.

One of my personal favorite stories is that after watching our film, or even just our trailer, some girls decided not to meet up with their "online boyfriend" at a secluded location. We just wanted to tell their stories. It's true. This happened and continues to happen. But for the girls who watched our film and didn't meet up with their online boyfriend, we may have just saved their lives.

We have been on national and international radio and television shows like Steve Harvey. This has given us a broad reach to be able to impact crowds in every state in the US and in 48 other countries around the world. We have screened the film in hundreds of safe homes, schools, churches, communities, organizations, events and private businesses. We are so thankful for the awareness that has been raised because it is absolutely making a difference and saving lives.

**INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT 8 DAYS**

- Almost all of our cast and crew were unpaid volunteers.
- We used the actual interrogation rooms at the police station that they use when investigating sex crimes.



- All of our locations were donated cost free, including a million dollar model home. They shut down their operations in that model home for two full days while we shot the 'Amber's home' scenes.
- The night before filming the hospital scenes we found out that we couldn't use the hospital we had been promised, but in less than 24 hrs God provided a better facility with more access, for free.
- Homeland Security Investigation's ICE task force trained our actors and let us use some of their props and equipment. They actually made an arrest while we were on set one night at the hotel. They were in place ready to start filming the next scene when one of the officers stepped out of line and headed to a different hotel room and arrested someone on sex trafficking charges.
- One of the ICE officers didn't show up to film one night. He was one who was really excited about the opportunity to be in the film. We found out that he couldn't be with us that night because he was in an

undercover operation in a nearby city. He rescued a sixteen year old victim that night.



- One of our crew rededicated his life to the Lord and was baptized in the 'Party scene' swimming pool our last night of filming.

8 DAYS is currently available to purchase on Amazon, iTunes and our website.

<http://www.8daysfilm.org>



# DANCING

## DANCING UNLEASHED



Daniel Browning

Almost 10 years ago I had a dream. See I grew up playing sports all my life and had my mind set for playing college basketball and potentially coaching after graduation. The

goal was in place and the future was set, but sometimes God has other plans.

My college career in short was very rough. I was selected as a walk-on to a Division II powerhouse team, and unfortunately, that's all I ever was, a walk-on. I started to fall down a path that I was not ready for and I was falling fast! I went from a star to walk-on, church attending to party attending, relationship to single, and almost kicked out of school in a matter of six months. That's when God began to pave the way for where I am today.

When the smoke cleared, I was left with virtually nothing I came with. I was no longer playing basketball, no longer in a relationship, none of the same friends I started with, and, by the grace of God, I still had school but I was on thin ice.

I remember when my cousin, who owned a dance studio at the time, asked if I wanted to come help teach the kids some dance. That was all it took to see that I was made for something bigger than coaching basketball with a ten man roster.

I started teaching more and soon moved to another studio where I taught my first competition class. As I began to grow as a teacher, I also grew as a dancer and started performing at little venues, that is until AMTC came along.

In 2013 I signed with Actors, Models, and Talents for Christ and my life changed forever. Through all the training and preparation I was able to make the talent finale at the Shine showcase in Orlando, FL. Following the showcase I signed with two agencies and have been working ever since in the entertainment industry.

I could tell you the story ends there, but man would I be wrong.

In 2014 I launched Dance 2 Inspire. See, along the way I discovered the power that

*“The goal was in place and the future was set, but sometimes God has other plans.”*

dance has. It can take a room full of young kids, capture them, even if for a short while, and fill them with hope. If we have the power to capture young people, will they listen to what we have to say? Well, maybe this will answer that...

In 2014 we launched our first small hip hop camp and had 12 kids show up. In 2015 we went from



# DANCING ➤

## DANCING UNLEASHED - Continued



a small studio to a hotel ballroom and had about 60 kids show up, not to mention the powerhouse artists we brought with us. Stevo Jones, from Step Up All In, and Beth Spangler, from Season 7 of The Voice, partnered with us to bring to life the Unleashed 2015 Convention. We have amassed a following of about 2,000 on social media and it continues to grow everyday. See, sometimes we think our dreams are big, until God takes over and



Photo: Dancer - Huntington Beach, CA - Daniel Hartmann - by Daniel Hartmann

challenges us to dream bigger!

To this day I have two companies I run along with traveling the country performing, teaching, and speaking to young people and using the art of hip hop to capture hearts along the way. What started out as a dream to coach ten people turned into a career teaching thousands.

## BRICKHOUSE GRILLE & TAVERN Newnan, GA



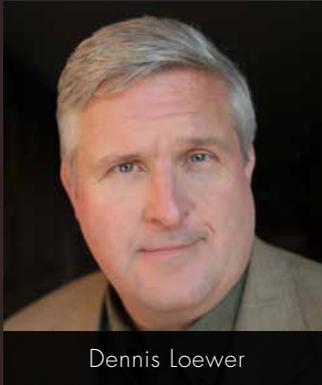
A big shout of thanks to our friends at the Brickhouse Grille & Tavern for letting us use their facility early one Sunday morning to film part of the trailer for our up and coming theatrical production of "Follow Your Dreams!" You can see it on our website and Youtube channel.

Oh, and did we mention the mouth-watering food they serve? We recommend this restaurant for anyone in the area. They are not very far from Pinewood Studios and the AMTC Corporate offices. Enjoy one of their Black Angus burgers in a variety of choices. We like the spicy with their spicy fries, and they also have a wide range of other menu items. Catch a live band on the weekends or karaoke during the week. Check out their facebook page to see their schedule and specials.

<https://www.facebook.com/Brickhouse-Grille-and-Tavern-236902850740>

# ACTING

## NEVER TOO LATE



Dennis Loewer

When most people think of education, they think about going to college, learning a trade, or going back to get a master's degree, etc. However, never underestimate the skills you attain throughout your professional career and church life.

As a member of the "Over 40" demographic and seeing the constant paradigm shifts in business and technology careers over the years, it is never too late to pursue your dreams in the television, film, and modeling industry.

For many years, I worked a customer service desk job. I really never had the ambition to excel for a management position, etc. Why? Because my life has always been about God, family, and work, in that order. Therefore, my focus when not at work was ministry and family.

Over the last 20 years, I started up a drama ministry program at a small Baptist church, led mission teams with over 3,000 pounds of supplies to assist in operating a vacation bible camp in the Carpathian Mountains of Western Ukraine, taught acting classes during the largest English camp in Russia (the home of Constantin Stanislavsky), and organized large free community festivals. It is the many skills I learned during these events which taught me I have what it takes to pursue my dreams in the entertainment industry. For example, establishing a drama ministry at a church taught me how to get organized on a monthly and weekly basis. It also taught me how to communicate with various personalities. Not always an easy task to negotiate personalities and still ensure rehearsals and effective programming actually happens. Leading a team to Ukraine taught me patience, perseverance, and to always remain focused on the task at hand despite inevitable distractions.

There were many times that I was uncomfortable during this adventure (language barrier, jet lag, unusual food, lack of creature comforts), but I learned to grow as a person. When we step out of our comfort zone, amazing things can happen. Yes, even those times we fail - we are still learning and growing. Teaching acting classes in Russia was without a doubt a blessing and affirmation from God that this is where He wants me to be.

I remember meeting a young girl who I tried to

*“You are never too old to pursue your dreams and honor your Faith!”*

give an American Flag to as a gift. She didn't want it and threw it on the ground. I advised her that even though we may not agree with some actions our country partakes, we are all God's children and I gave it to her as a gift to remember me. On the final night of the camp, this young lady came up and hugged me. When I pulled away, she was in tears and was apologizing in Russian for the disrespect and misunderstanding she showed me. We had a wonderful talk and remain Facebook friends to this day. Life is full of lessons that enable us to do greater things for His Glory and even ourselves if we choose wisely.

Finally, there was the organization of the large community festivals. I found myself going to area businesses and networking with community and political leaders. Not really something I would do considering I really don't like confrontation. But, \$13000 donated dollars later, a small church with a core of 75 people were able to throw a free community festival for 10 times that amount. All those festival visitors blessed because God strengthened and encouraged me during the previous situations to step out of my comfort zone.

WANTED: SUNGLASSES? by Kari T. Campbell



Katie Andrews

"I was terrified out of my mind but figured I wouldn't know until I tried," she said. "The first time I ever stepped out onto the stage under the lights and made an audience laugh, that's when I

knew this is what I wanted to do for the rest of my life."

But being exclusively home-schooled, extremely shy, and a self-proclaimed social misfit, Katie Andrews had a dubious start as an actor. She loved the countless benefits of learning at home but felt limited in many ways. So decidedly outside of her comfort zone, Andrews entered college as an art major. Then simply out of curiosity, she decided to audition for a small, student-created production.

"I just wanted to be part of something. If you'd ever told me I'd do this as a career, I would have thought you were crazy!" Andrews laughed.

She tried out for the upcoming college Christmas program and got a part. From the moment she stood on stage in front of the entire student body, her life took a right fork onto the "road less traveled," for her anyway. That next semester, she changed her major to performance studies.

"I finished my degree there, but their focus was on interpretation. As a Christian organization, the school didn't know what to do with the entertainment industry, so in a way, just ignored it," Andrews said. "They simply didn't know how to address it."

A couple of years later while in grad school and taking private acting classes, her instructor mentioned a program he knew of called Actors,

Models & Talent for Christ (AMTC). But his suggestion fell through the cracks of busyness and time slipped by. She began feeling very lost. She knew that she wanted to act, but she wasn't getting the tools needed to be a successful performer as a Christian in the entertainment industry. The inner turmoil kept her up nights, so she reconsidered her options. After praying for a direction to take, she found peace when an answer arrived: Drop from grad school and trust in God.

The day after withdrawing, Andrews happened to remember her instructor's suggestion and researched AMTC online. Providentially, she found they were holding auditions about an hour away the very next week in Mobile, Alabama. With nothing to lose and a whole lot of faith in God's orchestrations, she determined to audition.

It went very well, and the program invited her to join them. Not being compulsive, she prayed about it first and then informed them of her choice: Give it her best shot.

*"If you'd ever told me I'd do this as a career, I would have thought you were crazy."*

Now all in, Andrews diligently spent the next year learning from the online curriculum and often headed to Atlanta for weekend workshops, photos, and dress rehearsal. All the preparation was for one purpose – a weeklong adventure in Orlando, Florida at an exclusive resort/convention center called "SHINE!" It

was a venue selected for all the aspiring entertainers who had been rigorously preparing their song choices, monologues, commercials, comedy and dance routines, and runway walks

## WANTED: SUNGLASSES? - Continued

for many long months. It was all done to perform before casting directors, agents, and peers for talent evaluation.

"Everyone dreams of being signed after Shine with that one agent, but I felt that probably wouldn't be me," shared Andrews. "All I really wanted was to discover my next clear, God-directed step. I didn't know that the New York Film Academy (NYFA) would be there giving out scholarships. But when I learned that, I decided to audition – at first for validation, but then to see where it could take me. If they told me yes, I'd know I was on the right track."

Again to her surprise, the school offered her a generous \$10,000 a year grant. Now all that remained was to visit New York to see the school, scout out the area, and seek God's direction in this new life-turn.

Her only concern was how she would find the funds to pay the remainder of the tuition. But, as before, she would trust God to make a way if He wanted her to shine her light in the performance industry.

Before she knew about the NYFA opportunity, she had already planned on making a seven-city tour up the east coast as a cast member of a play about Corrie Ten Boom, "The Hiding Place." One of their stops was for two full days in New York City. Providentially, she was able to schedule a meet with someone from the film academy in lower Manhattan, find a job, check out housing, and make solid connections.

"I may end up living in my car for a while, but all the pieces are coming together as needed, except for where I'm going to live. I'm not worried either way. I know He'll provide," Andrews said. "But it was really exciting. As I was standing on the steps of a campus hall, I turned around to see the ferries and in the distance was the Statue

of Liberty. It was pretty cool. And Broadway is within walking distance!"

Andrews is hoping to move there as soon as possible to begin work and get acclimated to the city and her environs. She'll begin classes at the NYFA in January.

"I may even get my violin back out of its case and take it to the streets," she smiled. "I could set out a sign that reads 'If you like my playing, please enjoy. If not, please donate for more lessons.' But it's a great chance to use a neglected skill and enjoy a unique opportunity to perform and pick up some extra cash!"

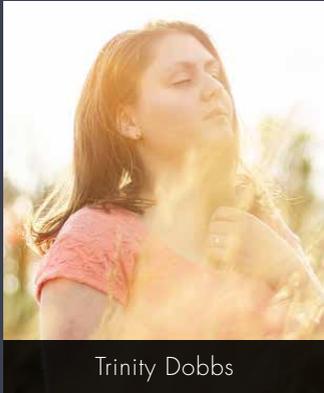
So as she stands on the brink of an exciting new career she would have never before dreamed of, she's eager for her life to launch in this new direction. She admits she's a bit intimidated by moving to the big city with very few contacts and even fewer familiarities, but she's at peace with it.

Armed with a good foundation from acting classes, AMTC training, the SHINE experience, a soon-to-be film academy student, and God's grace, Andrews' horizons not only look promising, but they are "shining" with stellar possibilities. As the saying goes, her future's looking so bright, where she's heading, she'll be needing sunglasses.



Philip Bernier & Katie Andrews

DREAM BIG!



Trinity Dobbs

Have you ever felt like you are not where you are supposed to be? Like you should be doing something else with your life? As if everything that you have done thus far has been pointless?

Honey, I have bought that t-shirt.

Every time people ask me what I do for a living, I tell them, "I am an actor." They smile and say "Oh, really?" or "Hope that goes well for you." They are always polite, but you can see past their fake smiles and the words behind those glazed-over eyes as if they were to say, "Hope you come back to reality soon!" or "What is your real job?"

Many people do not believe that acting, dancing, comedy, or music is a legitimate career. They want you to become a doctor or a lawyer or a teacher. To be honest, being a professional sports player would be classified as a real job before the entertainment industry will be in their eyes.

But I say dream big! It doesn't matter what people think. Do what makes you happy. In the end, it is your life.

Sure, you can settle down, become a teacher or whatever, have a couple of kids and live in a small town with your white picket fence and your beautiful flower garden out front for all your neighbors to be in awe of. To some people, that is the life they want. And that is OK. If that is their dream, who am I to stop them? That is their choice. That is what makes them happy.

But not everyone is like that, especially me. I would rather be a failed actress but know that I tried with

all of my heart and soul to pursue my dream job than to become the most successful doctor out there and be miserable at a job I despise.

Do what makes you happy. Dream the biggest dreams that you have. How do you know that you can't achieve them if you never try? I never thought I would be the founder of an entertainment-based magazine. But here I am. Smiling like a giddy school girl with her first crush because this just proves to me and to you that dreams do come true.

When my first novel, *Guardian Angel*, came out in 2013, that was a dream come true for me! Me, the weird, quiet girl who was bullied by her best friends behind her back in high school- a published author?!?!?! It is still surreal to me three years later. It's funny, looking back at where I was five years ago. I was a completely different person. I was this chubby, teen girl with a dream of being famous. I had no idea where to start. I had braces on my teeth and a wavy, tangled nest for hair. The girl people teased. I thought that if I were famous, people would treat me differently. Maybe people would take the time to get to know me and maybe actually like me for me. That's when I began to pursue this industry.

*“No, my life is not perfect by any means, and yes, I still have a long way to go, but I finally am okay with being myself.”*

I made several changes. The braces came off and the nest became a mane. I moved to a new state and made several new friends along the way. As these changes began to occur, I started to discover myself and finally began to figure out what it means

## DREAM BIG! - Continued

to be Trinity. No, my life is not perfect by any means, and yes, I still have a long way to go, but I finally am okay with being myself. Whether I am ever famous or not, it doesn't matter. What matters is that, in the end, I pursued my dream, depended upon God to help me achieve it, and I am happy with who I am and what I have become. If one person achieves his dreams because of something I said or did, everything I ever did, good or bad, would be worth it to me.

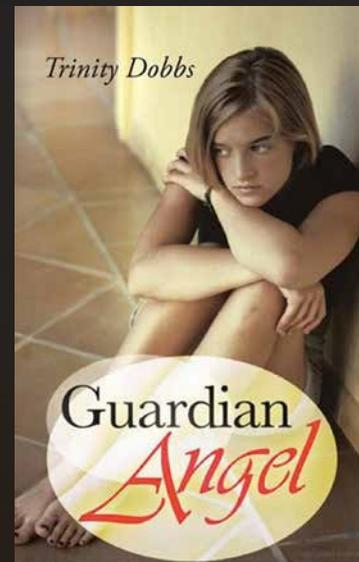
If you were to watch my life as a movie, (which would be a comedy), you would never believe that I would be where I am today. I shouldn't be. No, I am not a famous actor or writer. No, my name is not in shining lights nor am I being mobbed by the paparazzi. But, I dream big and am actively pursuing my dreams. And I am a happier person because of it.

Don't give me this, "Oh I'm too old," or "Woe is me, I'm too young" garbage. Most of the big name celebrities were either born into the industry or they did not catch their big break until they were in their 30s-40s. Some were even in their 50s. Dick Van Dyke is 90 and still singing!

My hope from this article is that you will be able to read this and go "Ok, my dream is \_\_\_\_\_. I am going to go after it!" Then, go! What is holding you back from it? You don't want to get made fun of? You think your age limits you? In July, I met a 5-year-old comedian. He came in 2nd place in an international competition. About three years ago, I met an 89-year-old woman who was pursuing acting! It's never too late.

Or you could be like me and think, well, I have no training. Then go get some. Watch YouTube videos, find friends who are like-minded and

have them hold you accountable, take classes. Do something. Don't just sit around and wish for it to come true. You have to work at it. But if you love what you're doing, it won't feel like work at all.



### A Book by Trinity Dobbs

*April Larkin is the most popular girl in school. She has everything everyone dreams of: wealthy parents, the latest technology and styles in everything, the hottest boyfriend in school, top grades, captain of the basketball team - not to mention that all the girls are in love with her two brothers, Conner and Craig.*

*But when a new family moves in across the street, things start to change. They have something that she doesn't, and she can't figure out what it is. Through a series of trials and tribulations, and with the help of the new neighbor's son, Kyle, April discovers the secret to life: the love of God.*

Available in e-book.

<http://bookstore.westbowpress.com/Products/SKU-000672354/Guardian-Angel.aspx>

**Get it now in time for Christmas!**

REVELATIONS by Kari T. Campbell



Philip Bernier

It's just your average day – good weather, little traffic. Riding along with a couple of friends, approaching a light, and a car comes out of nowhere. Frozen, you're the only one who sees it coming. Sending you

into a tailspin, through the intersection, tires bursting upon curb impact, you finally slide to a halt on someone's lawn.

For Philip Bernier, a college sophomore born and raised in a family of 12 from Binghamton, New York, that accident was a life-changer. Not long before, he had been praying for God to give him worthy goals to strive for so that His desires would become his own. In response, God had strongly impressed upon his heart that acting and modeling were to be those goals. So how could this be part of that journey? After all, it was a miracle that he walked away from it, or even walked at all.

But only two weeks later, on heavy meds for the intense pain from his hip being jammed into his pelvis, a twisted lower spine, and a wrenched neck, his friends played a practical joke on him. They had seen an ad for what they thought was some type of modeling event coming to town that they convinced him they should all try for. Bernier was curious enough to blindly tag along. As his friends prepared to mock the goings-on, they discovered it was not at all what they expected.

Turns out it was a legitimate organization seeking performers with the heart to join their mission of introducing positive, godly influence to Hollywood. That organization was Actors, Models, and Talent for Christ (AMTC).

"I had come to realize that I'm a strange person," shared Bernier. "I had been emotionless and stoic all my life. Lots of trauma growing up.

But I discovered that wouldn't work with an acting career. You have to be in touch with your emotions, and I learned how alive and vibrant you must be. And I just – wasn't.

"But the opening presentation was one of inspiration and hope. They spoke about the industry and their plans of seeking to enter it to glorify God. And that just resonated with me," Bernier shared.

*“But one thing that truly amazed me was that for those few hours, I recall feeling like ‘myself’...in a way that I always wanted to be...”*

Though under the foggy influence of pain meds and unable to walk without twitching because of them, he was moved by the orientation and determined to audition. But then something odd happened during his first-ever monologue performance. He related that the jerking stopped, his spine became erect, and he felt like a different person for the rest of the day there. The acting audition went so well, the coach asked him to do a model walk – another first.

"But one thing that truly amazed me was that for those few hours, I recall feeling like 'myself,'" said Bernier. "But not in a way that I ever was... In a way that I always wanted to be – animated and excited about life, talkative, outgoing, and confident. And I felt God's pleasure in me," he smiled.

But at the end of the day, exhaustion set in, and all the pain returned. Invited to come back the next day, he declined. He knew he couldn't handle the dedication it would demand at that time in his life.

"During the next 2½ years," he said, "hope drove me toward healing and enduring all the

## REVELATIONS - Continued

painful treatments to come, while also dealing with five different insurance companies across three states." The many legal challenges from the car accident produced no beneficial results to speak of, but Bernier said he learned great lessons from it all.

"I learned how to stand up for myself," he said, "and how to be more discerning. I went through a ton of inner healing over those three years."

But fast forward to now living in North Carolina and still slowly recovering, he was finally ready to move forward. As pleasantly surprising as providence often is, it made another timely appearance.

"August 2015 in Raleigh, my sister heard a radio ad for AMTC, and something pulled at me," Bernier remembered. "I asked God to not let me show up and get a callback if it's not the right time. So I auditioned for acting, singing, and modeling, and it all went very well."

This time, it felt completely right. But he had to make a decision. Rent or AMTC? His roommate-sister knew the answer. She insisted on covering the rent that month.

He signed that Sunday. The following Tuesday, he felt odd, as if he were seeing the world in brilliant color and related that he was drunk on emotion for several weeks.

"It was like God said, 'You obeyed me, and now I'm giving you the vibrancy you sought,'" he said. "My personal journey was changing..."

So he dove into the full AMTC experience. And at the grand finale event called 'Shine' this summer in Florida where he showcased multiple talents, he received five callbacks from talent agencies.

One person from AMTC who has had a major impact on him is Stone Stafford, an Atlanta talent consultant. Calling him inspiring and refreshingly honest, Bernier had a chance at Shine to literally sit at Stafford's feet with a small group on the

hall floor. From an insider perspective, he shared his valuable industry knowledge and how much it would take to become successful in it. Bernier left with a newfound belief in himself.

"I knew beyond a shadow of a doubt that I was doing what I was supposed to do," he said.

Presently working with Southern Casting Call and Katz Casting, he has self-submitted and auditioned for some movie roles. A few low budget projects offering only travel compensation and small local speaking roles are possible. Although an actual paying gig has yet to come, he's optimistic from all the good advice he's received. And he drives a couple of hours weekly to Greensboro, North Carolina for acting classes to work on his craft.

Before AMTC, Bernier said he felt detached from family and life in general. But since the accident, and God answering his prayers so unquestionably granting him genuine feelings toward others, he's grown in ways he'd never imagined he could.

But throughout his journey, Bernier has found that becoming transparent is a long process. So is figuring out the best way to spread God's love through the vessel of our humanness. Quoting one brother's words of wisdom, as a youth he once told him, "Greatness starts today – every discipline you cultivate right now will prepare you for when you have the opportunity to make a difference."

From what I've seen in one afternoon with this singularly humble, godly young man, he'll meet each one of those opportunities head on. He fully realizes that this career choice will take every ounce of determination he has. But one day, he'll make his brother proud. Greatness surely has his name etched upon it.

# GAMECHANGERS UNIVERSAL

CHANGING THE GAME OF SHOWBIZ!



GameChangers Universal was founded after Daniel and I came back from AMTC's Winter 2015 SHINE conference in Orlando, Florida. I was amazed at the many connections we made from all over the country and world during that week and also the previous year when Daniel performed, and then, it was all over. Sure, we could stay partially connected via facebook, but what about those who don't use the social media site?

Also, another variable entered the equation. That was the performers who lived outside of the main entertainment communities and cities. They were having a hard time finding work nearby and unless they relocated, it was becoming extremely difficult to maintain the momentum they had up to the conference.

*“Why not create an entity that would not only give back to the community, but provide them with an acting/singing/dancing reel...”*

The solution, bring the work to them, to their communities, but not primarily to make a profit, rather, to benefit their community and city. Why not create an entity that would not only give back to the community, but provide them with an acting/singing/dancing reel in the process that they could use to land one of those prominent

roles in a major release?

So this was the basis of the foundation of this new resource, GameChangers Universal. What was amazing was that it took off almost immediately. In fact, we were getting openings to do the theatrical performances before we had even developed a screenplay. Well, this was next on the list, and it went faster than we could have imagined.



We decided that we should write a theatrical play that would target depression and suicide as our first project, so we sent out a request on the AMTC Grad page asking for help in writing the screenplay. The title is, “Follow Your Dreams!” Little did we realize that the first response and co-writer would be the beginning of fulfilling that outreach. It wasn't until almost two months later that we found out that our new co-writer had been contemplating suicide in December and that our casting call for a screenwriter in January had



# GAMECHANGERS UNIVERSAL

## FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS! FILM & TOUR 2017



helped to change her course.

Well, we wrote the screen play in about three short weeks and shot some of the trailer at a local bar, The Brickhouse Grill and Tavern, located two blocks from our townhome in Newnan, Georgia. We asked the manager if we could film, and the owner's only question to us was, "Are you going to bad-mouth bars?" We responded with a loudly proclaimed, "No!"

They told us when we could come and film. Afterwards, they said we could come back if we needed to do some more filming. It ended up becoming a great relationship. We are so grateful to them for allowing us to film there for our first trailer and the food and atmosphere, awesome.

We were going to start with the production in the Atlanta area and then tour the states with a team. However, I was then introduced to someone who said he could introduce us to a group that funds up to \$5 million to produce a movie. Being that we didn't have the startup funds for all of the touring and stage equipment, we thought this might be the way we should start, so we are currently rewriting the theatrical screenplay into a film screenplay. We are working on both at the same time and we will see which one takes off first, or even both.

In the midst of all of this, we decided to start a magazine that featured encouragement and help for

those desiring to enter the entertainment and media industry. The magazine, GameChangers Universal's UnDaunted Magazine, premieres with its online edition October 15th, the issue you are currently reading. Everything we have started, began with a vision and then the Lord directed people to become a part of it. It has been an amazing journey so far and we look forward to see how it is going to help others. Our plan is to start in the USA and then go to other countries as the doors open for us.

Everyone has a dream, a vision from the Lord, according to Psalm 139. It is our job, individually, to find what He has dreamed for us. Then, if we can lay down what we think and embrace what He planned, there is nothing that can stop us. No one else can walk our path, so therefore, there is



no competition. If we don't fulfill that which He planned, it is no one's fault but ours. He has set aside all the provision we need as well as all of the networking with others. It is our responsibility to see the vision and to write the vision out so that others can see it and come alongside to help (Habakkuk 2).

We have our website up and running and this whole project is a work in progress. There is a lot more to the vision, but suffice it to say, "We have begun!" If you'd like to be a part, please contact us and let us know. Abundant blessings on the journey He has set before you.

*Joseph James*

# ARTICLES

## BROKEN



Tricia Harmon

Brokenness is what we live in. We are a broken people, living in a broken world. Today, you or someone you love may feel like brokenness is all there is. Well, I've got a powerful promise for you based on God's

word and will for your life. Your brokenness and broken world is not your destiny. It is your place and position of breaking free.

I can proclaim that, in spite of being one who has suffered many, many places of brokenness. Some of which included multiple miscarriages, multiple confessions by an unfaithful husband, him walking out with five children still at home after 25 years of marriage; the loss of ministry as a pastor's wife and missionary/church planter; a very long and painful year of a child custody battle brought on by my former husband; the tragic sudden death of a 2nd husband after only being married for one year, etc.

Even as I write this article, I am remembering, as if it were yesterday, another moment of brokenness in our family one year ago this week. We made one of the most difficult decisions in order to find the kind of lasting help our daughter Leah so desperately needed before she turned 18.

We enrolled her into the only Teen Challenge Academy within a five state radius for girls 13-18 years old struggling with drug, alcohol and other destructive addictive behaviors. It was an ugly five-hour drive, as Leah spewed hateful accusations, curses and promises of how she

would never forgive us for doing this to her. For the last year, she struggled through her conflicting decisions, as to whether she would remain enrolled and graduate from high school and the program. She still struggled even after she turned 18, when she could legally walk out those doors and go find the life she wanted to live, or remain, and receive the healing, freedom and life Christ already offered her. I'm not sure that even one day was easy for her. But I can say with confidence, every day was worth it.

Today, not only are we rejoicing in Leah's amazing godly, respectful, transparent, authentic... downright transformed attitude and spirit, but have already seen the power of influence she has made in our family's lives. The brightness of her countenance, the joy in her spirit, her purpose for living, and the wisdom from which she speaks is a testament, that in her brokenness, only through the power of Christ, did she find her breakthrough.

*“I know it's complicated. It's messy. It seems hopeless. People closest to you don't understand.”*

With that, however, my heart is also full of immeasurable heaviness, sorrow and grief as I think of the two individual families who just this week are reeling in brokenness and excruciating devastation and loss surrounding their young son's, siblings', and loved ones' lives- one due to a drug overdose and the other to suicide.

I know it's complicated. It's messy. It seems hopeless. People closest to you don't understand.

# Islands In The Sea! - Trilogy

## BROKEN - Continued

There's no one who you think could understand or help. Your shame and guilt is too much to bear. You don't think you can live another minute in this kind of pain. You feel you and everyone you love would be sooo much better off if you weren't here to be such a burden, screwup, disappointment, etc.

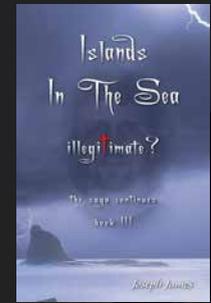
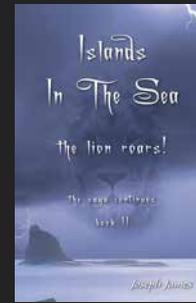
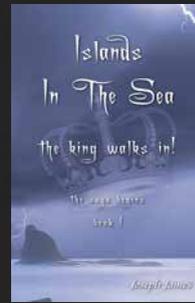
I know! I know all too well those legit and real feelings. But I also want you to know, that's a lie. It's all lies and a devilish setup to kill, steal, and destroy for you and everyone in your life the immeasurable eternal blessings in, and just on the other side of, your breakthrough. It's right now.

Your breakthrough is in your very next breath of brokenness as you exhale a cry out to Jesus. There is power, hope, peace, forgiveness, grace and healing in the name of Jesus. He is bound to His name and His word. Please, begin right now to cry out His name, and don't stop until you sense His presence, His peace, and the name of the person He brings to mind to immediately reach out to.

Email us. Let us pray with and for you, or for the someone you know who is going through this. Please share this with them. It's not too late. You are irreplaceable. Your life and what you have to offer is a priceless gift.

You are loved with an everlasting love, and underneath are His everlasting arms. Let your broken body in all its brokenness fall into the arms of Jesus, who, too, was broken on your behalf, so that in His resurrected power He can be everything and all things you need.

I'm Tricia Harmon, and I promise you that God can take your worst adversity and transform it into your most valuable asset.



Every once in a while someone is chosen who isn't the one we would normally choose for the task, but then again we aren't the one choosing, are we? It usually happens in the night, and all of a sudden, it is too late. We are hanging on the edge, and there is only one clear choice to make. Are we ready? It really doesn't matter - time has run out! We have to decide...now!

Joseph James is publishing his third book in his *Islands In The Sea* series just in time for Christmas 2016. The trilogy encapsulates some prophetic visions into a fast-moving, romantic story.

Available in Kindle & print. For more information visit:

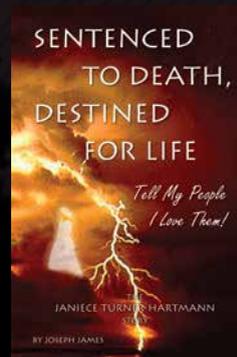
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## Books by Joseph James

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The Janiece Turner-Hartmann Story

*A lifechanging biography from author and recording artist Joseph James*



Experience the miraculous in a way you've never heard before. Into the depths of the grave, destiny reaches out. Through all of the trauma, a gender identity crisis, depression, mental illness, multiple suicide attempts, and a prognosis of certain death, a voice is heard from heaven. After all have given up hope, the Creator Himself reaches down from His dwelling place and does the thing He does best - Restoration!

*"This book, ...will at the least inspire you. It will bless you and will open your heart to all the possibilities of a life touched by a living God."* Dennis Goldsworthy-Davis - Open Wells Ministries

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Her website was created to help people going through depression & suicide as well as other challenges. It's never too late for a miracle or more! 7 hours of video from Janiece about her journey on YouTube.

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[DestinyPathOfLife.com](http://DestinyPathOfLife.com) [Joseph James]

## MARRYING THE GIFTS



Cyndee McClintock

“God doesn’t always lay a clear path for us. As a matter of fact, He had to throw a few boulders in mine to help me see where He wanted me to go.”

Cyndee McClintock grew up in small, picturesque resort town

located on a pristine chain of lakes in northern Wisconsin. Her family owned and operated a popular resort, where she and her siblings pitched in and helped with everything from ground maintenance to supervising the kitchen staff to preparing the cottages. She mastered just about every job at the adjoining campgrounds, general store and supper club. Most people considered hers a rather idyllic childhood, and Cyndee knew she was enormously blessed to spend her first 17 years on a beautiful private lake with unparalleled fresh air and tourists constantly expressing their envy that she got to live in such a slice of heaven.

However, whether she was pulling water skiers on the resort ski boat in the cool summers, or shepherding visiting snowmobilers on the postcard-worthy, snow-covered trails in the frigid winters, she knew there was more. Cyndee had no idea what or where, but she knew she was meant for something else. She did not know at that time how well her time in the service industry would prepare her for what lay ahead.

Most people in that part of Wisconsin continued working in the tourism industry or on the family dairy farms post-high school. But Cyndee knew that God had other plans for her. She graduated early from high school and enrolled in the

University of Wisconsin, where she was quickly drawn to the radio and television broadcasting studios in the fine arts building where she worked in the theatre box office as part of her work study program. She signed up for a radio shift, and within eight months, was appointed as the Program Director. The following year, the production department of the campus TV station was looking for an assistant, and it was there that she decided to pursue on-camera work. She was invited to co-anchor a local, weekly talk show and quickly caught the eye of a news director at NBC.

*“She had no idea what or where, but she knew she was meant for something else.”*

You would think that anchoring the weekend news, and eventually, the nightly news, at the NBC affiliate in Minneapolis-St. Paul and later, in Dallas, Texas, would be one of the most fulfilling accomplishments of a lifetime. For awhile, it was just that for Cyndee. But eventually, she grew weary of the competitive nature of the news business. It had changed her. And not in a positive way. She felt as if she had to re-earn her job every single day. She had to monitor her weight, take diction classes to shift her Wisconsin accent, constantly have her hair colored at the direction of the style team, and wear heavy on-air makeup to which she had developed a severe allergy.

God was not part of the cutthroat world of the news industry. He wasn’t allowed to be a part of the 20-second sound bite or the video of the devastated parent of a murder victim. Her world had grown increasingly dark. It was time for a change. God had been whispering to her, but

## MARRYING THE GIFTS - Continued

now He was yelling at her, to do something else. Cyndee had always had an interest in public relations, which is basically the other side of print and television news. In her next chapter, she became one of those people that had pitched stories to her at NBC. It was an exciting world that allowed her to be creative and to work with equally creative people.

She got to put her people skills to work, and her investigative reporting expertise became her strongest ally. She was honored with a collection of prestigious writing awards, and found her work being published in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and Woman's Day. She trained famous athletes, professional singers and CEOs on how to talk to the media. She wrote speeches and booked talent on leading talk shows. Her life was filled and it was fulfilled. Soon, God sent her down another path that she had not anticipated.

From 2008-2016, Cyndee served as the Team Leader for the Atlanta Hub of AMTC, a non-profit, Christian-based, talent development company. It was there that she was finally able to marry all of the gifts, the seemingly unconnected skills, that God had given to her. She worked with families and performers to prepare for the very industry that she had walked away from all those years ago. She shared her passion for following dreams, but to always remember that God's plans don't always mirror those dreams. She explained that there may be heartache along the way, but to rest in the knowledge that God's timing is always right, even when we feel a sense of urgency. Her students quickly learned that in God's unending grace, He closes doors that we have been forcing open with a crow bar. She had come full circle. And she saw what God had done in her and through her, and knew He wanted her to keep going.

During her youth in the service industry, her time in television news, her ventures into public relations, and her work in talent development, Cyndee learned some simple truths that are applicable in any facet of life, whether in theatre, on television or in the corporate world:

- Be true to you. You may be asked to take on a role that is not like you. That's called acting. But when the cameras are off, find you again. And be that person that God created you to be.
- Always say thank you. No one works "for" you. They only work "with" you. If you remember that, you will always remember to be grateful. And when you are grateful, you will always stay humble.
- Don't question God about where He has you. If you question His plan, you will lose sight of the path He has laid out for you, and you might miss His signs along the way. Even on your darkest day, have faith. Celebrate where you are every single step of the way. Because God doesn't make mistakes.
- Serve others. If you look outside yourself, and make a concerted effort to share your gifts with others, you will become a better person. Ultimately, you are sowing the seeds of a future generation. Your legacy is nothing if you don't leave your grace-filled mark on the hearts, in the souls, of others.
- Be nice. You aren't better than anyone else, and your ego should not take precedence over the feelings of others. God has blessed you, and it's up to you to be a blessing to others. Being nice may take extra effort sometimes. However, at the end of the day, even if it's been a very long day, being nice furthers His Kingdom. So make the effort. Because it's worth it.

# ADVICE

## JUST DON'T QUIT



Help! I'm trying to make it in the film industry, but I don't know where to start. Don't worry, if you are in this industry for the right reasons, you will find your niche. You may be starting out saying you are an actor, but you may find that there is so much

to this industry that you change your mind mid-stream. Ask yourself if you are willing to do what it takes to really work in this competitive industry.

I went through the AMTC program with the desire to become an actor. Then I realized there are many different types of acting. Not only is there theater acting, but in film there are many categories such as feature films, television, commercials, hosting, voice over and the list goes on. I love all of the various types of film. and I'm learning which areas I am better suited for than others. How did I figure that out?

Well, I started at the beginning of course. The easiest way to get started, for me, was to do background work. It took a little searching around and networking to find out how to really learn how it all worked. Once I learned what websites to go to and what Facebook feeds to start following, it became easy and almost addictive. I would read casting notices for background needs on various TV shows and movies being filmed nearby. I would submit my information per the instructions and then wait to hopefully get booked. I was so thrilled when I started booking gigs for background work. I learned very quickly that this is an awesome way to get to know the industry. You get paid (not much) but still, you get paid and you learn at the same time. If you are

observant of your surroundings and soak it all in, you will learn what all the excitement is about when it comes to film making.

By starting out in background work you get the opportunity to learn set etiquette (do's and don'ts). You learn who's who on set and can pick up what their job includes. You learn the chain of command and the hierarchy of film crew. This aspect alone is so valuable and important for everyone in the film business. Learning who does what and for whom is good to know as well. A great crew behind the scenes will produce a great experience for all involved and as a background extra, you will feel that vibe. No matter how long the shoot day is, it will be a positive experience, and you will be ready for more. A bad day on set, where the crew is grumpy because of whatever reason, will also leave an impression - a negative one.

*“A year ago I booked a gig requiring me to shave my head on-camera. Yes! ...I shaved my hair all off in front of about 20 people on set in one-take.”*

I firmly believe that no matter how good an actor you think you are, you should humble yourself and do a few background gigs to gain perspective and meet other people in the industry who you can build working relationships with and network as you all pursue your goals in the entertainment business.

Learn what types of roles you are best suited for. What type of character do you look like? Ask your friends or, better yet, ask complete strangers.

## JUST DON'T QUIT - Continued

Go out to the local coffee shop or hangout spot and ask the person who takes your order. What profession do you think I am? What type of person do you think I am? A doctor, lawyer, cab-driver, soccer mom, student, athletic, criminal, cop, model, dorky, intelligent, silly, etc. Then dress differently and go somewhere else and ask again. It's like a game, but it can help you determine how others see you and the types of roles you should be pursuing. I know I will never be a sexy swimsuit model, but I make a believable lawyer, FBI agent, business woman and even a caring motherly type. Be in tune with who you really are and not what roles you hope you are.

Maximize your strengths and your downfalls. When I started out I was one weight, but I've since put on some pounds and now my "type" has changed. I still want to lose weight but for now I will embrace my new "look" for what it is. Don't live in the past with old head shots of what you used to look like.

A year ago I booked a gig requiring me to shave my head on-camera. Yes! I knew this going into it and yes, I shaved my hair all off in front of about 20 people on set in one take. I did this because I was at a point in my life where I was ready for a change. This particular gig didn't compromise my morals or ethics. It was just hair, and I knew it would grow back eventually. Anyway, afterwards, boy, did I have a new look. I had to get new head shots made to reflect my new and very different look.

Understandably this is a bit of an extreme change, but be aware every time you decide to change your hair style or color. Will it change what types of roles you can play? Absolutely! If you are asking if I would do it again, of course I would! It was such a neat experience to go through, and I have tons of head shots for every phase my hair went through. I can look back and know how I'll

look if I ever do that again.

Try not to get discouraged if you have a dry spell. We all go through dry spells. Use this time to train. Utilize opportunities, even if it's a non-paying gig. These are the best ways to get that coveted demo-reel material. A good demo reel is just as good as a good resume. It took me over a year to get enough material to make a decent demo reel. Don't feel like you have to put everything you have ever done on it. Make it your best work that you are most proud of.

Also, make sure that what you put on your reel is quality. You can be an amazing actor, but if the film quality is poor (i.e. bad lighting, bad audio), that can make a negative impression as well. It's okay to be picky about what goes on your demo reel. Never put your auditions on it. Scripts are kept very confidential, and if you put your audition on a demo reel, then you may be leaking storyline information.

Becoming an actor is a journey. If you go too fast, you may miss some of the best moments. Don't be so eager to achieve success that you miss the adventure in getting there. Don't compromise your morals and values just to get a gig that you think will make you famous or will have a big paycheck. Keep your dignity about you and you will be more respected in this industry. It won't change for you and you should be careful to not change for it by sacrificing your values. It's a delicate balance to find the best fit for you while keeping yourself grounded. There are bumps along the way - trust me, I'm speaking from experience. These bumps will only make you wiser and stronger and ready to tackle the next bump in the road. So, Keep Calm and if you can't Carry On, at least act like you can ... after all, you are an actor aren't you?

# INDUSTRY OPPS

NEW FILMS, OPPORTUNITIES, NEWS

Hey! Send us any upcoming events that are must-attends or auditions that you're aware of anywhere in the USA for:

**Acting**  
**Musicians**  
**Dancers**  
**Models**  
**???**



*1 Corinthians 3:10*



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# WORKING THE NET

## CONNECTING TO FIND OPPORTUNITIES

Know any people, places, or things going on to help fellow performers connect with all things "entertainment"?

Bands looking for vocalists  
Vocalists seeking bands  
Agents/agencies  
Photogs  
Stylists  
Recommendations??

*Submit your recommendations via the contact page on our website or our email on page 3 of this mag.*

Let us know if you'd like to be a part of our magazine. We need photographers, contributors, stories, advice, articles, etc.

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