**On Self-Publishing:  
A QuickStart For Writers & Beginners**

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**Preface**

To all writers and beginners who are considering to self-publish their works or projects.

Warm Greetings!

I am excited to share with you the essentials of self- publishing and how important it is to tend to your *WHY.* Self- publishing is exciting, memorable and purposeful. I will explain in detail in the pages ahead as you read this book. I hope you are excited as I am! (*smiles*) If you have not begun writing your manuscript or draft it is really OK. This book is for you. If you have begun writing and are ready to self-publish, this book is also for you. This book is for anyone who is presently interested in becoming a self-published author or interested in self-publishing in the years to come.  
With Excitement,

Shenetha Ramsey

*Shenetha Ramsey, Self-Publishing Author*

**1**

**Why I Self-Publish**

As soon as you start to pursue a dream, your life wakes up and everything has meaning.

~ Barbara Sher

I was led by the Holy Spirit to write. I did not make up the book titles and I did not self-publish my books in the order that I planned, but I did start and followed His lead. However, I am quite pleased and am glad that I did. First of all, let me share with you when I began to write. I began writing in spring 2015. Around that same time, I opened a non-profit organization, Three-Sixty Resource Project (TSRP) in February 2015. TSRP is a community organization that provides educational development and social development to children, youth and families concerning the social issues (i.e., suicide, violence, teenage pregnancy, and school dropouts) that prevalently impact communities. In summer 2015 in the month of July, I opened Gifted To Inspire, LLC (GTI). GTI provides tutoring and enrichment services to children and youth in the following subjects: English Language Arts (ELA), Reading, Writing and Study Skills. Life Coaching services is also provided in the following areas: Small-Business Start-up, Parenting/Relationship Builder and Self-Publishing.

As of now, I have self-published *Survivors of Life Challenges: Some Phenomenal Activists & Leaders Inspiring Women In the Future* in May 2018. I know it took 3 years for me to publish that book. However, I can justify that. I followed God’s instructions and let Him lead me in what to write and when to publish. Before self-publishing that book in May 2018, I self- published two books prior. *Reclamation From Life Stressors: A Self-Help Resource* in January 2018 and *Fast Track To Life Coaching: A Practical Resource* in December 2017. I believe that God lead me to write those two books before *Survivors of Life Challenges: Some Phenomenal Activists & Leaders Inspiring Women In the Future* because that was His command and I obeyed Him.

**2**

**Self-Publishing Your *WHY***

If you want to write, you can. Fear stops most people from writing, not lack of talent, whatever that is.

~ Richard Rhodes

Self-publishing your *WHY* is exciting, memorable, and purposeful. I can say that because this is true to me and I feel good about my works. Self-publishing may make you feel different compared to some others. To be honest, I have never heard any local self-published author state that they regret self-publishing. Although some people may truly feel that they should not have self-published their works, I am glad I did. Self-publishing is very exciting, rewarding and fun.

Self-publishing my works is a true blessing from God. I hope when you self-publish your works, you feel the same way I do and are excited about your works. Becoming self-published shows the world who you are, and it displays your passion. It also helps other potential writers who may be reluctant to self-publish their works. By self-publishing you are forever considered an Author. It does not matter your education level, nationality, age, spoken language, or place of residence. What matters is that you write from your heart with purpose in a positive light. This really matters. *(smiles)*

**3  
Traditional Publishing-vs-Self-Publishing**

One of the key joys about being a writer is that everyone seems to do it slightly differently.

~ Marcus Sedgwick

Traditional publishing pertains to when a publisher offers the author a contract and, in turn, prints, publishes, and sells your book through booksellers and retailers. A traditional book publishing company buys the rights and author’s manuscript. Buying rights from the author is how book publishers have publishers have traditionally acquired books (Infinity Publishing, 2018). Self-publishing is essential because you, the author have total ownership of your manuscript or book. It is a booming type of publishing. Self-publishing gives the writer the opportunity to market their book the way they want to. The authors’ book sales usually increase with self-publishing versus traditional publishing (Entrepreneur Magazine, 2012). *(smiles)*

**4  
Your Starting Point**

The secret of getting ahead is getting started.

~ Mark Twain

Woo Hoo! It is time. It is ***your starting point****.* I am excited and very glad you have decided to write and make preparation and plans to self-publish your works or projects. I am going to be very honest with you. Everybody’s starting point is different. I can only speak for myself. My starting point was somewhat challenging, but I endured and persevered. I know that we all have busy lives. This is when you have to decide on how fast you want to self-publish and when you would like to self-publish your works or projects. I had to hold myself accountable. I knew my schedule was hectic and that I had to actually set an estimated date to publish. That is definitely what you should do. I also recommend that you not rush through the publishing process, but be sure that you are writing enough throughout each week to complete your masterpiece by your desired publication date. *(smiles)*

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