

PROSE 8 PENS

Industry: Writing & Speaking

Biography Type: Website "About Me"

Like so many of the women I have the pleasure of knowing, I wear many hats. And although I wouldn't trade any of them for the world, it can become a bit difficult introducing myself. But, I am going to give it my best shot because you've taken the time to stop here. It is important that you know about me, not only as a speaker & author, but also as a wife and mother. So...let's go.

To start, I am married to my high school sweetheart, and we are proud parents to six amazing kiddos. My family is my sanctuary, and having a healthy marriage and pouring love into my family is always my top priority. Together, my husband and I host uniquely themed date nights for married couples. It is one of several projects on which we collaborate as a duo.

Professionally, I am a creative through and through. I thrive on communication, both written and verbal. I am just as open to share personal lows as I am to share personal highs, and it has been my desire to create safe spaces for others to do the same. I believe a safe space can be as intimate as a journal or as supportive as a group chat. I challenged myself to create a range of options for creatives. Some of those options include authoring an interactive journal, aptly named Stop Write There, that encourages creative pursuits through writing; starting an initiative called Beauty and Brains; co-founding the Save Our Sons movement; and teaching a journal writing class to 7th and 8th grade girls. I am always seeking outlets that allow creatives to breath life into, and birth, their most imaginative products. And if that's not enough to balance, I'm also author of the Stop Write There blog on which I recently chronicled the forty days leading to my fortieth birthday.

Another outlet that I adore is speaking. The feeling that comes from cultivating an environment that fosters dialogue and collaboration, rather than monologue and competition is unmatched. What I find most significant about being invited to speak is that I'm being entrusted with the job of serving others through encouragement, positivity, and honesty.

And here's a moment of honesty: some people find it difficult to highlight their talents and gifts for fear of being mistaken as braggadocio or cocky. Me? I don't have that fear because I am confident that this is what I was designed to do. I'm a literary midwife; a change agent; a facilitator of dreams. I was designed to live creatively and have spent my life working to protect and grow my creative processes. I work equally as hard to help others pursue their creative destiny with reckless abandon.

If you are ready to chase your dreams to fruition, this is my invitation to join me on a creative journey, in both thought and action. If you would like to learn more about any of my initiatives or inquire about speaking engagements, please [click here](#) to get started. I can't wait to hear from you.

Yours in Creativity,

Toya