

PROSE^{8 PENS}

Client: Brenda W. Powell, Author

Industry: Writing & Publishing

As a published author whose books have been read and shared in several countries, the greatest story I've ever told is still the one of how God's love and plans for our lives far exceeds anything we could ever dream and plan for ourselves. And I'll have to admit that I'm a living, breathing, steadily growing example of God's planning in action.

My story begins a bit differently than most authors. While I'd excelled in English courses throughout school, I never considered a career in writing. Instead I went on to pursue a degree in marketing and, after graduating, I chose a career in corporate sales. I began to reap the benefits of my hard work, which included earning multiple trips and awards. I was also able to enjoy a beautiful life with my husband and three kids. But then, in a turn of events so magnificently and beautifully disruptive that I knew right away it was God, I was inspired to reclaim a dream that had long been buried. And that's where my writing career began.

As a horse lover who has had the pleasure to own and know first hand the joy that having such a stunning companion around can bring, I'd often thought about writing a book about my children's pony. And in God's perfect timing, I was able to create a children's series aptly titled *The Adventures of Sugarman the Pony*. That series is not only representative of a dream realized, but also represents the inexplicable shift I was able to experience as a result of seeking God's specific direction for my life, and being obedient when I was given the gentle nudge to move forward. God whispered my name and I knew He was calling me to a challenge far beyond myself

Since launching of the *Sugarman* series, I've been invited to speak at multiple churches and schools; on radio and TV shows, including both Absolutely Alabama and Praise the Lord on TBN; and am able to explore more of my gifts through music and devotional writings, but God is still calling me for more. And I know I'm not alone.

I encourage you to open up and believe for greatness in your life. There are buried gems hidden beneath the rubble of past failures, forgotten dreams, and broken hearts. Let God unwrap the gifts, talents, and abilities He designed, and specially purposed, only for you. Please don't miss out on God's best for your life. There's a reason you are here. Believe that it is so and prepare to move when you receive that gentle nudge.