

New Publication:
Let the First Time Be the Last Time

Spearheaded by the founder of Greatness Now®, Mischa Toland, who is also a domestic violence survivor that was repeatedly beat by drug dealer boyfriends as a teenage girl, we are setting out to heighten awareness among girls about the dangers of hooking up with and staying in relationships with guys who have demonstrated themselves to be physically, emotionally, or verbally abusive.

In our twenty plus years of working with girls we have heard and are still hearing stories from girls who in some instances, alarmingly, do not get that abusive behavior is not acceptable behavior, nor is it behavior that will one day stop just because you wish it away. Additionally, we are learning as we move about the country with the She Ain't Angry for Nothin'® program that in many instances girls have developed anger and/or aggressive behavior as a result of either not healing from an abusive relationship; from watching their mother stay in an abusive relationship; or from thinking that aggression is the way to teach a guy "she is not the one to play with".

In an effort to enlighten girls who fall into either category as well as in other categories, we want girls to know that regardless of their rationale for being with an abusive guy, they must love themselves enough to leave. Moreover, we want to spread the message to girls that research and experts bear witness to the fact that the best predictor of future behavior is past behavior. Therefore, if a guy hits you, yells at you, posts something derogatory about you on a social network, or does anything degrading to you *once*...HE WILL DO IT AGAIN! Consequently, the ultimate message is: make the first time he does *it* the last time by leaving the relationship and taking yourself out of harms way.

Our vehicle to move this message across the globe is a compilation publication that will embody the voices of young ladies who have courageously survived domestic violence and can first-hand attest to how harmful, shameful, dreadful being abused is. More than sharing their story, though, our hope is for these stories to leap from the pages and serve as immediate inspiration for other young ladies who also need to find the courage to say, "Enough is enough. I can no longer live like this".

What You Need to Know Before Submitting Your Short Story:

- Selected short stories will be used for a new publication scheduled to be released in the Fall of 2012 titled "*Let the First Time Be the Last Time*".
- Only 25 short stories will be used in the publication.
- All submitted short stories will go through a selection process.
- All submissions must be **fully your own** and **thoroughly true**. While we request that no real names are used, we **require** that all accounts of the story are indeed **real and factual**.
- Stories must be limited to five (5) pages, double-spaced, with a one inch margin around all four sides of the page, and submitted electronically via email at stories@sheaintangryfornothin.com.
- A confirmation email will be sent to acknowledge receipt of your story submission.
- Each author whose short story is preliminarily selected must make herself available for a telephone interview which will ultimately be the final deciding factor relative to the submission being accepted.
- All short stories must include an account of the moment you knew it was time to get out of the abusive relationship, and end with what you would personally like other young ladies to take away from your story.
- Questions about submissions and/or about the publication can be sent to info@sheaintangryfornothin.com.

We thank you in advance for your willingness to help keep another girl alive. And we celebrate your bravery for choosing to share your story. May you continue to live a rich, purposeful life!