Love Blooms
20
AUTHORVERSARY
2005-2025
SEAN D. YOUNG

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Sean D. Young

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2025

2:30 PM | ROOM QUI | MERRILLVILLE, IN

MISTRESS OF CEREMONY

Shirlonda Nicole Taylor

"Writing is how I breathe... and love is always worth the risk."

ENTRANCE OF THE AUTHOR

PURPOSE Shirlonda Nicole

WELCOME Jarius Newman/ Lesleigh Meeks

A JOURNEY THROUGH LOVE & STORYTELLING

Part I - Step into the Story

INVOCATION

Rev. David Anderson

FOOD IS SERVED

Part II - Soundtrack of A Love Story

SISTAS OF THE PEN

Rochelle Alers & Jacquelin Thomas

WORDS FROM THE HEART

Rhoda Boles, Trinisha Smith & Sherly Henton

FAITH & FELLOWSHIP: A CELEBRATION OF SUPPORT

Dr. Charles M. Morgan

Gloria Blackmon/Donna Terry

SPECIAL

BLESSINGS & GRATITUDE: SEAN D. YOUNG

duis co... ...is. Nisl suscipit adip... ...
dum est ultricies integer. Cras tincidunt lobortis feu-
giat vivamus at. Quisque egestas diam in arcu cursus.
Sagittis nisl rhoncus mattis rhoncus urna. Arcu vitae

turpis egestas sed tempu...
curabitur gravida arcu ac tort... ...
tortor posuere ac ut consequat s... viverra nam.
Velit aliquet sagittis id consectetur purus ut faucibus

My Dearest Family, Readers & Friends

Twenty years ago, if you had told me I'd be here celebrating two decades as a published author, I wouldn't have believed you. My writing journey has been filled with ups and downs. So many disappointments that I walked away more than once. But every time I thought I was done, something inside pulled me back. I know that is was God, whispering through the characters who refused to let me go.

I have to thank Author Jacquelin Thomas for seeing something in me that I couldn't see. She told me that the Lord told her that I was a writer. I had been writing since childhood, but I never imagined I'd be writing romance, even though I loved a happily ever after. I finished my first book just so Jacquelin would stop calling me about it. I fully expected to send her a rejection letter and move on. But instead, that book became the start of something I never could have planned.

And now twenty years later, I stand in awe of what has happened. Not just the books, but the journey. The people I've met, the lessons I've learned, the readers who have embraced my stories and made them their favorites. They've have been there through it all. Your support, excitement, and love for my characters and their worlds has meant everything to me. You are the reason I never gave up for good.

This anniversary is not just about looking back. It's about celebrating the future of new stories waiting to be told and new dreams to chase. If this journey has taught me anything, it's that the best chapters are still ahead.

To those who have been with me from the beginning; thank you for believing. To those who are just discovering my books; welcome, you're in for a beautiful ride.

And to Jacquelin Thomas; thank you for making me finish that book. I guess you knew before I did.

With All My Heart,

Sean

SEAN D. YOUNG

Sweet & Spicy Romance

"In the pages of a book, love finds its voice, weaving tales of passion and redemption that linger long after the final chapter."

As a passionate romance writer, I craft stories that blend sweetness with a touch of spice, exploring the complexities of love, relationships, and family drama. My love for words began at an early age. I devoured every book I could find and joined my first book club, *Sweet Pickles*, at just seven years old.

Writing soon followed, with short stories written for my own enjoyment and by twelve, my first scripted work: an Easter play for the youth at my church.

My debut novel, Total Bliss, was published in 2005, marking the beginning of my journey as a romance writer. Since then, I've been blessed to bring compelling love stories to life, capturing the hearts of readers who cherish stories where love always finds a way.

Beyond writing, graphic and web design is my other passion. I find joy in creating beautiful, captivating visuals, much like the worlds I weave in my novels. I also love being active in my church and I cherish life in Northwest Indiana with my family.

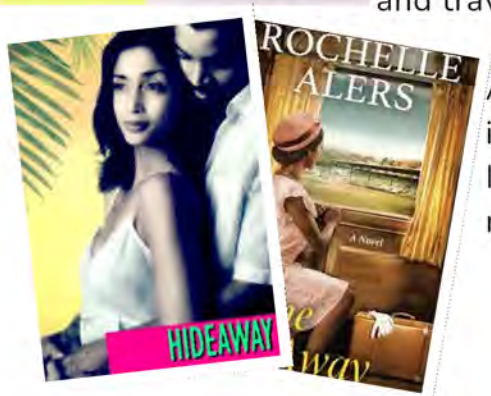
My stories are crafted to captivate your heart and ignite your imagination, taking you on a journey where every emotion is felt deeply and happily ever afters are always within reach.

Rochelle Alers

Rochelle Alers has been hailed by readers and booksellers alike as one of today's most prolific African American authors of romance and women's fiction.

With more than one hundred titles and nearly three million copies of her novels in print, Ms. Alers is a regular on bestseller lists, and has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Emma Award, Vivian Stephens Award for Excellence in Romance Writing, the Romantic Times Career Achievement Award and the Zora Neale Hurston Literary Award.

She is a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Iota Theta Zeta Chapter and her interests include gourmet cooking and traveling.



A full-time writer, Ms. Alers lives in a charming hamlet on Long Island. Visit her online at rochellealers.org.

Jacquelin Thomas

Jacquelin Thomas is an award-winning, best-selling author with 100 titles published. Her books have garnered several awards, including two EMMA awards, the Romance In Color Reviewers Award, Readers Choice Award and the Atlanta Choice Award in the Religious & Spiritual category. Jacquelin was a 2005 honoree at the Houston Black Film Festival for the movie adaptation of her novel, Hidden Blessings.

Jacquelin has published in the romance, suspense, women's fiction, inspirational and young adult genres. Her second book in the Young Adult series, Divine Confidential, was nominated for a 2008 NAACP Image Award.

Jacquelin is happily married to her best friend, is the proud mother of three children and grandmother of eight. Jacquelin and her family live in North Carolina.

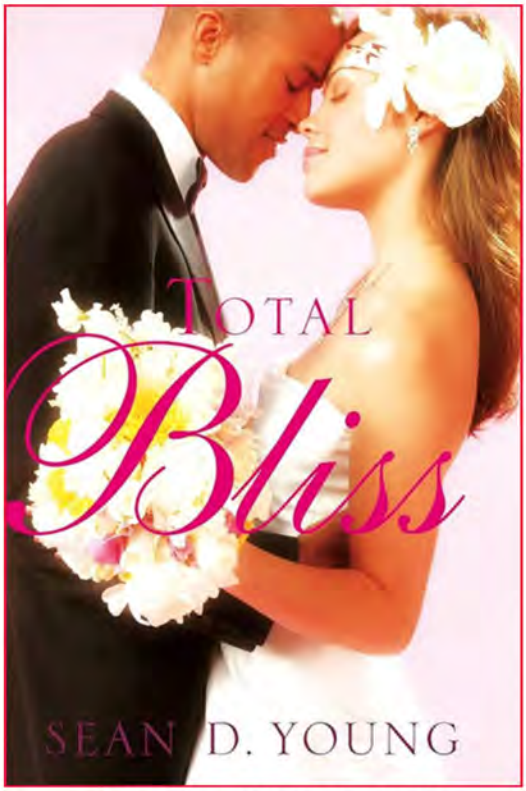
Visit Jacquelin online at jacquelin-thomas.com.

The Calling

How It All Started

Every writer has that one moment when everything changes. For me, it happened on October 22, 2002, when I received a call that altered the course of my writing journey forever.

At the time, my manuscript was titled **STOPPED BY LOVE.** When the editor from BET Books called, she told me that she had only read one part; the wedding scene at the end. That's what captivated her. She hadn't even finished the rest of the book yet! But when she did, she realized that the story needed something else. That's when I was given the opportunity to reshape the book into what became **TOTAL BLISS**.



TOTAL BLISS - PUBLISHED JUNE 4, 2005

The process wasn't easy, but it was a defining moment. I created Jaeden and Alexis, two characters who were planning their wedding. A story inspired by my love of romance, the beauty of celebrating love and being a wedding planner myself. Their names came from two people in my life; my oldest nephew and my childhood friend's oldest daughter. And little did I know, in that moment, I was also laying the groundwork for something even bigger, the Hart Sisters and what eventually

MY FIRST LAUNCH PARTY - JUNE 18, 2005

The Calling

Continued

became the Hearts & Flowers Series.

When **TOTAL BLISS** was finally released, we celebrated with a wedding reception-themed book signing; complete with a wedding cake and a bride and groom on June 18, 2005. And who better to represent Jaeden and Alexis than the very people they were named after. My nephew and my friend's daughter. It was a beautiful, full-circle moment, one that I will never forget with my two mentors Jacquelin Thomas and Rochelle Alers in attendance.

Looking back, I have to admit, I wasn't as confident then as I am today. I loved writing **Total Bliss**, but I was still finding my voice, learning my craft, and discovering who I was as a romance writer. But even then, the calling was there. The love of storytelling, the passion for romance, and the dream of bringing characters to life had already taken root.

That phone call wasn't just the start of a book; it was the start of a journey that continues to this day.

Total Bliss wasn't just my first book. It was my first yes.

ROCHELLE ALERS, SEAN, ALICIA THOMAS & MICHELE ROBINSON

JACQUELIN THOMAS, SEAN & ROCHELLE ALERS

FRIENDS: Brenda Turner, Alicia Thomas, LaShaunda Hoffman & Michele Robinson

DANGEROUS DESTINY

A STORY OF SURVIVAL, SECRETS, AND SECOND CHANCES

PUBLISHED: AUGUST 17, 2017

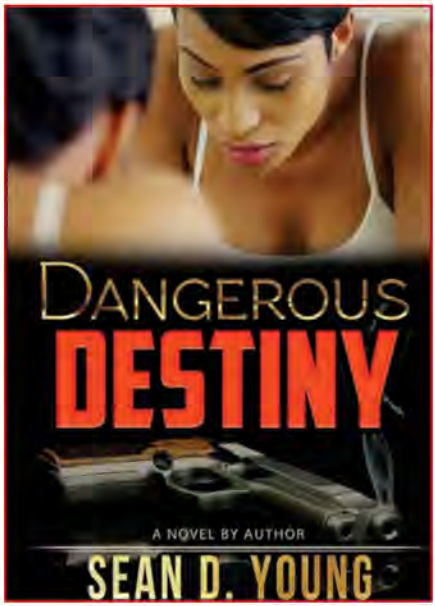
At its heart, **Dangerous Destiny** is more than just a romantic suspense novel—it's a story about breaking free, reclaiming power, and choosing love after loss.

Through Victoria's journey, we see the devastating effects of domestic violence and how generational cycles can shape a person's life. James's story reminds us that pain can make us build walls, but the right person can tear them down. Together, their story is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit—and the idea that love, when given the chance, can heal even the deepest wounds.

For readers who love suspense, romance, and characters who fight for their happy endings, Dangerous Destiny is a must-read.

Some destinies are chosen. Others are forced upon us. Victoria Johnson never imagined her life would take a dark turn, but when survival becomes the only option, she is forced to leave everything behind—including her daughter—to escape a violent marriage.

Fearing for her life, Victoria disappears, taking refuge in a place no one would think to look. She finds shelter in an unexpected role—as a live-in nanny, exchanging safety for secrecy. But just when she thinks she's outrun her past, news reaches her that her husband has been murdered. The very man she was running from is gone—but what does that mean for her? Is she a suspect? Or is the real danger still lurking in the shadows?



Why This Story Had to Be Told

After writing Stopped by Love, I knew there was more to tell. Victoria, once a secondary character, had a story that demanded to be heard. It would be my first self-published book, although I had no idea what I was doing. Jacquelin Thomas helped me format the book.

Victoria was the villain's sister—but she was also her own woman, with her own struggles. She was smart, successful, and strong, but like so many women, she found herself caught in a dangerous relationship. Her story wasn't just about romance—it was about reclaiming her life. Writing **Dangerous Destiny** allowed me to explore the courage it takes to leave, to rebuild, and to love again."

With a gripping mystery, heart-stopping romance, and unforgettable characters, **Dangerous Destiny** is a story that lingers long after the last page is turned.

There's something undeniably magical about the holidays. The twinkling lights, the warmth of a crackling fire, the scent of cinnamon and nutmeg filling the air. And for the McClendon family, the holidays are more than just a season; they're a celebration of love, faith, and togetherness.

The McClendon Holiday Romance Series invites readers into the lives of the McClendon Family of Chicago, a close-knit, successful, and loving group who know how to celebrate life's most special moments. Whether it's Thanksigiving, Christmas, New Year's or Valentine's Day, these books bring romance and family traditions to the forefront, creating heartfelt love stories wrapped in holiday magic.

How It Started

When I first began writing this series, I knew I wanted to capture the spirit of the holidays, not just the decorations and traditions, but the way they bring people together, heal wounds, and inspire new beginnings. The McClendon family was born out of my love for stories that celebrate faith, family and forever love.

Each book in the series highlights a different holiday and the unique love story that unfolds within it.

Whether it's rekindling an old flame over Thanksgiving dinner or falling in love under the glow of Christmas lights, these stories show that love often finds us when we least expect it; especially during the most wonderful time of the year.

A Celebration to Remember

On December 12, 2015, I hosted a special launch party for A McClendon Thanksgiving and The Christmas Promise—an afternoon filled with holiday magic, music, and family love. One side of the room was decked out in Thanksgiving colors, featuring seasonal desserts, while the other half shimmered with Christmas decor and festive treats. The highlight of the evening? A musical Christmas medley performed by my nephews, setting the perfect tone for celebrating these books. It was a night that truly brought the McClendon family's world to life, and one I will always cherish.

THE BOOKS & THEIR HOLIDAY ROMANCE THEMES

A McClendon Thanksgiving
September 11, 2017

The Christmas Promise
October 9, 2017

A Husband By New Year's
- Love In Disguise

Be My Valentine - Love
Beyond The Holiday

Why Music Plays a Special Role in These Stories

Music is an essential part of the McClendon family's celebrations. From Luther Vandross' "So Amazing" setting the tone for a breathtaking wedding in The Christmas Promise to soulful R&B classics defining the romance in Be My Valentine, music creates a mood that lingers beyond the pages of the book. In fact, I created playlists for these stories—because what's a romantic holiday without the perfect soundtrack?

Why Readers Love the McClendons

The McClendon Holiday Romance Series is more than just a collection of love stories. It's about: ✓ Family: The love between siblings, parents, and children is just as important as the romance. ✓ Second Chances: Each story proves that love has a way of finding us again when we least expect it. ✓ Heartwarming Holiday Traditions: Whether it's a winter wonderland wedding or a Valentine's Day fragrance, these books create an atmosphere that makes readers feel like they're celebrating alongside the characters. ✓ Faith & Love: Every journey to happily ever after includes moments of growth, forgiveness, and faith.

What's Next for the McClendon Family?

The McClendons' love stories are far from over! I'm excited to write Laurence McClendon's story as well as a special book dedicated to Myra and Russell McClendon, the couple who started it all. So, if you haven't met the McClendons yet, now is the perfect time to dive into their world. There's a seat at their holiday table just for you!

Welcome To CLOVER CREEK

Where Love Feels Like Home

Nestled just forty miles outside of Nashville, Tennessee, Clover Creek is more than just a picturesque small town—it's a place where love, family, and second chances bloom. With its charming storefronts, long-standing family traditions, and the undeniable sense of community, it's no wonder that romance thrives here.

In the Clover Creek series, each story explores love in its purest form—whether it's a second chance at happiness, a slow-burning attraction, or the magic of the holiday season bringing two hearts together. Through Claiming the Doctor's Heart, Secrets from the Heart, and Christmas in Clover Creek, readers step into a town where everyone knows your name, family means everything, and love always finds a way home. I love writing the Clover Creek Series.

Claiming The Doctor's Heart -A Love Meant To Be

Some books come together easily—others take a journey of their own. Claiming the Doctor's Heart was a labor of love that took three years to reach publication, going through several variations and two editors. There were moments when I wondered if this book would ever see the light of day. And just when I thought it was ready, the couple on the cover had already been used on another author's book—forcing a last-minute change. But in the end, it was all worth it.

Claiming The Doctor's Heart

PUBLISHED: NOVEMBER 30, 2020

In this heartwarming romance, set in a charming Southern small town, the love of family and the strength of community come together to remind those who are lost where they truly belong.

Dr. Eric Bradley left small-town Clover Creek, Tennessee, to follow his dreams. But when his father is hospitalized after a stroke, Eric must fill in as the town doctor. He's more at home in a medical research lab, though, with test tubes and microscopes, not listening to patients brag about their grandkids or ask him where he's been for the last ten years.

Without Holly Ransom, the receptionist, to keep things running smoothly, he wouldn't survive. And seeing her every day is an unexpected upside. She's struggling to keep her family bakery, The Sweet Spot, afloat while also working full-time at Bradley Medical, and somehow still manages to find a silver lining in every cloud. If only her sweet n' sassy charm were enough to solve all his problems.

Eric has only thirty days to return to Atlanta or he'll lose the opportunity of a lifetime. But how can he leave the woman he's falling in love with and his family legacy behind?

Secrets From The Heart - Some Secrets Can't Stay Buried

PUBLISHED: APRIL 11, 2022

Originally, I had a different story in mind for the second Clover Creek novel, but by the time I'd finished Claiming The Doctor's Heart, another book with a similar premise had already been published. Instead of shelving the series, my editor gave me a premise and challenged me to create something new. That challenge became Secrets from the Heart, and it reminded me just how much I love writing family feud romances. I also love to write about characters that return to their hometown—a theme that runs deep in all my Clover Creek books.

Taking over her family's charming and historic Red Rose Inn is a dream for Kira Davis—even if it means the extra stress of knowing the entire Davis clan is watching her every move. But ignoring her family's wishes and hiring too-handsome Franklin Bennett as her temporary new manager might be a huge mistake...given their families' decades-long feud.

Christmas In Clover Creek - Love Lights The Way

PUBLISHED: DECEMBER 6, 2024

I simply adore this story. It was like going home and visiting family. I self-published this book and I'm so happy I revisited Kira and Franklin and the people of Clover Creek.

Christmas in Clover Creek is more than just a season—it's a feeling. The twinkling lights, the warmth of the Red Rose Inn, and the town square lined with garland and holly make it the perfect setting for romance.

For Arielle Booker, the holiday season has always been about bringing people together. As an event planner, she's in charge of creating magic for everyone else—but this year, she might just find some of her own. When Cedric Clark arrives in town to help with the town's holiday exhibit, neither of them are expecting the spark that ignites between them.

But Cedric has his own uncertainties, and as the two work side by side to bring Clover Creek's most magical Christmas celebration to life, they'll have to decide if love is worth taking a chance on. After all, Christmas is the season of miracles.

The Love Connection Series: A Legacy of Love, Family & Second Chances

The Love Connection Series was another event that changed the course of my writing journey. It was the first series I self-published, a labor of love that proved I could take creative control, market, and share my stories on my own terms, bringing my vision to life. These stories are about family, resilience, and the kind of love that finds you when you least expect it.

With deeply interconnected relationships—siblings, cousins, and lifelong bonds—this series has its heart in the Simmons and Webb families, who find themselves caught in complicated relationships that test their resolve, passion, and ability to trust.

Why This Series Means So Much

In Name Only started out as The Senator's Wife back in 2008, but my mentor, acclaimed author Rochelle Alers suggested changing the name to In Name Only.

In The Love Connection Series, each couple has their own unique struggles, but at the heart of every story is the belief that love always finds a way.

I couldn't have done it without the encouragement and support of my editor, Aja Graves, whose guidance helped bring this series to life.

For those who love interconnected romances, family dynamics, and passionate love stories, the Love Connection Series is the perfect place to start. 💕

Derrick "Spyder" Webb

In Name Only

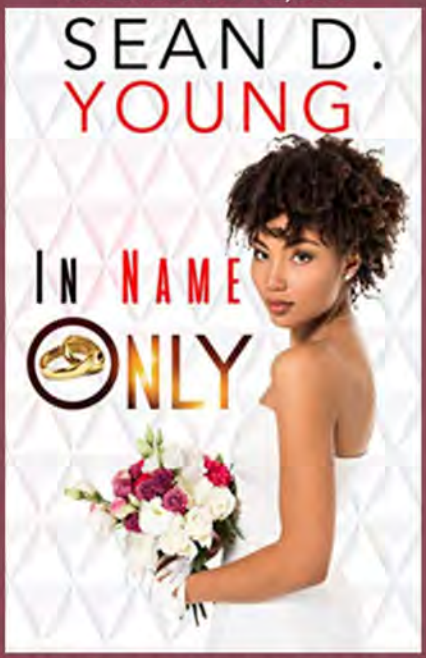
Cassaundra Moore has built a career creating fairytale moments for others, but after her ex's betrayal leaves her business and reputation in shambles, she no longer believes in them for herself.

Enter Adam Simmons, a candidate for governor of Virginia, who needs a respectable wife to solidify his campaign. His proposition? A marriage of convenience that will not only help propel his political career but also rescue Cassaundra from financial ruin. It's a business deal—at least, that's what they tell themselves. But the lines between duty and desire blur as they begin to crave more than just a partnership on paper.

Why Readers Love It:

In Name Only is a powerful marriage of convenience, fake relationship story, proving that sometimes, the greatest love stories start with an unexpected deal.

PUBLISHED: JULY 30, 2020



A Marriage of Convenience That Turns into Forever

PUBLISHED: JANUARY 7, 2021

Caught In His Webb

A Forbidden Love That Can't Be Denied

Sara Simmons never planned to follow in her family's prestigious footsteps into law and politics. Her passion lies in fashion, but when a scandal threatens to ruin her career and tarnish her family's name, there's only one person she can trust to keep her secret—Derrick "Spyder" Webb.

Derrick "Spyder" Webb is no stranger to solving problems. After his father's death at a young age, he stepped up as the man of the house, making him unyielding, guarded, and fiercely protective. He's spent his life helping people out of impossible situations. But Sara? She's the one case he never saw coming.

The problem? Sara is his best friend's little sister, and no matter how much he wants to protect her, he can't ignore the growing attraction between them. As he pulls her closer into his world, the only question that remains is: Will she be safe inside his web… or will she break free before he can claim her heart?

Why Readers Love It: Caught in His Webb is a best friend's little sister romance with forbidden desire, high stakes, and undeniable passion.

LOVE CONNECTION
"Soulfully Connected"

The Point of It All

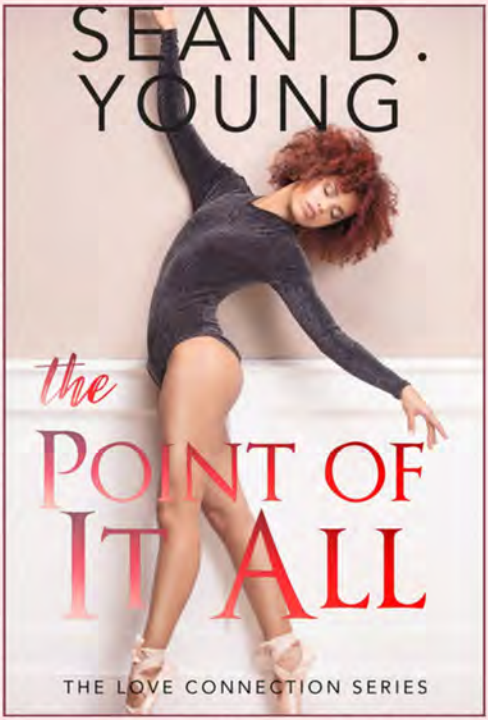
Enemies-to-Lovers with a Second Chance at Dreams

Tina Webb once dreamed of being a prima ballerina, but life had other plans. Now, she pours her soul into her dance studio, mentoring young dancers who still hold onto the dreams she once chased. But when she's suddenly forced to vacate her studio space, her entire career is at risk.

She needs a lawyer. Unfortunately, the best one for the job is also the most infuriating man she's ever met—Alex Simmons.

Alex is a brilliant, ruthless attorney, but he's also the one person who has always gotten under Tina's skin. They clash at every turn, but when she's backed into a corner, he's the only one who can help. As they work together, their fiery arguments ignite an undeniable chemistry, leaving them wondering: Were they always meant to be adversaries… or is their love the real point of it all?

Why Readers Love It: The Point of It All is an enemies-to-lovers romance where passion collides with ambition, and love is the greatest victory.



PUBLISHED: SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

LOVE & JUSTICE

The Austins' Legacy of Law & Love

As one of the most prestigious law families in Chicago, the Austins are brilliant, powerful, and completely dedicated to their work. But when it comes to matters of the heart, even the best attorneys can find themselves out of their depth.

The Love and Justice Series follows the four Austin cousins, Jason, Philip, Grayson, and Xavier as they navigate high-profile cases, intense courtroom battles, and the one thing they can't seem to argue their way out of love.

Why Readers Will Love the Love and Justice Series:

- **Powerful Family Bonds** – The Austins may be legal royalty, but family always comes first.
- **Diverse Characters, Deep Connections** – From best friends to lovers, second chances, and rivals turned soulmates, this series has something for every romance reader.
- **A Blend of Love & Law** – Legal drama and passionate romance collide in stories where winning the case is just as important as winning the heart.

What's Next for the Austins?

Grayson and Nicole's fiery clashes to Xavier and Erica's dangerous second chance, this series is about fighting for what matters most—both in and out of the courtroom. Because in the world of the Austins, love is the most powerful case they'll ever argue.

LOVE AND Justice SERIES

WEEKEND GIRLFRIEND

What's an innocent little weekend between friends?

PUBLISHED: OCTOBER 1, 2022

Weekend Girlfriend delivers slow-burn romance, undeniable chemistry, and a love story that proves the best relationships are built on friendship.

No one knows Chicago defense attorney Jason Austin better than Charlee Summers. Friends since college, Charlee has seen Jason charm his way in and out of relationships with ease. She also knows the beautiful heart beneath his playboy reputation. But when Jason asks her to pose as his girlfriend for one weekend, Charlee isn't sure she can handle pretending—because when they're close, she feels things she's not ready to admit.

Jason has always been able to keep his emotions in check—until Charlee. One unforgettable night changed everything between them, and though they both agreed the timing wasn't right, the connection between them has never faded. Now, forced into close proximity, Jason and Charlee must decide whether to fight their feelings or finally embrace the love that's been right in front of them all along.

LOVE'S AWAKENING

An Unexpected Connection

Love's Awakening is a deeply emotional, second-chance romance that explores healing, trust, and the power of love to rebuild even the most broken hearts.

After a very public breakup at his cousin's wedding, entertainment attorney Philip Austin vows to move on quickly—the only way he knows how. While on vacation, he meets the mesmerizing Ramona Love, and what starts as an irresistible island affair turns into something far deeper. Ramona, a neonatal nurse and widow, has been single for years, focusing on raising her son and protecting her heart. She never expected to feel so alive again—until Philip came along. But their romance was never meant to last. They knew it would end the moment they left the island.
Or so they thought.

When a scandal threatens Ramona's son's future, she turns to Philip and the Austin Law Group. Now, faced with more than just legal trouble, Ramona and Philip must decide if their unexpected connection is a second chance at love.

PUBLISHED: SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

A CASE FOR LOVE

Family, Honor, Legacy

COMING IN 2026

Grayson Austin lives a perfectly ordered life and like his counterparts, is the best of the best in and out of the court room. Following in his father's footsteps, Grayson works hard managing the firm.

He meets Morningside Estates Retirement Community Administrator Nicole Berry after a family sues them for elder abuse. Morningside is near and dear to his grandmother's heart as several of her closest friends reside there. Since she is a board member, Grayson can't say no when she asks for his help.

Nicole loves working with Lillie Mae Austin, but no matter how smart and handsome her grandson Grayson is, she doesn't want any part of him. The feeling is mutual, but neither of them can deny that beneath their dislikes is a sexual chemistry that is more than explosive.

Watching him in action, Nicole can only respect his ability, especially when the evidence is stacked against the facility. They are both surprised when they find out what is really been going on with the senior residents and each other.

LOVE & JUSTICE

Secrets, Lies, Betrayal

COMING IN 2026

As the youngest Austin cousin, Xavier Austin is determined to prove himself in a family of legal giants. A junior research executive on the fast track to becoming a partner, Xavier is all about strategy, winning cases, and maintaining his reputation. Love? That's a distraction he doesn't have time for.

Until Erica Smith walks back into his life. Three years ago, Erica, his glamorous and fiercely independent ex, disappeared without a word. Now, she shows up on his doorstep with her troubled younger sister, seeking help. The murder of a Chicago politician has left Erica's sister in danger, and they have nowhere else to turn.

Xavier is determined to get to the bottom of why Erica left—and why she's back now. But the deeper he digs, the more he realizes that Erica has secrets of her own.

Why Readers Will Love It: Love & Justice is a gripping romantic thriller that blends high-stakes legal drama, old flames reigniting, and a mystery that could cost them everything.

THE INTIMATE SERIES

Passion, Self-Discovery & Unforgettable Love

The Intimate Series started as a conversation with my editor, Aja Graves, about a proposal I had written back in 2008—a story originally called Simply Sexy. That single conversation led to the birth of Intimate Allure, and from there, the world of sensuality, self-love, and ambition expanded into a series that pushed me as a writer in exciting and daring new ways.

The Intimate Series is about women embracing their desires, men learning the true meaning of love, and the undeniable chemistry that binds them together.

With Intimate Allure and Intimate Seduction already bringing heat to the page, and Intimate Charm and Intimate Temptation on the horizon, these books will be some of the most passionate, emotional, and transformative love stories I've ever written.

A Series That Pushed Me as a Writer

The Intimate Series is unlike anything I've written before. It's bolder, sexier, and dives deep into themes of passion, power, sensuality, and self-discovery. Writing Intimate Allure and Intimate Seduction was a thrilling creative challenge, and I'm eager to bring Intimate Charm and Intimate Temptation to life, hopefully in 2026.

For readers who love romances that are sensual, empowering, and deeply emotional, The Intimate Series delivers a world of love, discovery, and undeniable attraction. Because sometimes, the most intimate journey is the one we take to truly know ourselves.

INTIMATE ALLURE

LOVE, POWER &
THE STRENGTH OF VULNERABILITY

PUBLISHED: MAY 31, 2024

Intimate Secrets

Nestled in the heart of the city, Simone Reid's lingerie boutique, Intimate Secrets, is more than just a business. It's a sanctuary where women rediscover their confidence. Simone has spent years helping others embrace their beauty, but when it comes to herself? She's far more comfortable in the background.

Darius Mitchell, a high-powered businessman whose career has been built on acquisitions and ambition. His next target? Simone's boutique. He steps into her world expecting a routine business deal, but instead, he finds a woman who challenges everything he thought he knew about success, love, and fulfillment.

As passion ignites between them, Simone and Darius embark on a journey of self-discovery and surrender. She learns to see herself through his eyes, embracing her sensuality in ways she never imagined. Meanwhile, Darius realizes that true power isn't just about wealth or control. It's about allowing himself to be vulnerable and truly seen.

Why This Story Matters: At its core, Intimate Allure is about self-love—the kind that allows you to fully embrace love in return.

INTIMATE SEDUCTION

PUBLISHED: AUGUST 30, 2024

Years ago, Keisha Robinson walked away from Lorenzo Washington, believing their love was never meant to last. Now, as the owner of Sensual Pleasures, an online luxury intimacy brand, she's confident, successful, and in complete control of her life—until her college reunion brings her face-to-face with the man she once loved.

Lorenzo, a former football star turned sports marketing mogul, never understood why Keisha left. Now that she's back in his orbit, he's determined to break through her defenses and prove that the love between them never truly faded. But can Keisha let go of the past and trust in love again? Or will old wounds keep them apart forever?

Why Readers Love It: Intimate Seduction is a story of forgiveness, healing, and rediscovering passion, proving that sometimes, the past isn't finished with us just yet.

A SECOND CHANCE
AT LOVE

What's Next:
The Upcoming Books in the Series

COMING IN 2026

INTIMATE CHARM

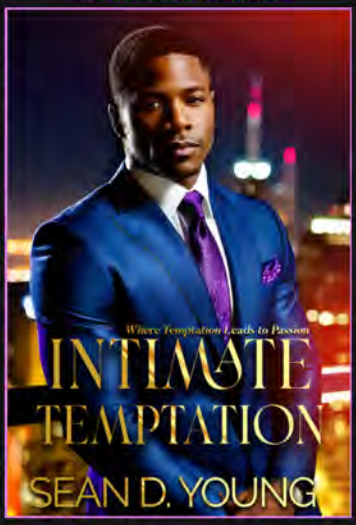
FINDING THE RIGHT ONE

Candace Wilson has spent her life searching for her Prince Charming. But after one disappointment too many, she's starting to believe that true love doesn't exist. This time, however, love is about to find her in the most unexpected way.

INTIMATE TEMPTATION

WHEN RIVALS BECOME LOVERS

COMING IN 2026



Andre Bennett is a name that exudes luxury. As one of the most sought-after luxury travel agents in the country, he makes grand romantic getaways a reality for others—but he's never had time for his own.

That is, until Layla Foster enters the picture. She's his biggest competitor, his greatest annoyance, and the only woman who's ever made him question everything he thought he knew about love.
When business forces them to work together, what starts as a fierce rivalry turns into something neither of them can resist.

Why Readers Will Love These Books: With Candace's lighthearted search for romance and Andre's sizzling enemies-to-lovers story, these upcoming books promise chemistry, humor, and unforgettable passion.

The Hart of the Story:

Happily Ever After

Formerly the Hearts & Flowers Series

The Happily Ever After Series didn't start with a story—it started with a dream. A dream of beauty, elegance, and love. It was born from real weddings and real people who poured their hearts into helping others say "I do."

Before the Hart sisters came to life on the page, I was running a bridal shop out of my home—a passion I shared with my mother, Mary L. Taylor, and the extraordinary Josie Martin, who was my seamstress from 1989 to 2016. I'm also a certified wedding planner, and I'd always envisioned a space where brides could find everything they needed under one roof. A place full of love, laughter, tulle, tears, and hope. That dream became the mansion in the fictional town of Taylor, Indiana—the heart of this series.

The Hart sisters—Ivy, Rose, Violet, and Lili—made their first appearance in **Total Bliss**, coordinating the wedding of Jaeden and Alexis. But they truly found their footing when I sat down with my friend and mentor, author Jacquelin Thomas and brainstormed what would become my very first series. Together, we imagined four women—each with their own strengths, scars, and sass—

who turned a 25-room mansion into Hearts & Flowers, one of the most luxurious bridal venues in Chicagoland.

What began as **With This Ring**, **From This Moment**, and **Straight From The Heart** has now become a series of second chances, sacred bonds, and self-discovery. Each title has been re-imagined with purpose, and every book in the **Happily Ever After Series** is a love letter to the sisters, legacy, and the beauty of building something that lasts.

And just like in real life, behind every Hart sister is a deeper story—a seamstress who taught them to thread love into lace, a mother's wisdom, a friend's gentle push, and a dream planted long ago. Because the truth is, the **Happily Ever After Series** isn't just a fairy tale. It's faith, family, and a whole lot of heart. And for me, it started with a bridal shop, a God-given gift, and the women I love most.

BLOOM

BOOK ONE
PUBLISHED JUNE 21, 2025
FORMERLY: WITH THIS RING

As a plus-size floral designer and co-owner of Hearts & Flowers, Rose Hart knows how to create magic with blooms—but opening her heart to love has taken longer to cultivate. When a surprise opportunity reconnects her with Marc Damon, the charming and determined co-owner of Magic Moments, their professional collaboration quickly becomes something more intimate. But their path to love is anything but simple.

Rose must confront her own doubts about trust and worthiness, while Marc faces the very real risk of losing the woman who helped him rediscover what it means to believe in forever.

SURRENDER

BOOK TWO
PUBLISHED JUNE 21, 2025
FORMERLY: FROM THIS MOMENT

Ivy Hart built her life around careful planning, protecting herself from heartbreak by staying two steps ahead. But one impulsive night with Jonathan Damon changes everything—an unexpected marriage, a hidden promise, and a love too powerful to deny.

As Ivy steps into the spotlight as the host of The Ever After Show, she and Jonathan must balance public appearances with private longing. Beneath the camera flashes, Jonathan's unwavering devotion begins to thaw the walls Ivy has held up for years. Yet buried wounds from the past threaten to steal their future before it truly begins.

SERENADE

BOOK THREE
COMING IN SEPTEMBER 2025
FORMERLY: STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART

Pastry chef Lili Hart is known for her fire, flair, and fierce opinions. But when Dominic Ballard, a soulful singer-songwriter, is hired to perform at a wedding she's coordinating, sparks fly—in the kitchen and beyond.

He's everything she swore she'd never fall for, but music, like love, has a way of getting under your skin.

Serenade is a love song full of flavor, passion, and harmony found in the most unexpected duet.

FOREVER

BOOK FOUR
COMING DECEMBER 2025

Violet Hart has poured her heart into creating once-in-a-lifetime gowns for brides chasing forever—never expecting she might still find her own.

Then widowed contractor William Mason walks into her life, overseeing the renovation of Hearts & Flowers' east wing, and brings his twin granddaughters with him.

As Violet creates a gown for his daughter's wedding, she discovers that love—like lace—is made of strength, beauty, and delicate threads of faith. Forever is a poignant tale of second chances, found family, and a romance stitched with legacy.

Wisdom & Wit

Honoring the Women Who Poured Into Me and My Stories

Louise Caver, my "Granny," taught me the beauty of quiet strength and to trust in the Lord with all my heart. Her presence made everything feel like home.

Georgia Taylor, my paternal grandmother, taught me that strength had nothing to prove. She raised 11 children and still found room in her home for anyone in need. She showed me that opening your door was the first step to changing someone's life. Her strength; unshakable.

There's a special kind of wisdom that comes from the women who raised us, prayed over us, and—let's be honest—snatched us back when we were about to make a fool of ourselves.

They never wrote a book, but they left behind volumes. Their words weren't bound in leather, but in memory. Their lessons didn't come from lectures, but from kitchen tables, front porches, church pews, and the soft hush of prayers whispered behind closed doors.

In every story I write, there's a woman like that. She's Ida Mae Woods from Christmas in Clover Creek, Aunt Junie from Intimate Seduction, Grand'Mere Lillie Mae from Weekend Girlfriend and Love's Awakening, Aunt Rachel, and Aunt Daisy from the Happily Ever After Series. They were born from the women who touched my life—women whose names I say with pride and whose wisdom lives in every page I write.

"Every pot has a lid even the bent ones."

Anna Anderson, my aunt, taught me that wisdom doesn't always shout. She valued education, poured love into every meal, and shared guidance that stuck with you long after the conversation ended. From her, I learned that care can be quiet but still life-changing.

Stella DeShazer, my aunt, was gentle in voice but mighty in spirit. A woman of deep faith, she lived her love for God quietly but powerfully. Her kindness wasn't loud—it was steady. And she taught me that family and faith are forever entwined.

Aunt Willie Mae Hinton, loved without conditions—but don't mistake that for softness. She believed in accepting people as they are, but she would get you straight if you needed it. Willie Mae didn't hold her tongue, but she always spoke from a place of truth and love.

And **Lela B. Oliver**, "Lela Ma" was a warrior in every sense of the word—gifted, prayerful, and filled with purpose. A talented musician, she lived with a spirit of hospitality that welcomed everyone in. Helping people wasn't a burden to her; it was her calling. And she reminded me daily that love is an action word.

I loved these women with all my heart. I will never forget their love and wanting God's best for me. Today, I honor them.

Their spirit comes to life through the characters you've come to love—and through a special performance by Mrs. Levone Hall, who will step into their shoes for a few moments and share some of the sayings that made us laugh, pause, and carry on.

THE SOUNDTRACK OF MY STORIES

HOW MUSIC SHAPES MY BOOKS

If you've ever read one of my books, you know that music is more than just background noise; it's part of the story. It weaves its way into the hearts of my characters, underscores their emotions, and sometimes, it even speaks for them when words aren't enough. But my love for music didn't start with writing. It started at home, with my father, Leon Taylor.

My sister always jokes that our mother taught us the Lord's Prayer, but our father taught us how to Rock Steady. And it's true. Music was always playing in our house, a constant rhythm in the background of our lives. Artists like Earth, Wind & Fire, Teddy Pendergrass, Luther Vandross, Ohio Players, Heatwave, The Temptations, Johnny Taylor, Bobby Womack (one of my personal favorites to this day), Marvin Gaye, Gladys Knight & The Pips, The Delfonics, The Spinners, The Whispers, and The O'Jays. The list goes on and on.

Growing up in the 70s, born in 1968, I was surrounded by music that told stories. And not just stories about love, but about life, pain, joy, and the things we sometimes struggle to put into words. Music has the power to heal the soul, and I truly believe it's one of the greatest things God ever made.

MUSIC AS A STORYTELLER IN MY BOOKS

I've included music in my books since **Total Bliss** (2005) because, to me, a love story isn't complete without a song to go with it. Some books have soundtracks woven through them, like **Christmas In Clover Creek** and **Intimate Seduction**, where I chose songs to accompany each chapter, spotlighting what the characters were feeling in that moment. Sometimes, music sets the tone for a first dance, a moment of heartbreak, or the quiet realization that love has arrived.

And then there are those classic songs that just speak to the soul. Take Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes—"The Love I Lost," "Bad Luck," "I Miss You," and "To Be True." Now, I laugh at this one because Harold knows he wasn't right for writing that song like that! But that's the thing about music—it moves you, it makes you feel something, and it stays with you long after the last note fades.

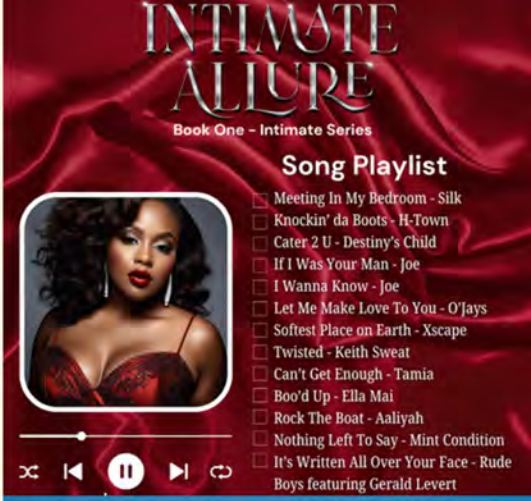
A BOOK WITH A SOUNDTRACK

For me, every book has its own melody. Whether it's a Luther Vandross song of longing in **Caught In His Webb**, a karaoke duet in **In Name Only**, or the slow burn of passion set to The Whispers in **Weekend Girlfriend**, music isn't just in the background—it's part of the love story. Some songs stay with my characters, like Donny Hathaway's "A Song for You", which Tina Webb dances to not once, but twice—first in **In Name Only**, and again in her own story, **The Point of It All**.

I don't know where I'd be without music. It is a language of love, a companion to heartbreak, and a celebration of joy. So, when you read my books, I hope you not only fall in love with the characters but also hear the music that shaped them. Because, in the words of the late great Marvin Gaye... "Ain't nothing like the real thing."

To commemorate my 20th anniversary I've combined all the playlists into one which gives you hours and hours of listening pleasure. **Scan the QR Code below. Happy Listening.**

bitly



SEAN D.
Young
ROMANCE AUTHOR
FALL IN LOVE AGAIN
www.seandyoung.com

SEAN D.
Young
ROMANCE AUTHOR
FALL IN LOVE AGAIN
www.seandyoung.com

SEAN D.
Young

black girl
WE'RE JUST

COMMITTEES/PARTICIPANTS

Coordinators

Mary Taylor
Shirlonda Taylor
Donna Terry

Decor

Black Cloth Events, LLC.
Pretty Lil Events
Young Creations

DJ

Eddie Johnson

Desserts

Tiffany Sangster

Food

SouthSide Smitty BBQ
Lansing, Michigan
517-444-0668

Hostesses

Renee James
Nadia Millard

Narrators

Rhoda Boles
Erika McNeal
Aleithea Sherls

Photography/ Videography

Lesleigh Meeks
Brandon Young
Gerold Young, II

Participants

Felicia Green
Levone Hall
Derrick Sims
Natasha Sims

Thank You

Thank you for sharing in this special moment. To the readers, my family and friends who came from far and near, you have brought joy to my day by your presence here. Your thoughtfulness and generosity will never be forgotten.

Sean