

DETROIT

NATIVE SUN

The Eviction Notice

By Ma'at Seba
SUN COLUMNIST



Job security has now become obsolete, financial instability is becoming a reality to masses of people, and the unemployment lines continue to grow daily. Our society has trained us to value materialism instead of Mother Earth, spirituality, each other and God. Some people are validated and defined by their jobs, titles, money, house, car or accessories, and that, is a sad commentary. The word stability is now being used in past tense. This society's false sense of security and faith has been founded upon the government, the acquisition of things, power and money, but not on God. Now that this "security and faith" is being shaken apart, the focus is now being turned in the direction into which it should have been from the very beginning, towards God. When you are forced to move out of your comfort zone, and the reality that things are not going to be the way that you have been accustomed to them being, that new reality becomes an almost paralyzing realization.

As more people lose their jobs, cars, and homes, they will begin to re-evaluate their lives and seek a belief system, which fills the voids in their Spirit. God has been waiting patiently for all her lost sheep to come back to the fold. In the midst of trials and tribulation, prayer and an unwavering faith in God, is the only salvation that there is. Standing in faith sounds simple enough to do, and to write about it, speak about it and preach about it is honorable. But to really live it is a completely different thing.

Faith - unquestioning belief that does not require proof or evidence; complete trust, confidence or reliance. An unquestioning belief in God is what I have had to have many times in my life. When faced with a challenge or crisis in life, the first reaction is fear become fearful, which clouds judgment. But fear, a very powerful and sometimes debilitating emotion, is the most important emotion that must be overcome and replaced with faith. "Faith and fear can not dwell in the heart at the same time", either you stand in one or you will fall in the other. Faith must be accompanied by its companion

"Surrender", which means that one must be willing to let go and not need to feel that they have to be in control of a situation. Surrender - to give up possession of or power over, act of yielding or giving up; give up claim to. Lets breakdown the word Surrender to get a different understanding of it: sur - upon, above, beyond rend - to tear; pull apart; rip out

Mom on the Rebound

By D. L. Gibson
SUN LIFESTYLE COLUMNIST

"If you come up my steps, you're trespassing," Sister Girl's brother told the crazy cop. "You aren't the only one with a gun. Step this way, and I'll have to defend myself and my property."

The crazy cop shouted back profanities and continued to hobble up the side walk.

Miss Lucy, an older woman who had been watching in the crowd, stepped forward with the strap of her purse wrapped tightly around her wrist and said, "We're not going to turn our nice quiet neighborhood into the wild wild west. I'll beat both of you with my purse. I ain't too old to whip butt!"

As Miss Lucy walked closer toward the crazy cop, he stretched out his arm, yelled profanities, and told her to stay back.

"You don't talk to me like that," she yelled back. "You're going to show me some respect. I don't care what kind of uniform you're wearing."

She took another step toward the officer, and he pushed her with his right hand.

Sister Girl's brother had been watching from his front door and ran to Miss Lucy's defense. Another neighbor caught her, as she stumbled backward and prevented her from falling.

"Now, you've gone too far by putting your hands on an older woman," Sister Girl's brother said. "Hey man...come get your boy, before he ends up being carried out," he said the two officers watching from their squad car.

Miss Lucy regained her composure then stretched her arm back as far as she could then struck the crazy cop with her purse.

de(r) - away from; off; undo; reverse action

This can be interpreted as: one being able to pull themselves apart from something and move away in order to rise above and beyond. To be in a space of surrender and stand in faith means that you are willing to "Let the chips fall where they may" or accept the outcome and the consequences of a particular situation. Also, with the knowing that the outcome in some way will be to your highest good.

When confronted with a challenge or crisis in life and you have done all that you know to do to bring it to a resolution, pray and ask God to assist you. Then surrender the situation and KNOW, not wonder and worry if or when the situation will be resolved. KNOW that it is done. Knowing that God will resolve it in the way that God deems for it to be, not in the ways that we think or wish the situation to be resolved, but accepting the resolution in whatever manner it reveals itself, is Faith.

I too have had my own challenges, I once was facing an eviction and agonized over where the rent money could possibly come from. I began to lose hope and faith, and in the midst of my fears and tears, and after much prayer, I re-played the many scenarios in my life when I couldn't see my next step, blinded by fears, doubts, anger or guilt. What was my fear, that God wouldn't or that God couldn't help me, exactly where was the justification for the fear? In each situation, God had brought me through it when I could see no other way out. I began to question myself as to why I should expect any less in this situation. In actuality, we all have been trained to be fearful of what "man" or "the system" can do to us, instead of what God will do for us. I came to a new realization and placed myself into a space of surrender and said: "Okay God, you know my heart and my situation, you have never left me before and I know that you never will leave me. If it is for my highest good that I leave this place then I will, if not, I know that you will work this out for me, I love you and I am standing in faith." Well, about an hour later I got a phone call from a friend who felt that something was wrong with me and as they questioned me I revealed my situation and they lent me the money for my rent! As the tears of gratitude flowed, my faith grew. Remember, "Faith and fear can not dwell in the heart at the same time!"

Ma'at Seba is the founder and facilitator of RELATIONSHIP FIRST AID, a program which uses spiritual principles as the tools to identify and resolve the causes of unhealthy, toxic or stressful relationships, whether it is with your mate, children, friends, co-workers as well as yourself. Ma'at can be reached for speaking engagements, classes or lectures at: Relationshipfirstaid@yahoo.com or Maatseba@gmail.com

She was able to get in three good hits, before the neighbors restrained her.

Sister Girl's brother threatened to break the crazy cop's legs, if he tried to go after Miss Lucy.

The threat apparently fell on deaf ears, as the crazy cop tried to grab Miss Lucy.

Sister Girl's brother grabbed the cop's arm, then kicked him in his good leg.

The crazy cop dropped to the ground on his knees with his right arm still being held by Sister Girl's brother.

He then yanked his arm behind the crazy cop.

"I ought to break your arm in half," he shouted. "You don't come into our neighborhood trespassing on private property and then assaulting my elderly neighbor. Is that what they taught you in police school. If so, you're gonna learn the hard way."

Officer Sweetie then came outside to see what the commotion was all about. The two other officers continued to watch from their squad car and did not intervene.

Miss Lucy walked up and struck the crazy cop in the back of his head, while he was still on his knees.

"I told you to show me some respect," she yelled. "Your momma should have taught you better."

Sister Girl's brother had let go of the crazy cop's arm. Oh no! What's this fool trying to do now?

Mom on the Rebound is based on actual events.

The DeMarco Project Speaks; Honoring Military and Veterans who Served

By Kim J. Clark Aka Expanding Love
SUN COLUMNIST



It is my honor to write about Military advocate Mayvee Smith, the daughter of a World War II veteran. Ms. Smith is from an extensive line of military service personnel. Her family's service dates back to World War I, and there are several family members serving today.

This article focuses on Mayvee honoring her historical military family. The family's military history begins with Ms. Smith's paternal grandmother's brother, Mayvee's Great Uncle Delmar Perkins who was a Buffalo Soldier and served in the 10th Calvary in World War I.

Mayvee's mother had three brothers, and all the brothers served. The eldest brother, Uncle Carney, served in three wars, World War II, Korean War, and Viet Nam and retired as Master Sergeant Carney Loveless. Her Uncle Reuben Loveless served in WWII and came out as Private First Class (PFC). The youngest brother, Uncle Sam, served four years in WWII and left the military with the rank of Staff Sergeant. Considering the time, it was a phenomenal accomplishment for a Black soldier to achieve that position in the segregated south.

The family military history does not end there. Uncle Carney met his wife Mayvee in Germany, where she served as a librarian in WWII. Ms. Smith had the honor of being named after her uncle's wife. Mayvee's father's sister, her Aunt Gwen Smith, also served in the Army in WWII. Presently, Uncle Carney's grandson Eugene is a Sargent Major in the Army serving in Germany. This family is definitely "ARMY STRONG." Also, her sister's son is a Marine Veteran who served in the Desert Storm War. This family has genuinely shown its love and support for the United States of America.

Of her own accord, Mayvee worked as a civilian in the enlisted and officers club for several years before joining the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) 7 years ago. The organization has 4 Pillars - Americanism, National Security, Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation, and Children. Mayvee asked herself, "Where do I fit into the ALA?" She got her answer when a member of the organization asked her to create a program for POW/MIA PFC Francis DeSales Wils, who went missing on February 26, 1966, in South Vietnam, Phu Yen province.

Currently, Mayvee presents several military service-related programs, all done under the ALA, which is the support

end of the American Legion and is the largest military support group.


Some of the programs are:

- Mayvee's first program honored POW/MIA PFC Francis DeSales, a Black Veteran, and his family.
- The second program was the first of its kind in the Nation to Honor the first black units and battalions, which included:
- The Buffalo Soldiers: The Buffalo Soldiers came to the event dressed in period costumes and brought period memorabilia.
- The Triple Nickels, who were initially called Smoke Jumpers. The military later changed the name to Paratroopers. Interestingly, The Triple Nickels were part of the Buffalo Soldiers.
- Tuskegee Airman: William Fauntroy, an original documented Tuskegee Airman, who was 92 years old, represented the Airmen.
- Navy Golden 13: Golden 13 Officers initially consisted of 16 Black men. The military decided only to commission the men with degrees and one warrant officer.
- Montfort Point Marines: The Marine Corps was the last branch to integrate in 1942. Three of the original cadets that went through segregated training at Camp Montfort located at Camp Lejeune participated in the program.
- For Active-Duty Personnel: ALA Unit 233 sends military care packages to deployed away from home twice a year. The intent is for the recipients to enjoy "a little piece of home." ALA Unit 233 also hosts an Active-Duty Military Family Baby Shower Supplies Event.
- For Veterans: Welcome Home Viet Nam
- Veterans that served are welcomed home and honored.
- Ongoing - RED Shirt Friday - Remember Everyone Deployed

When asked why she does the work, she responded that she tells people, "This is bigger than Mayvee." She does not see what she does as work. She does what she does to honor, educate, and say thank you. Her mission is to contribute to the healing of the families who have lost their loved ones through their acts of service to this great Nation.

To Mayvee and her family, this writer would like to say what an honor it is to join you in celebrating our military heroes and sheroes.

Kim is the mother of a veteran who loved his country and was willing to lay his life down for the freedoms in which he believed. She is the Founder and CEO of The DeMarco Project, a non-profit organization. Her life's mission is to save veteran lives and improve the quality of life for traumatized military service persons. If you would like to support her in this work, please donate via the website, www.TheDeMarcoProject.org, or The DeMarco Project Facebook page.






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