



My Story

By Ashyia Austin

My name is Ashyia, originated from Japan, meaning rich in worth. I have lived up to this but have not achieved capacity. I must further my journey. I am rich in life, I am rich in love. I am rich in humor. I am rich in strength. I am rich in hope. I am rich in peace. The inside of me is beauty. Self worth is what I have and all these assets are what I value. I am: a child of god. I'm African. I'm a mom of a humble and excited child. I'm sensitive. I'm a survivor, I am thankful for love, education, support, freedom, and sanity. I'm honored to be Bernadine's and Paul's daughter.

Presently, almost 27 years of age: I've suffered enough to know life is uncontrollable because it's unpredictable. That's just a fragment of life. There's the rest of life that you may designate to devise for you. I have changed for the better. I'm no longer ignorant to the diversity of change. I've conquered. Getting more positive and responsible everyday. While passing on my strengths and new beliefs that I've broken cycles to attain. My child is a special addition to our world. I've been challenge to forgive, forget, and apologize. I've been the challenger to dreams, triumph, and faith. I've been lost: as a child neglected, as an adult overwhelmed, as a woman terrified and timid. I am found and building a foundation.

I lived and learned still learning while living. I have ideas that are a bit smeared but, with determination I will not fear. Attending the Woman to Woman program I see lots of things. Most valuable: many women on a positive search. How inspiring. With the administration skills I would like to help out in the world as a medical receptionist. With my financial management I will become economically built. With life skills I'm learning acceptance, healthy and unhealthy relations, fairness, and support. I am reaching out. This is important because as a loner in the past I've been irrationally isolating myself.

At Woman to Woman I see what I couldn't in years. I see hands reaching out to me with strong compassion to help me succeed. I want to buy a house that can be past down to generations. With my skills in massage therapy, I want to be a holistic healer. I will be who I Am. I love life and learning. I'm going to teach. I am going to be taught. I will succeed. I will be me. Everyday strengthening skills to achieve. I will be consistent with persistence. ■