

TWENTY4SEVEN

ENTERTAINMENT EVERLASTING MAGAZINE

ISSUE #34
2016

Valery Ortiz

+ KEKE WYATT.

*Sexually Celabate: As Told By SymptomUnknown.
The Connect: Can I Stop People From Recycling My Ideas?*

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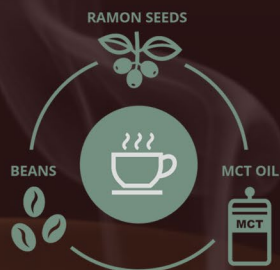
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Hello World,

Over the last few months, I've noticed that people aren't doing a great job at recognizing and taking advantage of opportunity when opportunity presents itself to them. Opportunity is defined as "a set of circumstances that makes it possible to do something." Unfortunately, most have a problem recognizing opportunities because they also lack drive and communication. There used to be a time where you could send a stranger an instant message on social media and actually get a response. These days, it seems everyone is so into themselves that they'd rather leave that stone unturned than to flip it over and see where it takes them.

Example: I inbox an aspiring model about an opportunity for her to be in a reality show my team and I am working. I reach out to her directly, because I believe she'll be a shoo-in for the show. She reads the message, but doesn't respond to me. A few weeks later, after it has hit the general public and we're gaining traction, she contacts the company directly about participating. Guess who was on the other side of that inbox? Do you think she got a response? The moral of the story is when opportunity knocks, you answer the door. Otherwise, opportunity may go to your neighbor's house.

One Love,
Tyrone Davis



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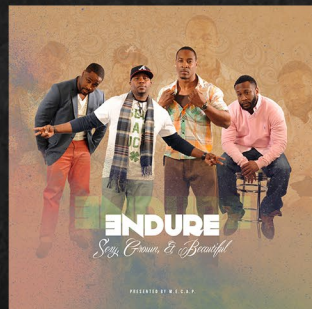
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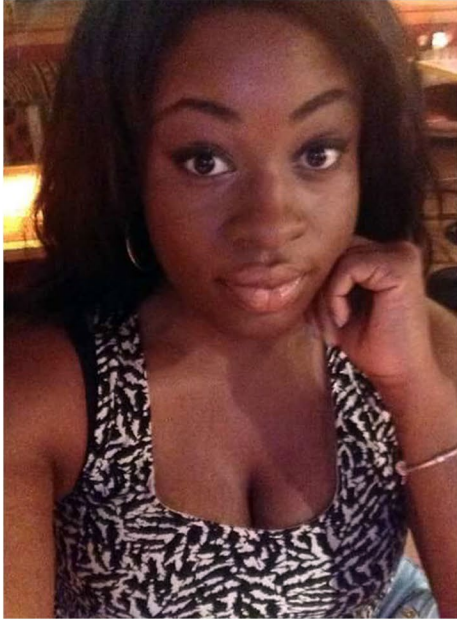
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FALL 2016

CAN I STOP PEOPLE FROM RECYCLING MY IDEAS?

BY ONYX, "QUEEN OF KILLEEN"



There's a time and place for everything in all things blogging so I've come to the conclusion it's time to address the jackaz of all trades. Coming from a huge advocate for entrepreneurial moves with all things considered, I'm starting to find it very disturbing that this generation is of the "Monkey See... Monkey Do." For some reason we cannot wait for a creation to manifest only so we can borrow or steal, then recycle it as if it is our very own. There was a time when people took pride in being the first, the one, and the only. Now it's kind of the cool thing to take all and run with it. Then we wholeheartedly accept it. But wait—it's not about who did it first, it's about who did it better—there's some but not all truth to this.

There are always exceptions but blatancy doesn't fall under this category. I remember getting in touch and hearing from, "Yung Onyx" back in the MySpace days. They had no problem with my name and actually said they loved it! For several reasons I can be led to believe it was because of the following: we had dialogue, I was R&B versus Hip Hop, and it became my nickname early on after its meaning as a rare gem; or black diamond. Not the infamous rap group (Not the strip clubs either). I've pretty much had everything from my radio broadcasts formats & show name, to lyrics, to t-shirts, to now even my own blogs taken right from underneath me. This week's email I received that displayed one of my articles being "recreated" was kind of my final blow. So how do you stop people from recycling your ideas and making them their own? The bitter truth is you unfortunately can't or at least not without a fight. None the less, take a moment

to scan the following below to ensure you're getting your just due.

- **Research.** Yes, research. Take some time out to look around a bit. Before I generate anything I try to make sure to google with a fine tooth comb. I want to be sure that there is nothing like mine or that what I am preparing or creating isn't already out, available to the masses. This includes perhaps the name of your single or your stage name. How annoying to have so many songs with the same title, under & within the same category.

- **Business.** Copyrights, Trademarks, & Patents. Depending upon what the product is or how it's being presented one or all may be necessary. The paperwork can be quite extensive so I would recommend consulting with someone who is qualified, as well as having experience with such documents. Also, although you are on the right track, please note that saying you have a Tax ID isn't enough. For some odd reason people are beginning to think this is the end all be all. There are certain permits, licenses, and certifications needed for you to legitimately be doing and remain in business.

- **Have the conversation when it's deemed necessary.** Sometimes it does call for a healthy communicative dialogue. We can't both throw a Southern Central Splash Summer Fest & call it just that. Especially when I've invested in flyers, radio advertisements & more. This could be considered a form of infringement hence it displays someone is using the marketing tools of one event, to push its own agenda of furthering sales for an entirely different event. Grab a dictionary and switch it up.

- **Stop posting and talking to those not involved.** If you didn't list out your entire plan than people wouldn't have an opportunity to swoop thru before you could execute it. I actually hate seeing people say, "Watch what's about to happen," or "I'm on the phone with so & so we just talked about getting this or that done." No, no, and no. Just get it done first! You might have had the best non profit idea with a celebrity endorsement but because you spilled it all, someone with longer pockets and a bigger reach beat you to it. Special thanks to you because they didn't even have to research for sellers. They took the person you screenshot you had a call with and had the press release the following week.

- **Verbal & Written Agreements.** These didn't used to always hold up in court well but from what I can see lately, they seem to be doing just fine. If someone is rightfully entitled to a situation and you are trying to cookie cutter them out, you may want to make sure there's no paper trail to follow. It's enough to at least begin the preceding or worth an attorney looking into further.

Moral. Haters gon' hate. Nah...that's not it. Cheaters never prosper? Nope, still not it. Let's just say this much. You are the Alpha and Omega of your business endeavors. You are the King or Queen to this ish. You are the original and there's none like you. You can do all things thru—look here, if you did it before, then my G, you can do it again! It is certainly okay for others to be inspired. We prove to ourselves daily thru social media that great minds think alike. But this is only cliché and given when each person has actually decided to use their mind. Imagine that. No matter how much money

or great the individual is, they are only as exceptional as their next carbon copy. Sometimes that alone is enough and it can be very disappointing. If I could leave you with any advice or motivation as it relates to the "lurk & copy crew," just know that you will always have the upper hand. Only now you just have to start acting like it. It's time that you get up off your feet, get out here in these streets, and go get what's yours!

#NowPutSomeRespekOnThat
(Birdman & Breakfast Club I love you for this lol)

Onyx "Queen of Killeen" | Songwriter | Music Professional | Executive Producer & Host of Jermaine Dupri's Global 14 the Cut | 2014 SEA Internet Hustler of the Year

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DEAR D'ANNIE,

My best friend and I recently went out for some drinks, and this guy at the bar instantly showed his interest – in both of us! We talked and laughed until the sun came up and the bar closed, and we kept walking and talking until we went home. My best friend is the "one-night-stand"-type, and I am the "long-term-relationship"-type. We both fell for him, and he seemed equally interested in both of us. There was nothing "douche-y" about him, and he seemed like a relationship-type, like me. My best friend claims she only wants to sleep with him, and is willing to back down if I am really into him. The problem is that I have never seen her look at someone like that before. I am afraid that it is going to ruin our friendship if I pursue him, but I really believe he could be the one. I have never felt like this before, and I think my best friend feels the same way! He is so perfect, it feels like a complete waste to just leave it and never contact him again. What do I do?

I know I'm stating the obvious but you are between a rock and a hard place and that is never easy. On one hand you feel something for this guy but on the other hand you suspect your friend may feel the same way about his guy. I am not clear about the interaction times between you, your best friend and the guy other than the initial meeting you mentioned. However the fact that your best friend is your best friend speaks more to the most important of the two. While the guy may be the relationship type, friendships have a way of outlasting relationships so before you look at the choice look at the friendship.

You mentioned you never saw her look at someone like that before; while your assumptions could be correct its a possibility that you saw something else. Perhaps she has never wanted to conquer someone that much before which you could be reading as her wanting a relationship. Past behavior is a predictor of future behavior so your interpretation of her feelings may not be the same as her reality of her feelings. You said "she claims she only wants to sleep with him" which implies that you may not believe her. You also stated that "she says she can back off if I like him" but you also said that she looks at him giddy eyed.

I wish I could say it won't ruin your friendship but I can't. It could ruin your friendship and here is why. No matter what happens the other person could end up feeling like they were denied the chance and end up resenting the other person consciously or subconsciously. Additionally once she sleep with him even if she does not have a relationship with him that would limit your future possibilities with him and if you have a relationship with then she won't be able to have sex with him, its a choice but like so many other tough choices we face the choice simply has to be that which you can live with. Best of luck.



SEXUALLY CELIBATE: AS TOLD BY SYMPTOMUNKNOWN

If you were ever a victim of any form of sexual abuse, it is important to disclose that information to the man or woman you're in a relationship with. For the longest I didn't see my situation as abuse. A part of me thought it was wrong, for the simple fact this man (I'll call him Greg) was related to me by marriage, but because I didn't have any romantic feelings towards Greg, I was emotionless. I was enjoying the fact someone had an interest in me that way. I liked the way my body felt when he would feel me up or finger me, but it wasn't until he began kissing me that I truly felt uncomfortable. Something about our lips touching crept me out and introduced the thought that maybe I shouldn't be doing this. Things started out "innocently". We were just chilling in his basement talking about anime (I think), when out of nowhere Greg said "you know you drive me crazy right" and proceeded to get on top of me. He didn't touch me, he just laid there looking at me and eventually got up. From then on little touches turned into bigger ones and before I knew it, I was putting his hands under my shirt. Around the same time as this abuse, another man (I'll call him Bill) attempted to have sex with me. I remember just laying there and feeling gross. Bill tried kissing me and used his tongue to try to open my mouth but I didn't let him. He was gross, his slimy bumpy tongue was gross. Bill also grabbed my breasts and proceeded to touch my vagina, but I jumped up and left the room before things went any further. Why couldn't I do the same with Greg? Why was it ok with him and not Bill? I'm not sure how long things went on between Greg and I, but it wasn't until a family mem-

ber found out and convinced me what was happening was inappropriate, that I removed myself from him entirely. That was well over 10 years ago but it is because of those incidents that I often find myself facing the same dilemma.

My boyfriend and I have been dating close to 3 years now and sex is a part of our relationship but its become clear our needs and wants are complete opposites. Although I enjoy sex with him and I'm able to cum, squirt, and orgasm (these were all issues with previous boyfriends and one night stands) my sex drive is normally left in park. Before entering this relationship I was a willing and eager participant when it came to sex. Whenever a boyfriend wanted me I was down, whatever he wanted I was down, where ever he wanted to do it I was down. Sex was always about the guy and with the exception of 1 and my current boyfriend, the rest didn't seem to care if I too was enjoying it, or if I really came or not (after awhile pretending got old). Sex became less enjoyable and began feeling more like a job. There were times; even presently, when I'd have sex without wanting to and I end up being reminded of the things Greg and Bill did to me. I believe it was a few months before our 2nd anniversary that I told my boyfriend about my past. We had been having problems in the bedroom and I was running out of excuses as to why I didn't cum this time or why I wasn't making the same sounds or expressions. For the 2nd time I had to confront my demons, and again admit that these men had wronged me. I felt ashamed but at the same time I knew I was lifting a

burden. It felt good but I hated how exposed I was. I probably wouldn't have told him if it wasn't for that stupid trigger. We were kissing and he unexpectedly slid his tongue out and began moving it across my mouth. I instantly had a flash back but because he didn't know why I was attempting to push him away, he got upset and left. I don't think he fully comprehended what I was saying. I'm not sure if he was more upset that he was just finding out or the fact these things happened to me. We didn't have sex for awhile after, because neither of us knew how to go about it, so it became the elephant in the room.

As I mentioned earlier, its not that I don't enjoy having sex with my boyfriend, I just don't have a desire to have sex with him as much as he'd like. We undoubtedly love each other but a relationship is more than that and when you share yourself with someone, the choices you make will ultimately affect the both of you. So how do you decide whose needs come before the other? Is it selfish for him to expect more from me? Is it selfish for me to hold back? Truth be told, I've never been a touchy feely individual, even before the abuse. Personal space is something I've always appreciated. I didn't grow up seeing my parents being overly affectionate. Yes, they kissed, held hands, cuddled etc., but it was to a minimum. I guess I never learned how to be intimate with someone and be comfortable in my own skin at the same time. In a previous relationship, I did feel good about my sexuality, and was quite confident. In this relationship I was the aggressor, and it was enough for me even though I wasn't cumming. It was refreshing because I'd never been in that position before. But in the end life happened and we broke up due to his infidelity. I was crushed, my confidence was crushed, and it left me feeling vulnerable for the umpteenth time. When my boyfriend and I got together, I was still in the process of healing (bad move, I know). By no means was he perfect but I can't help but feel that the majority of our problems are a direct result from my lack of openness. I try to remind myself that my boyfriend's attraction to me is not the same twisted attraction Bill and Greg had. I try to keep in mind that this is a man I love and want to please and that he's a man that loves and wants to please me. It's an ongoing battle but in order to be victorious I have to forgive these people and stop being their victim.

SymptomUnknown is a contributing writer for Twenty4Seven Magazine. You can check out her blog, "The HairyVagina" on www.twenty4sevenmagazine.com. Also, follow her on twitter @Symptom_Unknown.



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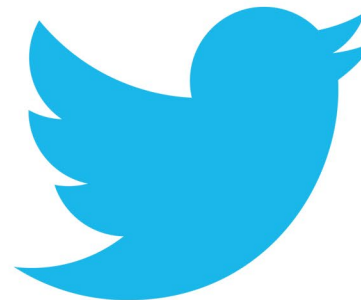
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TWEET DAT!

@TheOrlandoJones: #BlackPlotTwists
The black guy lives. The black girl is
the romantic lead and is worshipped as a
queen yet gets to be vulnerable.

@fact: Van Gogh only sold one painting
when he was alive.

@anialauren: Brittney Griner look and
sound like a whole nigga.

@48tweetsofpower: Never put too much
trust in friends; learn how to use enemies.

@lilduval: "Why is everybody dying in
2016" ahhh people been dying you just
didn't care about them.

@IyanlaVanzant : If U let go of
something or someone that has not been
divinely ordained for U, U R making room
4 the Divine to take its place in your life.

@Raquel_Savage: Got a fresh wax so I'll
be sitting on ya daddy's face tonight.

@8plus9 : Watching the entire season of
#OITNB within 24 hours is not an accom-
plishment, weirdo.

@ComplexGenius: Football ain't better
than basketball period...ill slap your
ancestors

@_Oh_Bee: WHO ISN'T PREGNANT?!

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THE BARBERSHOP



BRON

@TheophilusL: I knew bron as ganna win by the music and suits he showed
up to the game the last 4 games. Curry came thru in a top shop fit tlking
bout wiffi

@SkillzVa: If Bron leaves CLE now u cant be mad at him. But they will be.

@Denis_Bossman5: Man bron don't deserve that MVP trophy at all man

@ChadBrendel: When this is all said and done, that Bron block will go
down as a top 5 play in NBA history. Won the game and cemented his
legacy.

@jerseychaser: My Bron is an awesome Bron!

@IAMANITABAKER: To leave Cleveland to Win in Miami. Come back to
Cleveland & Win in Cleveland... #Respect #Lbron Bron #Champ

@k_hall77: They were down 3-1. This is insane. Legendary. Im exhausted.
Bron's emotions are crazy. REAL

@doyouknowJR: Bron still a bxtch though. Lol

@Fresh03Kid: Whoever don't pay up, swear to god I'm catching a charge..
Y'all gon put some Respek on BRON's name

@bomani_jones: bron is haterproof for life. you cannot say a thing after
this. he is untouchable.

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has been published exactly how it was written.

LEGACY

BIG PUN MEMORIAL MURAL - BRONX, NY





Valery Ortiz is not only beautiful, she is also multi-talented. Valery can sing, act, and dance. Her passion for dancing exposed her to various opportunities from hosting local and national television shows to playing in some of TV's popular scripted series. Aside from being in the spotlight, Valery also spends time writing poetry and volunteering at Los Angeles Mission, Special Needs Network, Inc. for Autistic Kids, Best Friends Animal Society, and Eva Longoria's "Padres Contra El Cancer". You can currently see her on VH1's 'Hit the Floor'. Also, be on the lookout for her upcoming bilingual children's book series.

PHOTO BY
MARC CARTWRIGHT



PHOTOS BY
MARC CARTWRIGHT

Words + Interview By: Krystal Luster

Do you think it's important for actors in the entertainment industry to be multi-talented?

Absolutely! I think it's important for anyone, regardless of their career to be multi-talented or multi-skilled. You want to be able to say, "Yes!" as often as possible if/when someone asks you if you know how to do something. That's something my HS theater magnet teacher (Karen Ruge-río) always reminded us! She called it our "suitcase". Just pack as many different things as you can. You'll always have it to pull from. You never know where the "train" (something else she always said) is going to stop. But you'll be packed and prepared!

How did your passion for dance lead to you wanting to pursue singing and acting?

It really didn't. Ha! Ha! My brother Hector was actually more of my inspiration to pursue acting. He played around with our parents video camera, taught himself how to edit with two VCR's, etc. So, being that it was just us two growing up, I was always the actress or host for his crazy ideas! We had so much fun. A lot of my family actually got involved as well. Those videos are worth more than gold.

Although you were born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, would you say that Orlando, Florida is home for you?

Yes, Orlando will always be the place I consider home because that's where I grew up. But everyone who knows me knows, I am a proud Puerto Rican!

Have you choreographed any of the dances for "Hit the Floor"?

I wish! Ha! All that credit goes to the amazing Michael Rooney and Danny Valle. These individuals are talented beyond words!

How has your character Raquel Saldana, changed in the new season of "Hit the Floor" compared to past seasons? In what ways has she remained the same?

Raquel has always been a fighter. She's confident, strong, and driven. She returns as a Devil Girl and it seems like she's on a high more than we've ever seen before. But as quickly as she soars, her world quickly crumbles. Again. But this time, Raquel doesn't pick herself back up. Kyle is to thank in helping Raquel recover from her despair after finding out her health forced her to leave the team. It's a different Raquel. She's changed. This time, her heart condition is something she can't control. She can't fix. Luckily, her old friend snaps her back out of this funk and gives her things to be excited about again. Life. "Once a Devil Girl, always a Devil Girl!"

What was your favorite dance routine on the show?

Ooooh, that I did? The Firetruck dance! I had so much fun, I felt sexy, and it turned out so good when I finally saw it on TV. I'll never forget that. My first love was dance so it was like a childhood dream came true again being able to revisit my roots. My mom particularly got emotional seeing me dance on the show. It's was like 5 year old Valery "made it".

Does social media/networking play an important role for your career?

Honestly, I'm not really positive. Networking is always great and it's a dream to work with people you know and like, so I can say it's good and can be beneficial. As far as social media, I'm really not sure. These days it seems the number of your "followers" and "likes" on certain social media sites is important to your career. I would love to ask some executives at a big studio, and see how they'd answer this [question] when they're considering to hire new individuals. It's a little frustrating. I have friends with CRAZY talent but if their careers were validated by their followers, you'd never know it. I hate that. I love social media to keep in contact with my friends/family who live far away and of course, the fans! How lucky are we to be able to thank them for their support first hand. Obviously, it's also great to promote new projects or interviews like this too!

It's a tricky thing. I haven't figured it out yet! That's okay! Haha!

What is your favorite social networking site and why?

Probably Instagram and Pinterest. I love pictures and videos, so I'd say Instagram. It's easy to use, and I get to interact with my family/friends and fans. I like Pinterest because it's so inspiring! I have spent a little too much free time pinning things on my different boards! Ha! Ha! It's kind of addicting!

When can we expect your bilingual children's book series to debut and what will the book series be called?

Soon, I hope! It's called, "The Hola! Hello! Series". It's about a tiny tree frog named Coqui who teaches his friends words in Spanish in each story.

Will you be releasing your poems around the same time as the book series?

I hope to incorporate my poems into a memoir when the time is right unless a different opportunity presents itself beforehand. I'm really looking forward to that.

How much of yourself do you incorporate into the characters you play?

There's always a little of my essence in the characters I play because I'm breathing life into them with my experiences, my body, and my point of view whether they resemble me a little or not at all.

How did it feel to be named one of Maxim Espanol's "50 Most Beautiful People"?

Oh geez, crazy! Things like that are always flattering but feel pretty weird all at the same time. I never know how to answer this question! Haha!

Do you have a beauty regiment?

Not really! I'm always open to new suggestions and trying new products. One thing I have made more routine lately is using coconut oil on my skin and face. My childhood friend Karina swears by it and her skin looks amazing so I've been doing it! Thanks Kari!

What do most enjoy doing in your down time?

I love writing, working out, and visiting with family and friends. I've said this before, we all know when it rains it pours so when I have downtime, I'm the girl who has had a vacation planned months in advanced to enjoy every last second of that time off.

How can the public get involved with the organizations you're involved with?

Volunteering your time, donations, spreading their message, anything! Honestly, I just encourage people to find something that makes them happy and donate your time and heart to it. Passion is contagious and then others pay that forward!

What is a favorite quote you live by?

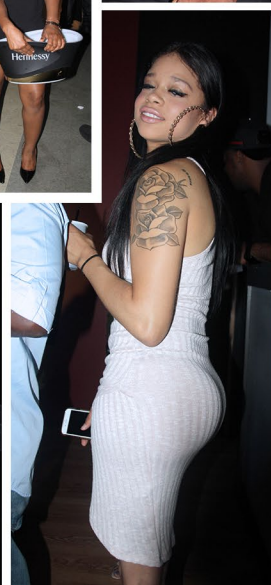
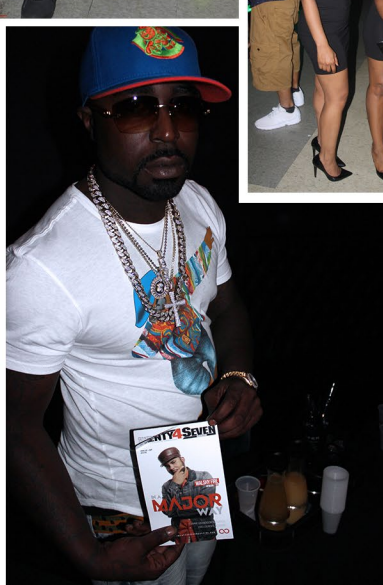
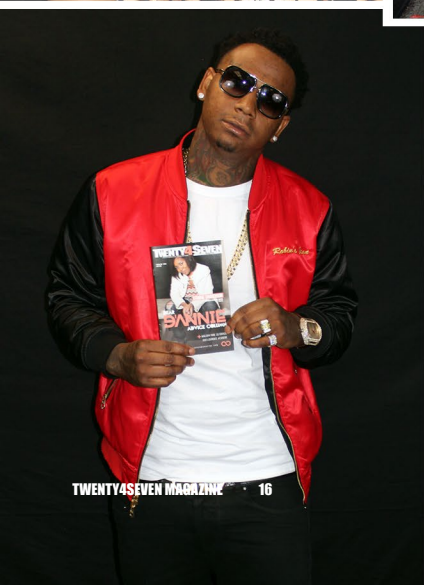
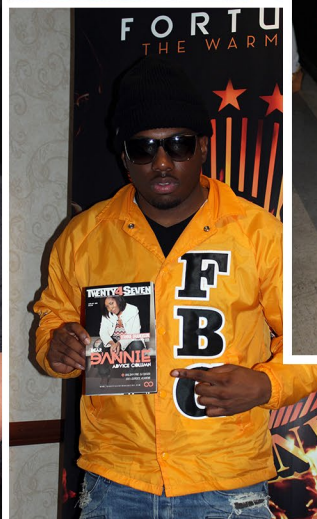
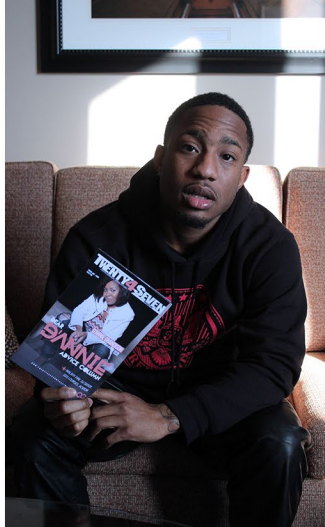
"Whether you think you can or you can't, you're right!"

Tell us something about yourself that most don't know.

I've never really talked about this publicly but I get really bad social anxiety. I get so nervous and feel uncomfortable during certain social outings. Even sometimes with people I know but haven't seen in a bit. It's the weirdest thing, and honestly is why I rather stay home than go out sometimes. I love people and I love a good conversation, so I don't know why this happens! It makes me so insecure and uncomfortable sometimes. I'm getting better at forcing myself through it. It's a work in progress.

Any last words?

Aw well, thank YOU for the interview! Thanks to all my family and friends for their continuous support. And of course to the fans, you are unreal. Thank you. Follow me on Twitter/IG @Valstweet and on Facebook: Official Valery Ortiz Fan Page.



CHECK ME OUT

RATED LOVE

KEKE WYATT



Born in Indianapolis, IN, Keke grew up with three brothers in a mixed-race family with strong musical roots. Her father, Keever Wyatt II, is a minister, organist and vocalist, and her mother, Lorna Wyatt, is a powerful vocalist and church choir director. Her brothers are also accomplished musicians. Keke's grandmother discovered her ability to harmonize at age two. She began singing in church with her family shortly after that, and had her first solo performance at age five. She recorded her first gospel song, "What If," when she was 10. It was at church that she also had the opportunity to display and develop her extraordinary skills as a drummer and percussionist. She is also adept at keyboards, the guitar and bass.

As a teenager, she performed with various girl groups, and she even received an invitation to join The Dollz, the group that evolved into Destiny's Child. While still in her teens, Keke became a protégé of noted producer Steve Huff, and, under his tutelage, she recorded demos for record labels and developed her songwriting skills. Huff introduced her to R&B singer Avant when she was 16 years old, and they recorded the duet "My First Love," which became Keke's first hit single, peaking at #4 on the Billboard Top 100 chart. She would go on to record two more duets with Avant, including the 2013 hit "You & I," a moving love song that has already become a classic. "You & I" hit #1 on Billboard's Urban Adult chart in February 2013, and remained for seven consecutive weeks.

As she readies the release of her forthcoming album, Rated Love, Keke is in a productive and happy season of her life and career. She lives in a suburb of Atlanta, GA, with her husband, Michael Ford, who also serves a dual role as her manager. A doting mother who welcomed her eighth child into the world in 2015, she is seeing signs of the next generation of vocalists and musicians in her children, who range in age from a year - 14 yrs. She is excited about the future, and she's ready for it. In her own words: "stay tuned honey, because the best is yet to come."

Contact Keke Wyatt via Twitter @KekeWyattSings, IG @Keke_Wyatt, Periscope - KWF, FB - Keke Wyatt (Official Fan Page), and Youtube - Keke Wyatt

Bio submitted via publicist, Fairley McCaskill. Email: fairley.mccaskill@gmail.com.

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