

**AUTOBIOGRAPHY
KELLEN WACHIRA
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This is the story of my life. It is a story of struggle and triumph, of hope and despair. It is a story of how the human spirit can overcome even the most repressive forces. I have tried to make it a truthful story, neither apologizing for my mistakes nor exaggerating my virtues.

Introduction

- **Early Life**
- My name is Kellen Wachira, and I hail from the vibrant town of Kiambu, Kenya. As I embark on this journey of documenting my life, I am filled with a sense of pride and gratitude for the experiences that have molded me.
- **Family Values**
- My parents, both educators, instilled in me the value of education and the importance of hard work. They always encouraged me to dream big and pursue my passions, no matter the obstacles. Besides being entrepreneurs, they were farmers, who put their effort into growing different types of cash crops and family food.
- **Faith**
- Born into a Christian family, I attended Sunday services every week, where I learned more about God and His eternal presence. This upbringing made me a prayerful warrior, believing in God every day of my life.

Name Meaning

My name, Kellen is a Gaelic unisex name meaning “powerful” or “descendant of the
brightheaded one.”

Parents

- As educators, my parents have always emphasized the transformative power of education. They both pursued careers in teaching, driven by a passion to impart knowledge and shape young minds. Their classrooms were not just places of academic instruction but environments where students were encouraged to dream big, think critically, and develop a love for learning.

Ethnicity

- **Kikuyu Culture**

- As a proud Kikuyu, I embrace my cultural heritage and the rich traditions that come with it. Both of my parents belong to the same ethnic group, which makes me a pure Kikuyu. Our ethnic group is part of the Bantu community within the diverse tapestry of Kenyan culture. Being a Kikuyu fills me with a deep sense of belonging and identity. Our cultural heritage is a mosaic of customs, rituals, and values that have been passed down through generations.
- Embracing my Kikuyu heritage has shaped my worldview and instilled in me a profound appreciation for the importance of cultural diversity. It is a source of pride, reminding me of the richness and resilience of our people. As I navigate life, I carry the values and traditions of my Kikuyu heritage, honoring the legacy of those who came before me and shaping a future that embraces the beauty of our diverse world.

Family History

Grandparents' Role

My grandparents were young heroes who actively participated in the struggle for Kenya's independence. In their teenage years, they selflessly dedicated themselves to supporting the freedom fighters by delivering food to their hidden locations.

Impact of Involvement

Their involvement in the independence movement had a profound impact on their character and outlook on life. The experiences they endured during those turbulent times shaped them into individuals of immense strength and resilience.

Family History

Legacy

Today, our county remains a testament to the rich farming heritage inherited from those who fought for independence. The fertile lands continue to yield abundant harvests, providing sustenance not only for our local communities but also contributing to the nation's agricultural prosperity. The legacy of my grandparents' dedication to the cause of freedom lives on, serving as a reminder of the sacrifices made by previous generations. Their involvement in the struggle has deeply influenced my values and appreciation for the importance of community, hard work, and the profound impact that agriculture can have on our lives.

Interesting Things About Where I Was Born

- Born in Murang'a but grew up in Mnarani, Kilifi County but currently settled in Nyahururu which has become my home with so much wonderful memories and good people, was a tapestry woven with the vibrant colors of community, nature, and history. Nestled in the heart of Kenya's Rift Valley regions, Nyahururu, formally known as Thompson Falls holds a special place in my autobiography. Its name, a tribute to the intrepid explorer Joseph Thomson, evokes a sense of adventure and discovery.
- One of Nyahururu's most enchanting features is undoubtedly Thomson's Falls, a majestic cascade plunging into the abyss below. Its thundering waters, framed by verdant foliage, serve as a backdrop for countless childhood memories and reflective moments.

Early life

- **Family Values**

- Our family valued togetherness and hard work. Every Sunday, after church, we would gather around the dining table for a hearty family meal, sharing stories from our week.

- **Relationship with Siblings**

- My siblings and I shared a close bond. We supported each other in every possible way. Academically, we helped each other with homework and prepared for exams together.

Primary school years

- **Academics**

- In the tapestry of my life, primary education serves as the foundational thread upon which my journey of learning and self-discovery was woven. Having attended St. Patrick Academy I reflect on those formative years, I am filled with gratitude for the educators, experiences, and environments that shaped my understanding of the world and ignited my passion for knowledge. In this detailed analysis, I will explore the multifaceted aspects of primary education, delving into its curriculum, pedagogy, social dynamics, and impact on personal development.

- **Extracurricular Activities**

- Besides academics, I was actively involved in extracurricular activities. I joined the debate club, where I honed my public speaking and critical thinking skills.

Challenges and Triumphs

- **Balancing Academics and Extracurriculars**

- Balancing academics and extracurricular activities was sometimes overwhelming. There were moments of self-doubt, especially when preparing for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) exams.

- **Overcoming Hurdles**

- But with the support of my family and teachers, I managed to overcome these hurdles and perform well in my exams.

- **Distance and Discipline**

- Walking miles from home to school was a distance. Sometimes, I would be punished for arriving late to school.

- **Overcoming Challenges**

- There were times when I felt overwhelmed, but I reminded myself of my goals and the importance of education.

- **Adapting to a New Routine**

- It took me some time to adjust to the new bedtime schedule. In primary school, I used to sleep at 9:30 pm, but now I was required to sleep at 10:30 pm and wake up at 4:00 am. I would take a cold bath and rush to morning preps.

- **Morning Preps**

- During preps, the duty teacher would patrol behind the classes to ensure everyone was engaged in personal studies.

Secondary School: A Period of Growth

- Stepping through the gates of Njonjo Girl's High School on that crisp February morning in 2014 marked the beginning of a transformative journey. Nestled amidst the tranquil surroundings of Nyahururu, this esteemed institution stood as a beacon of opportunity and promise. At first glance, its imposing architecture and sprawling campus seemed daunting, but as I crossed the threshold, I sensed an atmosphere charged with possibility.
- One of the avenues I ventured into was drama and music, where I found myself drawn to the camaraderie and adrenaline rush of competition. Joining the drama and music team not only provided a physical outlet but also fostered a sense of teamwork and discipline.

University Life: A Journey of Growth and Discovery

- **Enrollment**

May 2019 marked the beginning of an exciting new chapter in my educational journey as I embarked on my university studies at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT). My involvement in clubs and extracurricular activities at DeKUT has been transformative, providing me with a holistic education that extends beyond the confines of the classroom. The diverse array of skills and experiences gained have prepared me to excel in the ever-evolving landscape of technology and business, empowering me to pursue my aspirations with confidence and resilience.

Acquisition of Skills and Coping with Challenges

- **Technical Expertise**
- Pursuing a degree in Bachelor of Business Information Technology has provided me with a comprehensive understanding of both business principles and technological advancements.
- **Soft Skills Development**
- Courses in programming, database management, and business analytics have equipped me with the technical expertise needed to thrive in today's digital economy. Additionally, soft skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and effective communication have been honed through various class projects, presentations, and collaborative assignments.
- **Overcoming Challenges**
- Coping with challenges has been an integral part of my university journey. Transitioning from a structured secondary school environment to the self-directed nature of university life required a significant adjustment.
- **Involvement in Clubs and Extracurricular Activities**
- **Cybersecurity**
- I immersed myself in the field of cybersecurity, participating in workshops, seminars, and practical sessions that deepened my understanding of digital security threats and countermeasures.
- **Networking**
- Additionally, involvement in activities related to Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) certification allowed me to apply theoretical knowledge in networking to real-world scenarios, enhancing my technical skills and readiness for the industry.
- **Innovation Hub**
- As a member of DeKUT's innovation hub, DeHUB, I collaborated with fellow students on innovative projects, fostering creativity and entrepreneurial spirit.
- **Career Aspirations**
- Looking towards the future, as I approach the completion of my degree in December 2024, I am filled with anticipation and determination.

Looking Towards the Future

- **Skills and Knowledge**

- Armed with a solid foundation in business information technology from Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT), I am eager to embark on a career path that allows me to apply my skills and knowledge in practical settings.

- **Future Goals**

- Beyond academics, I aspire to contribute meaningfully to the tech industry, leveraging my education and passion for innovation to tackle real-world challenges.

- **Technical Skills**

- My experiences at DeKUT, from academic pursuits to extracurricular activities like cybersecurity and networking, have equipped me with a versatile skill set and a deep understanding of the dynamic IT landscape

- **Leadership and Entrepreneurship**

- My time at DeKUT has nurtured not just my technical skills but also my leadership abilities and entrepreneurial mindset through engagements with DeHUB and other campus initiatives.

- **Future Focus**

- As I prepare to graduate, I am focused on honing my abilities further, exploring opportunities that align with my interests in technology, business, and making a positive impact in the global community.

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