

# **Unscrambled Eggs** ISBN 978-1-4581-8676-8 © 2011

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# Acknowledgments

I would like to acknowledge and thank my family for all their support, prayers, and encouragement. Each in their own unique way has inspired and contributed to this endeavor. Without their unconditional love, I would not be able to accomplish my dream of becoming a writer.

#### Introduction

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Jeremiah 29:11

I have always had the utmost respect and admiration for anyone who is able to accomplish something that they truly desired, no matter how significant or small it is. As simple as that may seem, for one reason or another we do not often attain the goals that we set out to achieve.

I strongly believe that everyone has a purpose, a divine destiny, and unfortunately there are many who live their entire lives without ever fulfilling their purpose. You don't ever truly have joy if you go through life being a settler. That is something I have learned.

The poems in this book were written over a five-year period and reflect either my own experiences, those close to me, and issues that I feel very passionately about. *Unscrambled Eggs*, I believe, is an honest and thought-provoking book that deals with everyday life issues. I t is a compilation of poems about living your dream and finding purpose.

I realized that dwelling on what I thought were past disappointments would only hold my future in doubt and keep me from my purpose. And it is that belief that has inspired the title poem and poetry collection, *Unscrambled Eggs*.

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## Unscrambled Eggs

There are holes in my pockets the size of mountains and I have no place to rest my hands
I spent more time dreaming than living with purpose though life is more obliging over coffee and quiet toast

Peering through reverse mirrors
I watch as errant failures tidy their mistakes
but when will I learn
I can no more unscramble eggs
than change the past

In a place of solace
I sit on someone else's chair
parting with habits I should have refused
trying not to feed on words
like if and only
steadily refilling holes
I once built

#### **Sometimes**

Sometimes I think I was born in a small town some other century lightening years earlier than I should have left my mother's womb to come to live in a world that's fierce

in this hot bread city children here behave not as their age but more like the adults they have not yet become and who can blame them as the people here are like cats wandering in and out of stranger's bed having no use for moderation no empathy for restraint

it is a lack of temperance
the way in which their unbridle lips
hang like moons
that I truly despise
their unwillingness to quiet their hands
quell the crescendos of their anxious bodies
leads me to believe
that this contemporary way of life
despite being here
was not for me

### Blueprint

Life is a peculiar play, an amphitheater of prose. I am mindful of my part, of rudimentary scripts that no one fathoms. On this regal stage lives a story, a defining blueprint.

Here, we are all characters portraying our elected roles, living like the puppets we are.

Some ill prepared for the proclivity of plots that comes with dramatic years.

I close my stanzas knowing there is always something learned from fiction that time shows its foresight so we do not become an untimely act and reprise the role of tragedy.

## Undisturbed

We do not concern ourselves with unremitting distractions the weight of time do not hinder us these cravings

The moon with all its plans its gravity has been incapable at slowing our attempts

Still we desire what we do not have our dreams left undisturbed

## Reference

History holds my errors intact adjusting their collars smoothing over ragged creases that come with counting years so I would remember not to forget I once read your books recreated its texts into something I wanted but did not need the past has seen fit that I remember I trusted your commas more than I should confused your periods for truth and like a toddler I am forever being scold by purple mistakes archived on the shelves of my remembrance

## Novelty

Tomorrow I'll be honeycomb supple stanzas on letters I will account for words unsaid not mislay undated moments

No more will I anger robins use fingers to call you by name or allow the sap of guile to mottle my hands further

Even now I toss away hours like grapes speak without a bone of concern dine with grin while my pockets swell as I continue being a viper and the scoundrel that I am

# Liquid Muse

Somewhere in the black hole of stanzas point of view sleeps along the page while paltriness musters in your lines tell me what do your imageries speak what good are handsome metaphors when profoundness eludes your pen I have no fancy rhymes my poetry will not boast of windmill autumns I may not have your able muse but I at least offer more than words

### Unforeseen Affair

My candor unwittingly induced the bitterness that inflames your fury

rift from forgiveness resentment now wears your ring

I laid bare unwilling thoughts oblivious of its collateral damage

without warning love demised swiftly it was not maliciousness that hastened you away but truth

# Farewell to Hardship

Farewell to inequity as we have no use for her degradation her simpleton temper

she who befriends angst plunder plates of men rope the hands of those who cross her passage we rid ourselves of you

to them whom engender misfortune we have no need for their deprivation their unrelenting manner

farewell to hardship to the black crows of sorrow to the grieving clouds that brings about misery

## Ms. Ordinary

I have left faith to linger outdoors, nail-polish its name from my fishbowl memory.

I grew bored of reprising failure and no longer accept what mediocrity brings as prominence needs more than quiet dreamers surpass all intent.

You frustrate me like rain more than clouds ever will often I feel like pencil gray longings sketches of scruple paper and you always let me know I am not yet a hummingbird not yet a fancy poet but still the pretender long away from perfect

#### The Writer

You wore a hat and two China braids combed your looks from poverty it is obvious you are no cardboard girl something about you sings confidence and is perhaps misunderstood by the paper leaf world that wraps your evenings with dreams of being a writer of knowing love

You seem beyond your fifteen years quite older than the strawberry jam girl you are but underneath your myth of make believe stars you are like every one else trying to figure their place to dam a need along this stretch of creation where days are no longer trusted and nights don't care much for anyone

### Gone

The standard rounds of fury have since passed

gone are ire silences, and stoic hearts withered by resentment

stifled screams no longer bickers in corners of the room

gone are bitter tensions and unending piles of complaints

frustration has now ceased its war waged on misery

gone are the days of indifference and sobering nights with you

#### Moon over Columbus

On this laundry mat of field
I am a gray autumn
torpid leaves collapsing in the eve
there looming amid quiet
is your peg of moon
an arcane of stars tilt their lanterns on your behalf

I saw you crammed night into the belly of your suitcase you hoarded its girth as though it were yours as if it belonged to you when all I could gather were your bones of dusk

You wore lavender sky as I watched you coast to sunrise taking all what you've reaped leaving just the blues and the agony it unfurls

# Deprived

My Crayola lips, plum of eyes, cello of body are sick with need.

It rains like memory; and the orchids have begun to lose their feelings, as I grow impatient with alone.

A rousing verse, a mangled rose, a sigh of jazz all sings your absence.

## Misguided

Through decay of years you have seen us depart from your haven washing our youthful hands of you

your word once signified to us a scepter of truth has been tempered to endorse our iniquities

Petty rituals endeavor to serve as your alter but reciting hail marys cannot deliver our souls

We still have not learned that our spirits will not be freed on account of obedience to ceremonial rules

## Only a Girl

He said if I returned to him then he would return to me but I am only a worm of a girl yet he speaks as though life was like taking small breaths as simple as birds

I suppose if I spoke like pearls walked on prudent feet penciled my hands sterling silver I could be that sunset for you the lash of sky across your Nevada

If only I followed you with earnest I would not shake like December limbs or fetter my wings with snow through you I am moved to become the woman I should be

#### Lifeboat

I was too precocious for autumn, too benign for moon. I parted from the perils I watched others endured. Still, I've suffered more than a poor man has greater than cracked ribs ever did; and yet my firefly of hope will not lie over in a grave of your demands.

There are times I feel like a tattered wheel, a nail being stoned a thousand times farther in the belly of ground.

Then I remember what evening holds, what darkness undergoes in solace.

In living this grasshopper life I've withstood the bleeding nose, the pull and tug of meddling rivers that brings forth the challenges encountered in this world.

#### A Note from Erin

I did not gloss concerns
raised in your letter
though my belief rivaled your thoughts
like opposing soldiers
it would have been easy
to white out your words
shake them to something more pleasing
then make believe reasons you gave
held no validity

I was too distracted by failure to have noticed criticism I neither reviled nor praised since long before you my pride curtailed its swagger its ego bent in four as I withstood all sorts of setbacks and now rejection isn't as hard

### Silent Walk

She walks like a ghost only God hears her footfalls treading on quilted floors as she enters rooms that do not speak her sounds soft pillows of carpet silence her feet I become aware of her presence each time a figure without movements passes by

#### Seventh Hour

Night stood alone
apart from the deck of lights
she puffed on smoke for hours
while vexed with the city
for wanting her gone
Her thoughts exhausted sky
as she became aware
her necessity will not be reclaimed
in the seventh hour
when light overflows
and gives the only score of time

No one will miss her bulletproof anger the pork of lies she feeds us in between her offering of quiet deaths she tosses slander like grenades aims her rifle on the poor without a tinge of remorse and now wonders why she will not be missed

### Dreamchaser

In the eve of dust we will ride the yellow cab across the tethered fields to heal cracked rivers.

I am the dreamchaser and you are no longer torn through me you can still perfect the sun, reap what is in the well of you, gather wisdom as your own this and more is possible if you would simply remove your doubting seeds.

# Pebble

A pebble in a cosmic world depicts my being compared to you I am but a brush a small feature a neophyte among stars

## Autumn Falls Softly

Autumn falls
like feathers,
softly without sound
sprinkling leaves
of amber & violet
that descend from able trees,
carried by
ushering winds
before settling quietly
on the surface
finally reaching an end
as autumn
begins again

Subtly
she emits
her calmness
upon those who
watch her,
bringing tranquility
to all that see
her beauty

## Salute to Maya

Inspiration comes from the words of Maya a poet who writes holistic verses

truth and meaning she forms between the lines tantalizing those that journeys through her thoughts

each phrase meticulously garnered refine and precise in its demeanor

brilliance shows its face time and again through her painted imagery

# Angels

At dawn angels play softly over the quietness of a sleeping city their laughter trickles through the morning light

while beneath sheer clouds dreamers dream of un-ordinary pleasures and thinkers lie awake pondering terrestrial thoughts

#### Before I Knew Better

Before I knew better, I used to think life was a cup of coffee. I had only to drink from it to know the world, every leaf, sapling tree, skyscraper. I suppose everything seems rudimentary when you are only a girl, much younger than birds. A small girl concerns herself with coloring books and fancy ribbons. She doesn't understand purpose, the gravity of future? I always thought I had destiny caught between my thumb and nail, tucked neatly under my arm like newspaper. And someday, when I was ready, I could gather it from beneath my pouch of arm and began to build my evenings the way I imagined it.

In my dreams, night is an island—feverishly lit by fireflies; hairs on my head fall placidly upon my breast. I am cultured, more than rain allows me to be. Mom said that to her, I would always be a daffodil. That if I were committed, I could be sky if I wanted. But I didn't realize that winter had other plans for dreamers like me. For it punctured my avenues, cracked open my yellow brick road. And there were no manuals for these kinds of circumstances.

Upon receiving my diploma—college had so much promise. But somehow, I managed to slip like fog from hours, compile four- plus years of university; still, I'm here, crouched in a silent room, peeling paint off walls that don't want to be clean. After high school and years of planting, this was not what I expected.

### **Black Souls**

Freedom was paved through their strife we live knowing that rivers came from the flow of their sweat and weeping

In unkind elements they labored till sun subside their souls supplied the earth as strength and will were garnered to keep with chores

courage planted seeds bruised fingers sore feet laid the foundation of this notable land

#### **Broken Pot**

All I have said and thought are washed away with your hands as my pleas are gone out the window like stone like some shriveled flower in the grave of her vase

where is jazz when I need her most the blues tires of this house and I am well acquainted with the notes to this timeworn number the lyrics sing of some other love her name mentioned plainly in the back seat of your pull-out jeans

let us not be the broken pot nor like spoons twisted in reverse we have begun to wear cracks in our history its breathing tempered by chips and loose splinters

### Lifetime

A lifetime knows my wants to walk the path of Pharaoh speak fluent the tongue of Spaniards from scattered lands

Before fire charred its flame I chose to be a pioneer to have talents of birds sing like a burgeoning flower

Prior to the moon beginnings
I implored artful hands
fingers that carve ships
a salient life laded with purpose

#### June Rains

The hole in the sun has not yet mended so the rains continue to pour on my sector of the earth

I have seen pools of wailing hair, pouring wet faces, the tallness of grass stretching over fences to last four winters

I ponder when day will improve his looks for a man who speaks on the clouds assures more pity skies as sunlight has become like the cat who waits to reveal herself at some future time

### Refusal

Tears once spilt like wailing rivers have no weeping left to douse the face of a woman in mourning

a voice parched and speaks like dust has run out of sounds to tender an ear unwilling to bear blame

somewhere along jagged hills words I've spoken lay perched against patient rocks waiting to supply you with thoughts you did not want and refused to acknowledge

### Sea of Poor

Our eyes close like blinds to their quandary how we sit on our hands as we abet their plight their suffering is bolstered with the lost of clemency as we gain more worldly things they are left poverty

In a country of gold and ledger lies a sea of poor living in calamity and discontentment

### Secrets of Humanity

Nature whispers our secrets
underneath its conscious breath
unearthing new discoveries
as subtle as night appears
waves lapping ocean shores
murmur quietly our misgivings
while rains that pour through the doors of sky
informed rivers of what they have heard
even parts of mangled leaves
relay our transgressions
hearing the lies we feed someone else
watching as we live in obscurity

secrets we veiled tour across the land lingering amidst earth until discovered

#### The Lesson Learned

The dagger which bore my chest leaves a scar of doubt smashes my hope into crumbs of despair it was arrogant of me to think more that I am but foolish of you to consider me less

falling short of your list you concluded me below standard leaving just room for whomever you feel deserving I expected much too soon having learned the lesson I am not as I conceived yet I exceed your scant recognition

#### Two Poem Hands

It is all in the metaphors the way you pen words that come to live on the breath of each page

a stretch of moon carol your acclaim and I observe how effortlessly you temper night sway the azaleas to paint the stems of skin

your Hemingway muse candor of lips two poem hands is all I need of you

#### Fathom

Marlboro's fumes have choked all sense from your brain taste for language laden with four-letter curses sweetens your tongue like roasted cacao beans.

Apparently sound reasons cannot permeate thoughts of a childlike man prone to dealing tantrums like moody two-year-olds.

No need for sermons or lectures on your wants kindly leave those orders for someone else.

## An Ardent Wish

Today I am not a woman,
I am clamshells of silence,
a jellyfish, a stone, the callous between
thumb and forefinger.
Anything other than what I was
the day before.

### Blind Eyes Become Open

I have seen more of you of late to my disliking are you confined to judging a man by the hue of his skin without knowing him

unkind words rankle
as gaping wounds
provoking opponents
of your sworn beliefs
while love of enmity
is used to disguise
the contempt you have for yourself

ignorance is the pillar you grasp a wall you have built separating you from them and them from you aiding false perceptions and beguiling views

understanding carries a person to a place where there are not many blind eyes become open when they walk in the shoes of the ones they oppose

#### Words

I often wonder if others relate to my tireless rants, delight in my pleasures, or perhaps share my truths. I weigh carefully the opinions that some have of me and ponder the relevance of my speech. Taking comfort from those whom I've touched but sighs bitterly when my feelings go unnoticed. Whether my thoughts inform or lack the will to influence, silence remains incapable of extinguishing my voice.

## Benevolent

There are rumors amongst certain flowers each proclaiming to know you well the roses insist you are sublime the dandelions feel the same yet the orchids pose a different view they believe you are too good to be true

# Blue Night

Night stood lonely as solitude bloomed without you in the room.

A weak smile I conjure upon my face though my heart aches.

Diverting my attention is what I do to drift my thoughts from you.

#### **Encumber Sands**

Few set sail on this ship sailing beyond the horizon along a calm ocean it journeys embraced by the morning sun as zephyr grace the sky at night it steadily travels onward into boundless realms leaving those who watch on encumber sands in awe with their empty pockets hanging inside out longing to abroad

## Joy

Sorrow does not roam here nor can misery tread the passage in which sanctity has laved its ground

In this place across furrowed sands beyond the riverbed contentment makes its home

out there two constant remains anger wages no wars and loneliness will not dwell in this vicinity

### If You Knew

I can easily model a smile
laugh at some jokes
handily hold a conversation
though my bills have grown the size of Texas
and rent is overdue
yet if you knew how often
I'd mirrored the sun
but shouldered mountains
as my debt burden seem more
like the dark shadow that lurks behind

#### Lone Bird

Confined and malcontent, the lone bird reflects on the heavens eager she is to fly along faint clouds and under the ardor sun

longing to feel sunlight embracing her feathered coat while fleeting through contented winds that softly touches her wing tips

absorbing the mundane air as she hovers across countless of unending oceans and remote pastures

yet, mere desire is not enough in itself to rouse a wilting spirit nor to fill continual void

her emptiness will deepen until at last she is free to fly uninterrupted and unhindered

## **Loss Civility**

In a time when civility is lost corruption rides rampant on these streets of reality

In a time when integrity is no longer common practice deceit becomes the way at which we succeed

### Perfect

How long must you know average?
Being standard has never been profound.
Give me perfect or simply nothing,
for anything less is like pursuing
a goal part way. I have known ordinary's
limitations, its mediocrity is something
too many do well. A life of satisfactory has never
been enough to make me content.
As I not only need but require perfect.

#### There Were No Bells

She said there were no bells, only her clam hands and fretful feet rattled in the eve. The sirens would not go off nor did her knees faint from the tie-dye of bliss. She felt no quakes, no bumble bees, no panic sharks reeling in the pint of her belly. Not once did her shoelace hair curl like ringlets. Not once did she hear bells.

#### Unavoidable Truth

Forgetting you is not as simple the years have been benign to your memories allowing them to invade my thoughts without consent

how dare time have held my feelings still I am unable to let go of your congenial scent

we may never meet again and yet I reflect on the past when my future with you is uncertain

#### When

I need perfect hands feet that won't leave me for someone else cause me to lose all that I have gained in these slim hours

the moon in its bane attempts shot apart my concerns presuming my efforts would expire since I preferred the sun to him

at what point does knowing you raises my faith motives me to take note of time and not fold my arms too soon

### A To-Do List

Things I must do
before night caves
on the thin azure mattress of sky:
write four stanzas to Paul,
brush off odors of loss
and the staleness of alone,
wash away memories of you
from these embellished walls,
and remember to say
I don't love you anymore.

#### Dread

I have seen you unsteady nerves in the most poised hand cause limbs to cower underneath skin and bone despite my powers you hammer fear with nail and fury

As each time you challenge me I am hindered your plot meticulous your restrain intended

I see you rise above repression peddling trepidation like the tempest you are you who flare hearts un-strengthen knees strangle the soul of courage

Often I ponder with a similar conclusion how I dread the day we ever met

#### Reluctant Pursuer

Don't talk about love when you offer only myths I need more than adoring eyes posed from a distance

If I didn't know
I would think you were
a habitual teaser
that it was your duty
to taunt emotions
string along feelings

Is it that you
haven't the words
the means to bring about
your heart's desire
or are you that coy quite reserved kind
the one who merely flirts
but do not pursue
what he reveres

### Fishing for Salmon

a laundry of birds gather in a fold like sheep like a fistful of jellybeans in a bottle through sky's torso they flounder ensuing a course only they understand

I am wearing strapless shoes consumed by smell of morning using my eyes as fingers for counting robins that are perched on the windows of my forehead casually I notice the footprints of autumn as sun reclines in the palm of my hand

there is some wind flossing back and forth between homes while rain is off somewhere beside a river fishing in the cold for salmon

### Like You

I am one of you: a tautly thing in search of dreams that will not fold easily into our midst.

Like you, I endeavor to live off paperbacks—peddling books of poetry for promises and crumbs. It is this shared indignity which brings me here: devoid of sleep, inundated by exhaustion.

### Ploys of Distraction

Mother was perturbed that I did not water the plants but my head was full of sleep my memory was still laying softly against the corners of pillows I gave up for her in haste to close a door she left behind even still it is punishment enough to misplace the hand of slumber but when your mind floats above clouds with thoughts of love swirling in a promise on my ring finger please understand I was not myself it was force or nature bringing me wind of my future and distraction this day had the upper hand

### Wings of Purpose

You should know a lifetime indentured to squander will not build evenings here will not lift poverty off the cuffs of your bed

irrespective of fear be bold as sky hold on to fledgling dreams that iniquity attempts to steal and moments inevitable curse

debts and wages are all you strive for when purpose is near steering your aimless hands preparing you to fly into a future and a hope

#### Before

Before you were born
I loved you
before memory had its name
my love flowed like rivers
unending, seamless as infinity

I loved you before clocks knew how to count and dust could touch ground before galaxies formed to constellation my love poured incessantly

I loved you
before atoms could fold into molecules
and air blew wind
before light inflamed moon
and time stretched to eternity
my love for you
starred the night
cannot be measured
by weights or degrees
is boundless
unfathomable
incandescent

### Suppose

Imagine if failure could be cleaned like laundry and hours were prepared to wait on someone else for a change what if mountains were slender trees and flowers grew wings in place of stems

imagine life as a chalkboard where errors are erased as unexpectedly as they are made what if you could alter your steps reach into the beginnings of history and undo cancer the prevalence of war the makings of poverty and its despair

#### What Love Is

As I speak your name I can only wonder if Shakespeare ever grappled you was he too plagued by these thoughts this perennial misgiving

you have baffled centuries and your convolution makes me unsure if Aristotle would understand the depths at which you unfold the underlying of your being

poetry is simply a name but somehow I think that you have sparked its form gave birth to the meaning it presently holds and after all of this I am still left not knowing what love is

#### Also by Nadia:

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Website: http://www.nadiajanicebrown.com