

BOOK TITLE: THE ESCAPE FROM THE RURAL CAGE

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BIOGRAPHY: I was born in one of the KZN rural areas at Umzimkhulu, Egugwini. I attended my primary education at Egugwini j.s.s and my High school at Msdukeni s.s.s. completed my Matric in 2010. I work at Msdukeni in 2011 as a mathematics and physical science teacher assistant. I then admitted for a Bpharm degree at Rhodes University in 2012 of which I only completed first year and went to University of Pretoria in 2013 to do a degree in Education I also had to drop it after completing the first year level due to personal issues that surround me at that time. From 2014-2015 it is when I decided to start writing for fun then I realised I was actually ready to write a book. In 2015 I wrote this book. 2016 I was then admitted at Cape peninsula University of Technology and I currently hold an S4 in Chemical Engineering searching for in-service training.

SYNOPSIS: This book is about encouraging young people especially those who are from rural and township areas to stay true to their roots but not to allow their backgrounds to hold them back. It touches on the issues of dealing with yourself as a person also takes a young person through various transitions in life.

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BE A RURAL CHILD WHO KNOWS HIS/ HER WORTH

There is life when the most critical skills given to mankind are utilized. You may have the worse historical background but you still own the ability to think and rewrite your history thus living the life you are destined for not the life enforced by your current circumstances. The moment you choose to live your life for the awaiting future is moment you will give yourself a chance to break away from intellectual oppression. You will walk away from false hopes that one day a politician from somewhere might come knocking at your door and change your life for better. You are giving yourself enough reason to achieve better things because reliving the history of your fathers would just steal away the joys of living the moment as an investments for a greater future. Wake up not because you have slept enough

but because you need more hours to build your future than you do to rest your mind. There is no time to rest when your life is not at its best. It is about time you run your race because nobody can run it for you and no one can run it better than you can. You are the best although you must not compare yourself with rest. It is better to spend the rest of your life struggling to reach the finishing line of own race than to brake records running someone else's race. Be true to yourself and remember you do not live to impress because doing so would just bring you unnecessary stress. It is your choices that would dictate the path your life should follow make the right choices. If going to school for you is the best way to get to smoke weed, that is a choice with life time consequences and be sure it is what you want. If you go there to find yourself a girlfriend or boyfriend to have sex with, unplanned pregnancy, teenage parenting and academic failure should be part of your

shopping list and be sure to cancel any UNIVERSITY plans because these two do not mix. You must learn to prioritize and plan your life because better life does not come cheap and it certainly does not occur randomly. Be determined to put extra hours of effort towards achieving your goals. Let not the sense of being recognized ruin your entire life because many people are known today but it is so sad that they are the example of what peer pressure could do to a person. You do not want to form part of such statistics trust me. You deserve better credit than many people may be giving to you and that I know for a fact. If you must, then the only way you can show people what you are made of is by living a much better life they could ever imagine for you. Remember you may stay 12 years at school as good student but if you have not intentions of making to university and beyond, it is all just a total waste of time. It is even better for somebody who left school at an early grade because they would probably be

having five malnourished kids and some years of school living suffering experience by the time you realize that you have been wasting your precious time. Life's journey begins with a unique step that differentiates you from your peers and sticking to your choices which should incorporate your parents grounding rules will surely lead you to your destined success. When we have our friends by our side we are sure to get along but getting along is not getting there and in life you need to get there in order to tell a story worth listening and a story definitely worth sharing. Just because you are a rural child does not mean you cannot achieve greater things in life. It simple means you need to put extra effort because a child from elsewhere can only achieve ordinary but your achievements will always be extraordinary.

AVOID BECOMING THE VICTIM OF YOUR PRESUMPTIONS.

Life's journey is a series of daily unexpected and hoped for situations. It is a result report about decision made over a certain period of time. It is of most vital importance then that you make sure that all the decisions you take and choices you make are made with so much honesty to self and at you are at your sober state of mind. Most people think that when your teenage years are over you automatically assume adulthood phase and unfortunately that is not the case. There is a thin transition line and that line lies within the boundaries of self respect, understanding and acknowledging your morals and values and not forgetting to align your behavior to the reactions of your universe. Remember that the universe responds to your actions so whenever you do

not like what life throws at you, change your actions. One common assumption many people fall victim of is thinking that progressive life means the end of uncertainties. It is not true; life is an uncertainty on its own. That is why the color of your skin and the ugly reality of your background have no power over who you become in future. Break away from statements that use the word “therefore” because that is just jumping to conclusions learn to experience it before you can draw any conclusion on it. You should never be lead to temptations that will see you asking yourself such questions as “why me” because that is self-pity and it is the worst enemy to your prosperity. You are not better than anyone nor are you worse than everyone, you are made unique to serve a unique purpose and nobody will ever fit into your shoes but you. You may think that you are suffering in life because you are cursed or your parents failed you, if you ask me that would just be trying to find self-comfort in blamed shifting. Things may seem to

be falling apart but I can tell you now, when you take time and reflect on your life you will realize that you have probably been trying so hard to hold on to the pieces of the puzzle that do not form part of your life's puzzle. People are entitled to so many rights which include walking out of your life and they will always exercise them. If that leaves you miserable I suggest you start scrutinizing the people you refer to as friends and be careful of the emotional attachments. We do not choose family but we still have the right to pick which family members are worth journeying with in life because a progressive life creates a lot of enemies. Enemies are the products of jealousy and jealousy does not make friends and it certainly has no family. You should be careful of the people who find the reason to applaud you even when you are at your worse behavior they have the power to lead you astray. You must surround yourself with people who do not buy your company and who are willing to criticize you and encourage you

because those are the kind of people who are on the same mission in life as you. Remember you do not need anyone to make it to the top but it is always a plus to have company in your journey because at the end of the day you are racing against time and knowing how far you are in the line of success motivates you to work harder. It is not true that you need to reach a certain age to have the things you dream of having. The age of success beings with the courage to eliminate possible limitations while ignoring all the negativity people might try and impose on you. Common sense says “what if I don’t succeed “that should be a reason good enough to divorce it. Tune yourself into an extra ordinary mind that says “I must do it for one of two reasons, I will learn from it or I will force success out it” that is how you should be thinking. You must think positively to become successful. If you put your mind into doing something, the least you can do is to do it and get the results stop assuming because assumptions sound

realistic to the mind yet the reality of things can only be known once you have tried doing it. Go out there and do it, make sure to do it for you not to prove a point on public opinions. Travelling in a wrong direction is not a mistake rather a lesson that questions ones scrutiny of his/her choices. Live the life that acknowledges the fact that perfection comes at a cost of trying and making lot of mistakes. It must be worth trying before it could be worth achieving. Failure is the rotten food for thoughts and the main ingredient for negativity remove it from your mind if you really want to see prosperity.

REFUSE TO BE CONSUMED BY CALAMITIES THEY ARE THE COMMON ENCOUNTER TO US ALL.

It is not your fault that life is unpredictable but your biggest mistake would be wasting your precious time trying so hard to understand why things should happen the way they do. Yesterday is not coming back, tomorrow is not guaranteed but today is given to you with pleasure to live it to be a yesterday worth remembering. Stop wasting your time, energy and tears on situations you have no control over. It is hard to accept the fact that the people we tend to think we live for are the ones that GOD will take first but be assured that the intent is not to hurt or harm you but is to show you that there is so much to live for. The moment you learn to accept this as a fact the better you would deal with the situations of such nature. You may be wondering why your parents decided to give you to a foster care well stop wondering and start embracing the goods that came

out of it. They may have been so horrible to you but the best decision they ever made was to make sure that you turn out to be the best so live your life to bring out the best out of your worst situations and forget the rest. Motivation may be useful but it does not last long while on the other hand an everlasting intrinsic inspiration can be found on life changing situations that we tend to look at with a negative eye. Strive for positive change and stay inspired by your abilities to switch on the lights where darkness seems to be ruling. The best gift you can give yourself in life is the ability to move on, the will to forgive and the courage to rise after what seems like a fall beyond redemption. Remember life continues whether or not you take part in its continuity, so I suggest you get on board and continue moving forward. Do yourself some justice and dust yourself up and show up at the doors that present opportunities of possible success because sometimes that's all you

have to do. You are a role model to someone somewhere in the world, you are an inspiration to those who watch you rise from heavy dust and you are the piece of the divine art that no artist or circumstance can ever be able to mold or destroy. You are part of the mysterious plan, and you were made with the quality material of most valuable treasure that can never be recycled because no matter how hard it falls it will never lose its value. Don't try and fit to the rest of the world create the world that fits into your life, take control and be in charge of your life. Remember to always do your best and let GOD do the rest because in His presence all things turn out best. Worrying yourself about tomorrow will only bring you stress but putting to good use the time you have now gives you the power to control the outcomes of tomorrow to your greater favorable probabilities. Acknowledge that things do not always have to go according to your plan for you to walk away victorious when faced with life challenges. Keep planning

simple because planning your life helps you avoid running around in circles shame out of repeated mistakes. You do not want to come close to achieving your dreams so you rather be guilty of putting too much effort than being a victim of putting just enough and only to be a witness that your enough was not so enough after all. Reliving your life can only exist in your dreams, in reality you either live your life or be leaved by life so work with time because time does not wait for anyone. You do not live by chance so stop convincing yourself that you would take a gamble when life presents opportunities to you, have a set of dreams and start living them. Set goals and visualize your life and those are the first progressive steps towards achieving what your heart desires and most importantly this helps you cross not one not two but all your finishing lines to prosperity. It is the will power that drives people to succeed so make it your principle to always have

the will power because rules can be bent, laws can broken but principles hold no matter what happens.

IF YOU LIVE FOR SOMETHING, YOU WILL PROBABLY DIE WITH NOTHING.

Life is all about choices but every one of us lives to serve a unique purpose. Challenge the most ignored, question things but don't be tempted to thinking that every question has to be answered before you can live a purposeful life. The most common mistake people make, is choosing to exist over living. Choosing to live sometimes mean following your passion against your parents will and without public the approval, it simple means being confused for a foolish and unrealistic person. Even so there's still a thin line between the lack of respect and being ambitious so do not manipulate the situation between the two. In existence you can find comfort but be rest assured that in comfort there's no progress. In comfort zone there lies miserable life, regrets and self-hatred. As the saying goes "work like a slave in order to live like a king" I suggest you lose self-pity because it looks like it was not meant to be until you try again

and again giving the best of your best. You may not know this but success is your birth right so there's is no doubt that you will succeed, the question is are you ready to claim what is rightfully yours? To answer this one you need to make a choice or life would kindly make it for you. In most cases people would find negativity in challenges as an excuse to cover up for their fears and laziness. I can tell you this: you are ready to make a difference in your life, you are willing to succeed but you are still not sure whether you want to be part of the problem or to be part of the solution. Circumstances are part of your journey but never let them define who you are because they certainly have no control over who you become in life. Humble yourself enough to accept everyday as it comes but never settle for overage. Nothing and no one can give you a well-deserved honor but yourself because only you know your worth. The best you can do for yourself is to get to know the real self because GOD blesses us with only

what is due to us not with all what our heart desires. Staying true to yourself allows you to endure the pains that life may put you through and give you the strength and courage to live your life and tell a story about the scars you sustain along your journey. If you live to serve a purpose you leave prints that remain for decades even after your journey of life on earth has come to an end. Find your purpose and live your life without an excuse.

POVERTY IS NOT HERIDITORY NOR IT IS A LEGACY

What the mind is made to believe to be true your universe accept it to be your reality. Being a rural person means you need to be strong enough to break away from a number of false challenges. Witchcraft can be a major false challenge that when fed to the person with a weak mentality, that person's future could be threatened if not destroyed. It is becoming a norm to find people who believe they could not get good grades and ended up quitting school because they were the victims of witchcraft and this excuse has succeeded in depriving people what they really deserve in life. Be at your best and know your weaknesses deal with them before they become part of you. Understanding that your parents can only teach you so much will give you the power to control what situations are worth your attention. Empower your mind and change your life because you can. Read a book that teaches you something about life because

that bit of valuable knowledge you add changes how you think and adds an element of power to your sense of judgment. Don not settle for ordinary, acknowledge the fact that your elders will not always model the best to you and you always have to choose which behavior suites you the best. It is not a secret that consumption of alcohol and dagga smoking has been the best lifestyle known to some young stars in rural communities. This happens because the people who assume role models to these kids are their brothers and sisters who under different circumstances left school and we to the city to seek for better life. When things fail to turn out as they expected them to they came back to falsely reflect the reality of their struggles with a few labeled clothes and cheap shiny jewelry after a few months of torture. You should not fall victim of thinking less of yourself and your family because anyone who believes that there is an easy way out in life and rejoice is deceiving him/herself and is yet to find out that

where that short cut ends; a life time hardship begins. Remember they say “work like a slave in order to live like a king” the common mistake most people make is tying the vice versa. In your journey of life the last thing you want to happen is avoiding a bend only to reach a dead end. Life will not fail to present you with options, so if you are not dead and you find yourself having to say that you had no choice is just a lousy excuse and you should be very disappointed with yourself for turning your back at your thinking abilities when it counts the most. Be careful sophisticated excuses will make a reasonable sense just to distract you and steal your life changing opportunity. You are better than anyone when you are the best version of yourself, and the best you can be is becoming the person you have ever imagined yourself to be. Anyone can become anything, anytime and anywhere in the world and you must choose to be the best thing ever existed. Many people are known for what they do but life tends to give credit

to those who are well respect for what they do. Do it so well that it earns you reasonable respect rather than fame because when fame comes to an end you would be left in shame. Do not chase after fame, your life could be set into flames and you will end up at the bottom of the ladder of success with no one to blame but yourself. People will tell you about the life's journey from zero to hero but they will forget to mention the preparatory stage i.e. life below zero. You become poor as soon as you choose to find excuses for every challenge life throw at you. You become less of yourself as soon as you come up with something to blame or someone to blame it on before you even start thinking about the solution to the situation. Remember in life for as long as you are still alive you do not have problems but you encounter situation, challenges, trials and tribulations.

THE BEAUTY IN KNOWING YOURSELF IS GETTING TO MEET THE GOD THAT LIVES WITHIN YOU IN PERSON.

The word of GOD stands and shall hold forever but religion has lost its respect do not succeed at your expense nor should you prosper while other suffer at your cause. Anyone who seeks to embark on a life changing journey must be prepared to meet struggles on the way; it's never easy but ever achievable. On your journey of life the worse you can do is to seek attention when you have nothing to show off for it and ask permission from people to do what will change your life and put you a step ahead of them in a ladder of success. Get to know yourself because everyone else does not care who you are or who you would become in future but people will certainly make sure you do not become anything better than who they are. You may not get where you want when you want to but you will always get where you should at the best time possible. When GOD delays the taxi you are traveling with in your

journey of life He is definitely organizing you a plane ticket because He knows your worth and He certainly has the keys to all your destinations. One of the human errors you could make is forgetting that the road to success is always under construction. When you get to a stop and go, do not confuse it for your final destination. You are on a long distance journey and you will get to so many red traffic lights but you have to realize that some are faulty and you do not have to waste your time on them. It is not life when challenges are not part of the package and the package rapping may glitter but the gift inside may not be so lovely after all same applies with life. You may persuade a career title and realize that living up to it is not as easy and sweet as you thought it would be, but if you really want it you will adjust yourself and adapt and absorb the pressures while accepting the challenges that come with it. In life you may not quit the race but if you quit the chase, your time and efforts would go to waste.

Chase your dreams and turn them into reality and because of the deceit from the opportunists who are roaming our streets in suits introducing themselves as men of GOD. It is not a secret that you share fear to be on the wrong side when it comes to all that relates to GOD but do not expect men to show you the right path that is what the BIBLE exist for. How well do you interpret the word of GOD depends on how well connected your soul is to the man above. A sincere prayer can grant you His mercy and His mercy opens your hear for His grace and His grace is all you need to find your purpose in life. Men in suits can be very tricky because they could be politicians who wear the hearts of good caring citizens whilst seeking your vote to climb political rakings. They would promise you gold and leave you with false hope and life distractions. Realizing that the key to your better life is you at your best behavior and at your top thinking ability will save you a lot of disappointments. Men in suits may be pastors who cast

away the evils that live in their bank account. I say these because I believe you have met them or you have seen them, they will make you believe that the devil hinders your success and to be delivered you must dedicate all your time to their church activities. When they leave, you will be left more backward than you have ever been thinking that you were born to endure the hardship while the pastor owns a new car and a mansion in the city progressing in his deceiving life. Wake up God created you to live the best life not to be giving away money you do not have with the hope that it will come back as doubled blessing. God blesses you with what is due to you every time and to connect with Him does not have to cost you a cent. Everyone is hungry for success; be careful that they dare to stop dreaming. Run your race and let GOD shower you with His grace.

**LIFE AS A FICTIONAL ROMANTIC STORY
TELLER**

Love is priceless give it to everyone but emotional attachment is very expensive give it to people who own good hearts. When life presents the love chapter to you, before you take a look into it be ready to turn over the page should the content play around with your emotions. No age is the best to start the mysterious love journey but love is a well-known stranger that never fails to reveal even the worse characteristics out of most trusted people. You will be amazed by how much you don't know about yourself and you will be shocked by what people could do to impress one another in the name of love. Love activates hormones that trigger the unusual functioning of a teenager's body. It raises false alarms to you as an adult and you will suddenly feel the need to be at your A game and give the best love to your partner. It is another journey with a number of possible destinations but only one is hoped for. It will affect you on your journey to success and sadly you live to find out how, because everyone gets

his/her bite from this calamity cake and the taste is unique to us all. Falling in love might be beyond your control but acting on it is a choice you make and staying in love takes something very special between two people. Should you or should you not allow yourself such distraction, such energy and time consuming emotional challenge in life? Who am I to make that choice for you? All I can say is, those who have been there before you may give you different advices but only you can make that decision because with love people's experience cannot be used as precautional measures nor could they be good enough to prepare you for what you stand to face. Do not be afraid to love just don't fall into temptations of thinking that love is a two way situation and expect love in return. Love for your sake not with the aim to win someone's heart because you will break yours in the process if you do so. Meet people fall in love, feel like you are the happiest person on earth, get your heart broken for no particular reason, laugh

when time allows it, cry if you must, be sad if it makes you feel better but never try so much to understand why such things have to happen just let them be especial if you cannot change them. Just because you have future plans with someone it doesn't mean that someone has to have you in his/her future plan's list. Learn to accept that some people would come to your life and play a huge role in your happiness while becoming so attached to your heart but at some point they might leave you. It is how love is sometimes just don't try to hold on too much to people who do not want to be part of your life no more. Let them be and don't feel bad about it, it happens because no matter how much we love to have some people in our lives, if they are not part of GOD'S plans for us then they will eventually leave us at some point. When that happens, pull yourself together and move on. You have the whole chapter of love just turn over to another page; it's not going to be easy but it is so very necessary. It is not a secret

that every person you fall in love with qualifies as potential marriage partner somehow, however to reach marriage destination there must be something very special to keep the two of you on one another's lives. Being able to stay in love with some for so long could lead to two people binding in marriage. Even marriage is not the love's final destination because staying married takes a lot more than just love. Marriage is a phase that challenges a man's character in handling a real woman while pushing a woman beyond the levels of her insecurities. When you are married you get to learn that your partner could be challenged by a lot of fears, the fear to lose you (insecurities and jealousy), the fear to lose out on fun (feeling like you have to live within a particular set of boundaries) etc. The best tool in keeping the marriage filled with love and more excitement than ever before is communication. Be as open to you partner as you can ever be, and avoid betraying your partner's trust that unsettles them for the rest of their

lives. You may be forgiven but betrayal mistakes cannot be forgotten, live for one another and be the best friends and best team mates. Let your marriage be your number one priority even when you have kids. Men tend to forget that their wives need them the most when there are kids in the house as much as women spend more parental time with their kids men should spend even more time as husbands and fathers than they do as workers and friends. If not so cheating invades in a relationship. I'm not a love expert but you could shape up your love life if you think more about it and spend more time understanding yourself and then find your purpose in love. Love is not always what it seems be to be but it is always what it should be.

WHY FIT IN WHEN YOU CAN STANDOUT IN A BIG CITY LIFE

It is said that the strength of a crocodile is in the river, so is the ability to overcome the transition from rural to urban is in the conservation of your true identity. The world out there is not friendly to anyone but you get to decide what should be part of your small world. Showing great character means being able to find the balance between your strengths and weaknesses when you feel unsettled and insecure. Life in big cities is faster than the life in rural areas and it more complex. The complexity is nothing but a challenge to one's personality and character. One of the best ways to handle the pressure is remembering the reasons that got you there and make your mission your top priority. Anything that does not form part of your mission should not be part of your city life or anyone who is not on the same mission as you cannot be part of your company. If you apply that simple principle you will learn to appreciate the differences between the urban people and rural people otherwise you would

learn a hard lesson of your life. Financial struggles may begin to challenge your faith so bad that you might feel so small and feel the need to be noticed. Chances of immorality will present themselves as opportunities, crime will be served at your table but I suggest you stick to your old menu. You will feel the need for social dependence but always remember being alone is not being lonely, you have the whole family back home supporting and counting on you to bring home the light. The light that shines and chases away inferiorities and brings back lost hope and sends a message to any rural child that education still has the power to unite families and put good food on the table. Many have gone there and came back with alcoholic behaviors, unplanned pregnancies, drug abuse lifestyles and some with criminal records with no clear explanations as to what went wrong on their academic journey. Some never returned, you don't want to be part of that sta-

tistics because such statistics exist through ignorance, the lack of self-confidence, self-respect as well as the lack of gratitude towards what their poor parents have suffered in giving them the opportunity to lead better lives. People don't turn out to be what their background was but how best their decision to change it was. Always keep in mind that life may give you the chance to revisit your past but never a chance to reverse your decisions. Your decisions should always be preceded by the readiness to live with the outcomes because the past cannot be undone. It is how you measure your success that should motivate you to succeed not the number of people who are impressed with what you do. A R100 in the city is worth less than a R10 in your rural home that should be a reason enough not to measure your worth by the people you surround yourself with in the city but by the people who are behind you for what you do back home. Change in environment

will open up all doors for you but it's your responsibility to know the ones that are necessary and worth your visit as you journey towards changing your life for the best. A baker knows the ingredients of her cake so before your hunger for success could exceeds all the probabilities for failure know the ingredients of your success. When desperation sends a man on a job hunting trip he must expect the unexpected for his sense of judgment becomes so vulnerable. When you go to the city and your first mission is to survive you are bound to lose yourself in the process. There's a common presumption that getting into the city will automatically bring a positive change to one's life but the truth of the fact is that if you go there and changing your life is the only purpose, anything can happen. You will either end up on the streets hustling hard with nothing to show off for it or you will end up in jail or even worse end up in the mortuary. Preplan your life in the city, set goals and targets and know when to stop before you

push yourself beyond your limits. To have a proper qualification backs you up. Should you decide to go there to look for a job or to further your education, make sure you have accommodation and food source before you even think about relocating. Remember that you are embarking on this journey to try and change your life for the best. the worse that could happen to you with proper planning is coming home with nothing but in good shape and in better state to try otherwise because even though you are so sure about what you want in life things are not always guaranteed to go your way. Be who you are and fight to become who you dream yourself to be but never sell out your true identity for the temporal fantasies of feeling like you are the city's best fit because you can never be. You can be as civilize as you want and adapt to western cultures as you like but you can never wake up a western person at least not in this life. I'm not saying there it is wrong

to be a western person but political history did undermine our well beings. It cannot be undone but we can still choose live to correct it.

TURN A CRASH LANDING INTO A PERFECT TAKE OFF

It's not over when you still own a chance to start over. All that is labeled as mistakes it's always an intended act but unfortunately with unacceptable outcomes. It's time you put an end to any behavior that squeezes you into a Conner and find yourself saying you sorry more than people having to say thank you. You may have been tricked into thinking that you have found your soul mate so bad that it all resulted from you giving birth to a child and your future suffered delays. Some blessings come in disguise and it's about time you dust yourself up and go back to school to reclaim back your life. You have an advantage at hand because you know better never to mix academics with pleasure. As you fix your life you could be an inspiration to many who thought their lives ended when they got pregnant. Through you they will see that life's journey doesn't have to end when one hits a pothole. It just means you are now traveling on a different road so you should

mind your speed and attitude is the key in changing one's life for the better. Alcohol has the tendencies of thinking that he rules people's lives, he thinks he can take charge and destroy people's marriages by sending them to divorce offices while taking away kids from their fathers stealing people's glory. You stand a chance to reunite with your family as soon as you decide to part ways with your alcoholic friends, divorce your worries and grow up to accept full responsibilities for your actions. Your family loves you but they just cannot accept the person you have turned yourself into. Change is necessary change is beautiful and change has the power to speak on your behalf. Allow yourself some positive change in your life and your life will bear you some sweet progressive fruits in return. You are at your best when you divorce your ego. You stand a chance to live your life to the fullest and to be blessed with greatness when you stop being so concerned about your reputation because it is the worst enemy to

your success. Your character may have been shaped by the outcomes of your mistakes but you should stop living your mistakes because your true self is way better than that. Start pulling yourself together and in God's grace your life will fall into perfect shape. The best lesson in life that many learn the hard way is that: life does not revolve around you so self-pity and blame shifting attitudes should not appear in your life's journey's to do list. Understand that in life you might have to do the things you don't like and live the life you have never imagined to achieve the best and the greatest life ever lived. Negativity tends to challenge your ability but you should never undermine your integrity. Eliminate all doubt you may have about your prosperity and always remember to do it for you not to impress your community. When you are down your enemies will not hesitate to spread the rumors because it gives them some sort of pleasurable glory and fame but when they see you walking tall with your head

held higher they would suffer disappointments and a lot of shame. You may have caused people a lot of pain but if you fail to try again you would totally insane. Life will never be the same again that is a fact because this time you are ready to do things right and you are brave enough to get on the fast lane. Pray to God because the time you were down to nothing, He surely was up to something. Your life may be a journey on earth but it is navigated from above, never fail to give credit where it is due. It does not matter how many time you fall, what matters is that you get up and show up when you are least expected. If you are hungry for success be crazy enough to realize that failure is part of the package. It is a long journey and people may journey with you but no one would journey for you. If it is gold you are after you must be brave and courageous as your fears may unfold and your weaknesses appear in bold. If you move on and learn from your mistakes,

your downfalls become a useful and inspirational untold story.

HE IS THE SILENT WITNESS AND THE DEC-TATOR OF YOUR LIFE.

Life continues with or without you taking part in its continuity, so just live your life in spite of the circumstances. The best that you could get out of life is what is due to the true self. The person you pretend to be, when it comes to receiving your blessings he just does not stand a chance so try to always be the best version of yourself and God will bless you in abundance. You might think that you are struggling with life but you will soon realize that you are only struggling to keep up with the person you pretend to be because in the world of pretence there are consequences. The real element of surprise in life is discovering the real self while thinking that you are faced with a serious life crisis be wise choose to remain true to yourself it gives you the sense of competence. Value people but don't be tempted into letting their opinions about your life take priority be-

cause you will feel like you are useless in their absence yet that is just the need for dependence. To develop and to fully reach your potentials in life, you've got to be debt free especial if it means owing people explanations for every positive progressive thought you have or actions you may take. People are very good at turning down a brilliant idea using common sense; if it's your idea don't stop until your vision comes to light. Learn to see beyond your current situation, challenge yourself to reach beyond your limitations and remember to always have an ambition. In your hardship God is always there to give you strength, all you need to do is to pray and seek His leadership. What God didn't initiate He will not sustain so be careful not to commit yourself on self-initiated fake relationships. Any relationship that pulls you away from God is nothing but the end result of misconceptions and it's bound to fall apart should it come across any competition. It's God who created men, out of curiosity men invented science

and science gave birth to technology and technology controls men. It's an unbelievable confusing circle but men are continuously becoming the victim of their methodology. If you find yourself stuck in the middle just know that science is the proof of God in action. If you spend too much time trying to understand how things work you will surely end up in the office somewhere taking part in making other people's dreams become a reality with a very strong belief that it's your responsibility. You may get paid as an assistant in developing people's dreams but remember following a career and living your dream are not equally worth. When you live your dream you do what you do best and you will enjoy doing it even when there's no money involved. Your life is made possible by your Creator but how you live it is a choice you live to make. When the life you have been dreaming of living seems to escape from your reach change the way you think and revise your de-

cisions. You can always eliminate the element of regrets and doubt if you commit into doing your best and let God do the rest. God knows your destiny and owns the keys to your better life. He watches in silence as you go through hardship and waits for you to turn to Him to build a relationship. He is the faithful God who believes in you so much that He will put you to it and gets you through it, so fear not even when you feel that your life has reached a stage of a sinking ship. Life is never bad we just fail to acknowledge God's presences until pain is involved. Life is what it should be how you react to it makes you who you are and if you don't like the person you have turned into you always have a chance to change how you look into things. Change your attitude and you would certainly reach your altitude. What makes you the best amongst the rest is your determination when you have nothing and your attitude when you have everything. You either keep the company that builds you up or the company that

destroys you as it builds itself but in either case you will still get to taste the medicine of your choice.

AVOID BECOMING A VICTIM OF CULTURAL MISCONCEPTIONS AND MISCONDUCTS.

You should not turn your back on you your roots but no cultural practice should deprive you of success bares fruits. Any cultural beliefs that fail to coexist with the changes that are necessary for your better life are misconceptions and will not better your situation. From village to village priorities vary even though some morals and values may hold. The most important decision you should make is to see your life beyond your village limitations and boundaries. Traditional marriages have robbed many young boys and girls off their brighter future and gave them false hope while presented them with series of lifetime hardship. You don't want to be a number on such statistics where find yourself living to survive while others are enjoying their good lives. The pressure may mount as poverty seems to threaten your home and your parents might see lobola as their only solution. If your life situation reach that point

then I'm afraid but they have miscalculated your worth. If they insist on traditional marriage over your education it will be a drastically but rather necessary decision for you to move out of your home. Surely there's a relative out there who values life more than they do because whether you like it or not education is part of the package to sustainable life. Being a rural born is not a bad thing until most people start adding too much value to the things that don't take life to another level. It is a good thing to protect your girls from having sex at an early age through virginity testing. Whether that is violating their rights or not is still a debatable issue but it just becomes a serious problem when being a virgin take priority over having a Degree. It is very worrying to meet people who believe in getting a job being much better than continuing with school. You might not like this but it's the sad reality, the majority of the youth that make up the statistics of young unemployed South Africans are school drop outs and they

are either from rural or townships. You are much better than circumstances and you are worth a lot more than you can ever imagine, you just need to stop allowing people to calculate your worth because you might just live to regret it. When it comes to living your life for the best everyone else is clueless but you, so stop worrying yourself when the public doesn't seem impressed. There's no short cut to success and even the so called "short cuts to easy and fast wealth" have brought nothing but sorrow and misery to those that have chosen blood money routes. Before you begin to admire people's fancy cars and luxurious houses get to know the story behind it all because you might just be shocked to learn how unhappy they are with what they have. Learn to be contented with what you have but strive to work hard to achieve even more. If you explore life, you get to learn that your hardship is not your prophecy it's just a passing phase. Don't let the people who have found comfort in ordinary deprive you of a

chance to explore your life and achieve extra ordinary. Your grandfather may have been famous for his entertaining traditional dance moves but he died poor that's beyond your control. Your father was a well know stick warrior and left you a legacy that has no bank account that should tell you something. If you choose to continue where they left off don't be surprised when your family break records for good example of the living famous and dying poor. It's high time you step up and change your life because change is everything. People who are in power have learned to survive by using power to manipulate situations in an appealing way that seems so empowering to you while they strip off all your empowering tools. Mutual respect is earned that is a lesson from the elders to the young but when greed and betrayal sets in, respect would be demanded and you should not allow yourself to be a victim of such misconducts.

**THE LIFE BELOW ZERO VERSUS THE
LIFE FROM ZERO TO HERO**

The life that is dominated by assumptions against life that pays attention to reality and respect facts thus avoiding jumping into conclusions. The most popular journalists who find joy in rumor stories that destroy people's souls against the builder who uncovers the best out of the worst and gives hope to hopeless souls. The majority representative who when faced with challenges sit and wait for miracles to happen while the only chances they take would be the "one day is one day" without calculating the probabilities against the lone man who welcomes every challenge hoping for one of two things that is finding a solution or walking away a lesson and make those his only possibilities. A man who is certain that he never gives up on his dreams but when reality called up for an extra mile in hardship he never showed up against the man who falls harder in life but dusts himself up and bounced even higher. The life that allows you to smoke your books, drink away your future dreams and gives respect to

your criminal record against the life that opens up the cruel world that serves books on your table while it shows you success and wealth on the menu. Loan shark money spenders against the determined big financial institution dream owners. Temporal, glamorous and fast life of corrupt men against the permanent loud success of a silent hustler's life. The stand still world that believe in God of miracles against the progressive world that worships the God of action. The world of excuse, regrets and revenge plots against the world of misunderstood, misjudged and challenge victors. The world that has social grant on its must have list against the world that has a degree as priority number one on to do list. The world that chase after social media celebrity status against the world that develop and own social networks. The world of people who brag about owning big plasma televisions screens against the world of hard working people who own television talk shows and make television worth owning. The sons and daughters

who dream of having sex, taking alcohol and drug abuse as the stage to announce their presence against the sons and daughters that dream of announcing their presence by owning luxury cars and mansions. You live to make big decisions in life one being the choice of the world you want to belong to because even though the divisions might not be very clear but the consequences and results of belonging to one of the two worlds will become visible through your life. Choose to live your life fully so that you would realize that beating poverty is not attaining success. It is of vital importance that you define your own success so that you will learn to be contented with your achievements and you will never stop to dream new dreams. The world of mediocre can consume a man so much the he suddenly believes his own lies to be the truth and live them to be his reality. Live the life that seeks wisdom by accepting criticism and appreciating advice. Live every day in a manner that will allow you to have yourself to blame

when your choice tend to be a short cut that leads to a dead end just as you will have yourself to thank when your choice take you a step further on the ladder of success. The life below zero models to the kids that it's the good thing to make babies when you can't even support yourself while the life from zero to hero models to the kids that the future is in their hands and if they focus their minds on inventions they will always be financial independent and highly valued.

**FORGIVING IS NOT FORGETTING AND
SHEDING TEARS IS NOT A WEAKNESS**

The best gift you can ever give to your soul is living a grudge free life. One aspect of life you have no control over is losing family member to the course of death. It would be pretty heavy on your shoulders having to deal with the fact that daddy will not be coming home or mommy won't be there to welcome you home with her warm hug. It feels like a knock-out punch on your education having to learn that the only bread winner that has been there for you through thick and thin has fallen. It is the reality of every living soul that no matter how much we love one another, no matter how much we may plan our lives around each other it is God and God only who has the final say. It is never part of our planning to live our lives perfectly without the people we love but it is the life we live to experience anytime and do not beat yourself about it. There is no better timing for such situations you could never be ready for it because no one ever is. At times like these you have to pull yourself together and let that gap be don't

even try to find a way to fill it because everyone in your family has his/her own special place somewhere in your heart. The best is to forgive death for being such a deal breaker and live your life beyond imaginable limits because when you are happy the souls of your lost loved ones rest in perfect peace. You don't have to forget the good times you had with them in fact honoring the good memories you shared with them will give you peace. How do you move on financially has always been the biggest issue and many people would give up on life even before they weigh all of their available options. It might not be clear right now and I might not give you a way out but I must tell you this; you can survive this and you have plenty of options. It will all come together when you stop searching for solutions with a grieving heart and peacefully fresh start your life. It will all be easy when you stop focusing your mind on witchcraft and accept that death comes to us all in different forms at different times but

never to destroy us but as part of our life's package. You may be tempted to ask God questions such as why me? But before you do be sure to have an answer to this question that God may ask you: if not you then who? It is in our every day's prayer that we pray tensely for blessings but it never occurs to us to pray that we be able to receive them when they come. Some blessings come in disguise and that is why you have to employ a simple principle as simple as "if I cannot change it I must learn to live with it" because at times that is all you need. Move on not because you have the strength to but because you have the courage to see your own life through. There has been death to every person's life you fancy out there; you were just not there to experience their pain. It will be over to you too just don't grieve too much that you end up losing yourself in the process. It is not your life prophecy and it is certainly not your final destination it's just one of your trials and tribulations. It is the God you are serving who put

you to it because He surely has something better in store for you in future. It is alright to cry, it is normal to grieve but the most important thing is that you should never forget that you still have a life to live and a purpose to serve. Don't be hard on yourself circumstances do not discriminate they come to us all in different forms and you should never let them define who you are. In all things you should try and put God first and let Him take care of the rest.

HEAR MY STORY AND UNDERSTAND WHY I DON'T SEEM TO FANCY PROGRESS IN LIFE.

At the comfort of your excuse the wrong decisions you make seem to give the "I have every right to turn out like this" kind of an attitude. "I have never

known my father because my mother was raped and I was conceived. I was raised by a single sad parent; life has been so hard on us. I can't go to school anymore because I feel so dirty and I hate my life. I am a rape product" but your mother chose not to abort you, she chose to have you because she believed that you will grow up to be the best thing she ever had. She brought you up so that one day she can look back to her long life's journey and say even rape couldn't deny me joy in life. Those are the missing pieces of your puzzle and when you look at your mother you should be proud and learn something because she has been through worse but she's still going strong. You owe it to yourself and to your family to make something out your life. It's never easy but you will never know what awaits you until you stop making an excuse out of your story and live your life to the fullest. Let your story be part of what you've been through when you look back after reaching your destiny and achieving you goal in

turning your dreams into a reality. "I had to drop out of school because I was caught in position of dagga and I now have a criminal record. I'm also a heavy drinker now because ever since I left school nobody seems to care about me and alcohol helps me forget about my miserable life. There is nothing I can do now even if I continue with my education who would hire me" you may have made some wrong choices but the worse choice would be quitting to live a better life because you believe there's no other way you can make things right. You need to get yourself cleaned up and find your way back to school to claim your life back. Criminal records may narrow your job opportunities but they don't by any chance completely eliminate all possibilities otherwise there would be no correctional services programmed to help criminals back to communities. It is never too late to live the life you have dream of living, it's time to make the right choice even though you cannot undo what is done but you can move

on and turn your life for the best. "I'm bewitched I have tried everything I could but I do not seem to get back to the old self. I can no longer concentrate in class and I get sick and get server headache every time I try to open my books. I've always known that I wouldn't go beyond grade 12 because no one has ever made it through in my family, we are all cursed because they don't want to see us progressing in life" what your mind believes in your body would adapt to it and give you signals that aligns your thoughts to your life. In reality if you don't want to do something finding an alibi is always a self-comforting solution and possible the best and easy way out. Speculations have the tendency of pleading their case so well while overlooking the facts. If you believe you cannot progress educationally in life because of witchcraft you are not only throwing away the opportunity of a better life but you are also destroying yourself. Seek proper help because there's great life to be lived beyond the boundaries of your

superstitions. You are not what you have been or going through. It is beyond our control to choose what should happen to us in life but we have every power to choose how we react to it and it's our reaction that affect the overall outcomes of our lives. There are two sides in every story and in a story of your life that one side you choose to live for will make you who you are. Live your life to tell your story rather than living your story while giving up on your life.

WHEN LIFE STATUS READS: BETTER LIFE LOADING.....

This is the phase of your life's journey where life leads and you should follow responsible. Your mistakes will hit you so bad because you are in a point where you can smell the greatness of living your long awaiting dreams. Your choices are under a serious scrutiny because your life it's no longer just a

theory you now rub shoulders with the people who are living the life you are set to live and you know what is at stake. The life at the university and beyond should not be mistaken for your final destination because even beyond that phase the life's journey continues. The biggest mistake most people make is thinking that completing matric it's an automatic freedom's keys handover well may be, maybe not. It all depends on how you view your life at that moment and how do you see yourself afterwards. No one checks up on you, nobody cares whether you are living a lifestyle that is in line with what you hope to achieve and you have yourself to blame for the wrong choices you make because university doesn't punish anyone but results do. Spending more years than what your degree or diploma requires has never been in anyone's university's to do list but it is a consequence many suffer for the freedom they give themselves. If your high school years have been a long series of torture to your brain

through stress and pressures then prepare it for the most exciting but more of a soldier's training journey. Only a few and the toughest make it to the real world and they have bruises and scars to show off for it. You must know one thing though and that is guaranteed it would all be worth every sweat dropped at the end. In-service training and job hunting are battles that require your patience from your impatient self but this should be your first best experience because it is the beginning of your life in your dream suit. One of the things that would frustrate you the most would be the pressure to start providing for your family that probably lost patient while still had to do your final year. Your attitude would be challenged and remember it is your attitude when the light shines bright on top of your future that defines the person you truly are. The warm feeling you get when discussing your salary contract and the heart cheering moment when you finally get to fill that long waiting empty bread winner's seat is a

lovely feeling that cannot be compared anything. Even at that point in life you still have remember that you've only just beaten poverty but you are not yet cruising in life and your journey still continues. You don't have to live for survival and be worried about living expenses while people are more concerned about the expenditure. Free yourself from being the puppet when you can be the puppet master escape from the world of salary increment strikes because you can. Dream on and never settle for average for that is not your final destination. Better life is not ordinary life better life is the life lived by few who have even forgotten that they have ever came across calamities on their journey. Better life is for you and your better life is still loading.

PAYING ATTENTION IT'S A SMALL PRIZE YOU PAY TO AVOID DETENTION

Learn to question yourself to avoid accepting everything as being normal. It always going to seem normal for as long you do not feel the need for change. Change your yesterday's plans to accommodate the progressive moves/ steps of today otherwise it's

time for an execution of your plan. You are just a human machine until you learn to employ your senses to the best of their potential for your abilities to start challenging your capabilities. This world has never been a better place for anyone but better have always managed to make better people out of themselves to survive it all. Life will never give you green lights for prosperous progress but if you push yourself enough to reach independent thinking levels, you shall set your foot on the greener pastures of prosperity. Do not be afraid of the unknown for that would deprive you the chances of meeting the person you should be at different levels of your life outside your comfort zone. It is at our most uncomfortable decisions that we discover the greatness that is installed within us. If there's a mentor who has been through it all out there what could stop you from achieving greatness. An ant doesn't lose focus on its mission just because a human foot stands on the way as long as it is well and alive it will find a way

around it. Be prepared to face challenges and most importantly be more prepared to diverge on your journey to accomplish your mission. First impressions count as many would expect from us all but not all impressions would be impressive. Life is a one chance opportunity to make a difference thus a long chain of decisions to be made, with the right mind set comes good life or one would consequently suffer from a series of unpleasable life events. Live not for the legacies of your past do not fill comfortable with the fruits of your current situation but zoom into the glories of your future. What keeps a man standing is knowing what he stands to achieve and what keeps a man going is knowing that he can always achieve better things than what he has. Knowing your life not only will it introduce you to your realities but it will also acknowledge your capabilities. No African child is destined for poverty but the interpretations of the situations we find ourselves faced with teaches us to be contented with having

nothing. We lack everything mostly because those who were here before us have found comforting explanations around the most unexplainable and unacceptable. Education is good for humanity but what drives it could be fatal. Learnt not because would be nothing without education but because it is an advantage to follow your dreams when you are well knowledgeable. Have the desire for knowledge to break all the chains and limitations that pose humiliations and cast insults to your abilities and ambitions. Why victory in being applauded for bravery for surviving when you are not utilizing your abilities to take charge and live your life fully. It is without a doubt that you were born in an environment that is lacking abundance but you would still find happiness, an environment that lack financial freedom and stability yet you found means to hold on fight for sustainability. Do not fall into the trap of thinking that by fitting in you are granted the rights for belonging. You belong to the level of life high

than the level you are in until there's no other, up until such time you find yourself there then you cannot say you have made it in life. You need to learn to teach yourself good vocabulary, don't ask such questions as "what if I fail what would people say?" that is a trap you are setting for yourself because whenever new beginnings have to be undertaken fears set in you will try to be realistic as a way of dealing with your anxiety. You do not have to justify every beginning and choice you make to better your life, just keep going get into actions to realize your dreams. Set objectives for your life think great of yourself and rub such a feeling to the people around you. Do not go where everyone is going because such roads in life will soon be traffic congested and the worst thing that can happen to you is having to compete for what you dream for. Having your talents compared with other people's talents yet you are all unique for a purpose. Growing up you have to live within boundaries but there comes a time in

your life where you have discovered your purpose in life and that journey cannot be guided because every man was born different at different time for a specific reason. Parents can only do enough for you but to move to high heights in your life you will need to be aware of your surrounding because you are the commander of your own life. Always remember you are capable of either building or destroying your life there are no intermediates. Make that choice, live for that choice work on turning the choice you have made into reality. The realities of our choices become manifested with time if you don't like the person you have turned out to be, it is time visit and amend the choices you've made. It is never too late to live a better life and is never impossible to start afresh.

