

DE'MON  
*or*  
demon

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# *Dedications*

James Frederick Dorsey  
April 18, 1949 – February 15, 2009

Daddy, when I began this project I remember how proud of me you were. I never thought I would lose you before the completion of my book, but I am sure you are in heaven with mommy smiling down on me. I miss you schooling me about all the things you watched on the Discovery Channel and raiding your candy stash. I love you with all my heart and plan to make you proud. Even though I get sad I always remember your bright smile and gentle demeanor. You may have been my stepfather, but you always treated me as if I was your biological child, and for that I will always be grateful. Kisses to my Daddy.

Elizabeth Rene Dorsey  
May 23, 1951 – September 8, 2003

Mommy, the day you died was the day my life changed forever. The pain I experienced was unimaginable. You were taken from me too soon. For whatever reason, God saw fit to remove you from this world and allow you into His kingdom. You were always my shelter and now I have to learn how to live life without you. Mommy it has been so rough, but I am making it. I am sure you smiled and ran to Daddy, when you saw him. As the years go on I get better, but there will always be a piece of my heart missing, which is, YOU.



# Acknowledgments

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Uncle Kirk and Aunt Diane, I had to give you all a shout out. You all knew me when I was in my mother’s stomach. Uncle Kirk, I always bring up your Bruce Lee days when you would karate chop me all over the house. Aunt Diane, stick to your day job and leave the bar tending alone. You get all the nieces and nephews messed up during cookouts.

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want to, I just could not. I have had a time since the death of my mom and really could not help my siblings. Thank you so much for looking after Janae the way you did.

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Karen Hill-Campbell, we have known each other since we were 14 years old. We may have grown apart over the years, but I know I can call you at any hour and you still have my back. I remember how you helped with my mom during her last days and you came to check on me after my surgery. You kept on me about this book and now it is done. May your dreams come true as well, my good friend.

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Darryl Stepney, you pushed me into doing this project. You always believed in me and would often tell me to follow my heart. Well babe, I followed my heart and it will lead me straight to the bank. You know I always have a sense of humor. Thank you for the encouragement.

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than, we partied like Rock Stars way before the song came out. Now you are a settled down married, mother of three, but we sure did have fun. John B. now you never have to ask again at work, “When is the book going to be finished?” It is done, just make sure you read it from beginning to the end.

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To anyone that I may have left out, please do not take it personal and I will shout you out in the next book. I want to thank anyone that has had an impact on my life, be it good or bad. All these things made me who I am today. To my readers, please enjoy the book and tell a friend. God bless all and until the next time...



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## Prologue

Sitting in her car, she looked at her townhouse and smiled with bittersweet thoughts of what she had accomplished, but not knowing how much longer her mother would be around to see what more was to come. Her mother's cancer was back and this time, its terminal, with only six months to a year to live and it was stressing her out!

So caught up in her thoughts, she almost forgot her nephew was asleep in the backseat of the car. She had been sitting there for a few hours.

As she climbed out from behind the steering wheel, a car pulled up beside her.

*Here we go with the bullshit,* she thought, as she peered inside the backseat at her nephew. *Is this bastard about to rob me?*

She had been robbed in the past, so she was a little paranoid. She slowly turned around as an angelic face asked for directions. The man, with the dark chocolate skin and strikingly beautiful hazel green eyes, mesmerized her. Odd combination, but it worked well on him. She gave him directions, as well as her name and number.

Unbeknownst to Paige, that was the worst mistake of her life. She had no idea what the angel-faced man, with the sinister name, De'Mon, had in store for her. He almost cost her, her sanity and her life.

# Chapter 1

*June 2002*

They say all is fair in love and war, and Paige was still trying to figure that one out. Luke, her ex, found out about the new man in her life and decided to act like an ass. It has been over a year since they had broken up, and he still had shit stored at her house. Once he learned about De'Mon, he wanted to retrieve his television, microwave, dining room and living room sets. She'd been trying to get that fool to get all that shit since they broke up, but since he had no place to live, she kept his crap for him. He thought that gave him the right to come over as he pleased, which caused him to have hurt feelings on more than one occasion. Mind you, he was the one who was caught cheating with some hooker on his job. The dumb bastard taped the shit and forgot to erase it or leave it at the girl's house. Oh, but he could not leave it at his trick's house because she had a husband. However, with all being fair in love and war, Paige said, "Fuck the love," and went to war. Trust and believe Ms. Tiffany's husband saw his wife in some compromising positions on the big screen. Ms. Tiffany's husband filed for divorce and moved down south. Paige wished Luke would move out of state.

Since the split, he has been checking for Paige as if they were still an item. The only reason she was being cordial to him was that her mom loved him, and she wanted to make her mother's days on this earth as pleasant as possible. Yet, most of the time she could smack the shit out of Luke.

Paige peered out the living room window. *Here comes the big head bastard now*, she thought, dragging herself to the front door. As she opened the door, she wanted to scream. She could not stand Luke's cheating ass.

"Hey, how are you, beautiful? How is my favorite woman?"

Paige felt like throwing up in his damn face. She stepped to the side, allowing him entry.

As soon as Luke stepped over the threshold, her traitor cat snuggled at his feet. He picked up Pecan and rubbed behind her ears. Yes, he gave Paige the cat, but she could not believe Pecan was still affectionate towards him considering he had been gone for over a year.

"Luke, get your shit and get out of my damn house!" Paige could not believe that blockhead fool was coming up in her house as if they were friends. "Let me tell you something. The only reason I stomach to look at you is because my

mother has a soft spot for you and her health is deteriorating. So, get one thing straight. I'm not your woman or your damn friend for that matter!"

Luke raised his hands in surrender. "Okay, Paige, I did not come here to fight. I come in peace. I know I have been acting crazy lately, but you know I still love you and only want the best for you. I do not want the furniture. I just flipped once I realized you were getting serious with someone. That dude has the weirdest colored eyes to be so dark. He gives me the creeps and I just want you to be careful. Something about that cat rubs me the wrong way."

In a laughing fit, Paige bent over from laughing so hard. "Boy, please, your ass is jealous because he is fine. The only reason he rubs you the wrong way is that he is rubbing me the *right* way. Hmm, Hmm, I crack myself up."

Luke did not find a damn thing amusing. "That shit ain't funny."

Paige could not believe Luke was getting all up in his feelings. He always managed to bring the worst out of her. "Oh, but it was cool for me to have to see you ramming your shit in another female on my damn camcorder!"

Luke knew it was time to leave. "Have a nice day, Paige. I'm out of here. Your ass always has to bring up the past. That shit was over a year ago and I did everything humanly possible to make things right between us. I guess you didn't love me enough to forgive me, so we continue to do this unpleasant dance." Luke's voice reeked of disappointment.

Paige was not moved. "Well, Luke, you can dance your ass up out of my house."

After slamming the door in Luke's face, Paige got some aspirin and drunk a bottle of her favorite champagne. *Damn, why do I let that boy get under my skin like that? Is it possible that I still love him?* They were teenage sweethearts and together for fifteen years before the images were permanently scorched on her brain of him having sex with someone else. She could not take that shit. She just wished her mind would shut the fuck off. Her mother was terminally ill, her sister was pregnant, again, and could not even take care of the child she has, her father had been missing in action since she could remember and her ex was driving her crazy. It seemed the only relief she had was from spending time with De'Mon. She could not wait until her baby arrived. *Guess I will take a nap until that time.*

Pecan was cuddled up under Paige as she fell asleep. After a while, through her fog, she heard the phone ringing.

Lazily, she answered the phone. "Hello." She heard a lot of noise in the background and Mia, her best friend, screaming in her ear about driving to DC. "Can you turn the damn music down? I have a headache!" Paige yelled, scaring Pecan, as she jumped off the bed and darted out of the bedroom.

“Okay, grumpy ass, what is wrong with you?”

“That damn Luke came over here today, plucking my last nerve!”

“You two are ridiculous. Just give him another chance. Look, it is a beautiful June night. We are young and have so much going for ourselves. Come with Nicole and me to DC. We are going to club hop. You know they have the happening night life.”

“First of all, you know I can’t stand Nicole, second I’m broke and third De’Mon is coming over.”

Mia said some real slick shit out of her mouth next. “Paige, you’re always waiting on De’Mon or demon, whatever the hell his name is, and you don’t come around much anymore. You know we are like sisters and I have not met the mystery man yet. I feel like you don’t want me to meet him.”

“Mia, you know you are my girl. I know I have been scarce lately, and it seems like I have been ducking you to be with De’Mon, and that is not the case, so I apologize. Work has been kicking my ass along with everything else. You know the situation with my mom has me on edge to the point that I cannot pull my thoughts fully together these days.” Tears welled in her eyes, and she choked up as she spoke about her mother. “I promise you will meet De’Mon at my Fourth of July celebration. I’m going all out this year because it may be my mother’s last Fourth of July.”

Mia must have heard Paige sniffing, because she said, “Paige, baby, don’t cry. We are going to get through this, girl.”

Paige was crying so hard, snot was coming out her nose and she could not see in front of her because of her tears.

“I’m coming over, Paige.”

Pecan must have sensed her sadness, as she jumped on her lap and looked into her face, waiting for Paige to rub her, which she does, causing Paige to smile.

“No, Mia, go out and have fun. Enjoy a drink for me. I will be fine. You know it gets to me when I think about my mom not being around. I just need to get up, take a shower and drink a nice cup of soothing tea. Give me a call tomorrow and let me know how the night went. Girl, I do not see how you can still party during the week and go to work the next day. I cannot hang like that anymore.”

“No, Paige, your ass just acts like an old woman now. It seems since Tasha had Tony, you take care of him as if he is your child. When are you going to make her step up to the plate and handle her responsibility? I love Tony just as much as you do, but it’s not fair how Tasha leaves him for you to take care of.” Mia heavily sighed, and Paige knew she was concerned with her well-being,

but she has to look out for her little man. He was her heart and kept a smile on her face.

“Mia, I hear you loud and clear, but you know my sister is trifling and my little man would be staying all over the city with anyone she chose to leave him with. I cannot let him suffer because his mother is a stupid cunt. Do not get me wrong, I love my sister dearly, I just do not know how she turned out the way she has. We were raised in the same house and my mom gave us the best of everything, but Tasha is a damn wild child.”

Talking to Mia had Paige thinking about the path her sister's life had taken. Tasha was always a follower, never a leader or an individual. Their father not being in their lives really fucked her up. She always looked for love in the wrong places, rejecting positive love for that thug love. That was why she had five abortions, one little boy and is currently pregnant at the ripe age of twenty-six. Tasha thought abortion was birth control. NOT! She would get pregnant by the latest up and coming hustler; when he was locked up or had one too many chicks on the side, she was at the abortion clinic. The only reason Paige's nephew made it here was that his father married Tasha. Of course, that joker got knocked and is doing Federal time. Tasha got off easy, they just took all of her shit, leaving her homeless, without a car and not being able to be a ghetto superstar. She divorced Big Tony as soon as she found out how much time he received. That girl thought her pretty face and nice body was all she needed to get through life. Paige understood how she got confused. It had worked for her all these years and it continued to work.

“Look, Mia, I got this, and Tasha knows she is going to have to take responsibility for this next baby. She has used me to the limit and Momma is too weak these days to be looking after a crying baby. The good thing is, this time the unborn child has a responsible father who has an excellent job and seems to give Tasha all the attention she needs. The bad thing is that she does not pay Tony any attention, which is why I have him all the time. Shit, he thinks I am his mother anyway. Tasha did me a favor because my nephew looks just like her, which means he is the spitting image of me since Tasha looks like my twin. I'm in the process of adopting Tony and I didn't mention it to you before because I was not sure if it was something I wanted to do.”

“Damn, Paige, I had no idea you were going to keep Tony. Are you sure you're ready for all that responsibility?”

“Yup, my little man will be living with me.”

Now in the back of her mind, she was thinking what in the hell was Mia talking about being ready for that responsibility, Tony damn near lived with her.