

BLM Interview with Bestselling Author Eyone Williams
By: Michelle Cuttino

Eyone Williams was born and raised in Washington, D.C. He is a publisher, author, rapper and actor representing urban life in a way that is uniquely his.

Known for hard-core, gritty novels, Eyone made the Don Diva best-seller list with his first novel, *Fast Lane* (Fast Lane Publications). He followed up his debut novel with *Hell Razor Honeys 1 and 2* (Cartel Publications). He then delivered his readers a short story entitled *The Cross and Lorton Legends* (DC Bookdiva Publications). He's also a staff writer for Don Diva Magazine, his most notable work is featured in Don Diva's issue 30, *The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly*, where he outlined the rise and fall of D.C. street legends Michael "Fray" Salters and Wayne Perry.

Eyone's first acting role is in the forthcoming movie *Dark City* (District Hustle). His latest mixtape, *A Killer's Ambition*, is a sound track to the novel, *A Killer's Ambition* (DC Bookdiva Publications) by Nathan Welch.

Eyone took a moment out of his busy schedule to talk to Black Literature Magazine about his new release, *Secrets Never Die*, his various accomplishments and his upcoming print and film projects.

Michelle: Eyone, it seems that much of your novels reflect true stories. Is it easy to fictionalize real life? Why or why not?

Eyone: For me, it is easy to fictionalize real life stories due in part to the fact that real life events already have a plot, a beginning and an end. Real life events are sometimes more shocking than things writers make up in their minds because we as writers a lot of times want to be realistic. Real life will shock you.

Michelle: Do you free write or do you work off of an outline for your novels?

Eyone: I write depending on how I feel. I have written on outlines that I made up before, but I like to let it flow from my mind.

Michelle: You have a very checkered past. Do you think it has helped you as an author?

Eyone: My past gives me many ideas to write, by all means. I have been through things in my life that people of different walks of life would never understand and some of those things are in my writings.

Michelle: Your latest release is *Secrets Never Die*. Please tell us about the storyline.

Eyone: *Secrets Never Die* is based on a true story about a young girl that loses everything and the secrets around her losses change her life forever. She is only a teenager when the book starts

and she has to face the world alone. Her mother is in prison, her sister is all she has and then her sister gets murdered by someone in her circle. She has no one to trust. It's a novel that draws the reader into her struggles.

Michelle: How does the female whose life you based *Secrets Never Die* on feel about the novel? Does she think you've done her story justice?

Eyone: Very much so, the female that I based the story on feels that for other young women to read her story that they will learn something from it.

Michelle: You began your writing career while incarcerated. What advice would you give to others who want to follow in your footsteps and turn their negative lifestyles around?

Eyone: Be true to self. Do this and everything else from the heart. In life we have to come to a point where we want to change. If writing can change your life then put your all into your work.

Michelle: You publish under both your own publishing company, Fast Lane Entertainment, but also have a publishing deal with DC Bookdiva Publications. How do you decide what story will be released under which imprint?

Eyone: At this point, I plan to do more street books under my company. My next book *Money Ain't Everything* is very street, so to speak. With DC Bookdiva Publications, I try to make sure that everything I come out with has its place along with all other great titles already published. I will take more risk with books published under Fast Lane Entertainment. I put my all in every book, but with DC Bookdiva my mind set is on what place my novel will have on the line. It's all about bringing the best work when your publisher believes in you.

Michelle: Trust also seems to be an underlying theme for most of your novels. Why do you feel so strongly about it?

Eyone: Trust is something that must be earned. When you can trust someone in life that makes that person very important to you. In my younger years I believe that I trusted the wrong people and that changed my life forever. Trust, honor, and loyalty are always major parts of my writings because they make up the core of the relationships we have in life.

Michelle: Congratulations on winning the 2012 AAMBC literary award for Male Author Of The Year. How has that win impacted you?

Eyone: It was a blessing and it made me see that other people respect my work and my grind. As a writer, it makes me feel good to be able to say that people consider me the best at something. That's always a great thing.

Michelle: How did it feel to become a national best-selling author with Lorton Legends?

Eyone: Coming from where I come from and going through the things that I have gone through, I feel blessed to be able to put out what's in my heart. I write what I feel good about and now

that I feel strongly about putting out whatever my heart desires, the sky's the limit. I'm proud to be in the game.

Michelle: Do you think you will write in any other genre, or will you always be an urban fiction author? Why or why not?

Eyone: My writing comes from the heart therefore I can truly say that I will write in another genre in due time. Right now I write what comes to my heart and what I enjoy. However, I get bored fast. I know I will have to challenge myself very soon.

Michelle: *Money Ain't Everything* is your upcoming release. What's this story about?

Eyone: *Money Ain't Everything* is another true story that I fictionalized. It's about a crew of dudes that started from nothing and ended up with everything only to find out that getting everything means nothing if they no longer remained true to themselves and what they were made of.

Michelle: Your debut acting role is in the upcoming movie, *Dark City*. How hard was it to make the transformation from writing to acting?

Eyone: Acting wasn't hard for me at all because they put me in a role that was a street role. I didn't have to dig too deep to bring that person to life. Maybe at another time the role I get will be different and I will have to dig deeper inside myself. Acting is by all means something I see for myself in the future.

Michelle: As an author, rapper, publisher and now actor, what's next for Eyone Williams?

Eyone: As far as the future, I just want to keep putting my best foot forward and making sure that I'm always on my grind.

For more information about Eyone Williams visit his Facebook page:
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