

Interview with Author and Publisher Michael McGrew  
By: Michelle Cuttino

Michael McGrew hit the ground running when his debut Novel, *My Kinda Girl*, sold over five thousand copies independently its first year out. That was over four years ago, and Michael hasn't slowed down yet. Trying to develop his company, Legacy Publishing Group, into a global brand, Michael is looking to become a force to be reckoned with in the publishing industry.

Black Literature Magazine caught up with Michael as he is preparing to release debut novels from his two new authors, one hailing from the UK and the other from the erotic Underground.

**Michelle:** Legacy Publishing Group has expanded internationally by signing its first British author, Louise Payne. Tell us how that came about.

**Michael:** Louise and I were going back and forth on Twitter and next thing you know, I developed an interest in working with her. It doesn't happen too often that I'm impressed by a brand and saw so much potential in Louise that I had to welcome her to the Legacy Publishing team.

**Michelle:** Louise's debut release is titled *Playing Dirty Mind Games*. What is the book about?

**Michael:** Six months after being discharged from The Clever-field Mental Health Clinic and supposedly on the mend, Sydney Henderson finds herself on the brink of self-destruction. Unable to escape the tragic events of her past she struggles to move forward amidst her multiple personalities that corrupt her mind, institutionalizing her range of freedom.

Situations heighten when Brittany and Shelly, her gorgeous yet scandalous childhood friends reunite with her and triggers her uncontrollable disorder. They immediately become a reckoning force. Trapped in a Borough filled to the brim with violence and pain, Shelly, Brittany, and Sydney make a pact with Judas Mendez, a malicious backstabbing rude boy in a bid to get out of East London's notorious Hackney projects as he relinquishes his crown as King Pen of the streets.

Judas Mendez is tired of hustling under his father's thumb, and foolishly sets out to expand his drug business with his newfound ride or die chicks by his side, but suspicious enough, his fiancé Naomi doesn't share his vision nor direction of their empire with his new trusted circle. Soon she finds herself fighting for more than their investments when she learns the depth of his deceit, and strong bond with Sydney.

Loyalty and love have no place in this gripping tale of sex, intuition, lies, and manipulation; but all is revealed when new personalities step onto the scene determined to take over the leading role.

**Michelle:** Mental illness is considered a taboo topic. Is Louise shedding light on behavior, treatment or both in this book?

**Michael:** I'd say both but most importantly what triggers these behaviors and the temptations of falling victim to your own devilish thoughts.

**Michelle:** Legacy Publishing Group also has Mr. Oh (Making Repetitive Orgasms Happen), who will be releasing his collection of erotic short stories in March. Why did you decide to keep his identity hidden?

**Michael:** Great question! Well I love his character and he understands our development for him as an author. Mr. Oh is a wordsmith with a vivid imagination who wants to entice your mind into believing what he wants you to believe through his erotic stories but who knows, he may reveal himself much sooner than later.

**Michelle:** Is Legacy Publishing Group currently looking to sign new authors at this time? If so, what is the submission process?

**Michael:** Authors can most definitely view the submission guidelines on our website: [www.legacypublishinggrp.com](http://www.legacypublishinggrp.com) under the "Contact Us" tab.

**Michelle:** Your novel *Room 111* is gaining momentum. What is the book about?

**Michael:** It's a book based on actual events that shed light on the music industry and the shrewd and dark side of the industry that the general public aren't available to. It's told through the eyes of Raquan "Grey" Taylor and is entertaining up until the end.

**Michelle:** Will you be releasing another novel soon, or is your main focus right now on building the Legacy Publishing brand?

**Michael:** Well personally, I have put my two projects on hold to focus more on my Guinness record-breaking attempt in June for the biggest book signing, and I'd rather focus on the company at this point. The Authors Rock movement is in full effect though and I hope my readers are getting ready for Legacy Publishing.

**Michelle:** You have also penned yourself as "The Social Guru," offering Twitter marketing and management services. What assistance do you provide?

**Michael:** Lol well I wouldn't call myself a Guru of anything personally, that would only mean there is no room for improvements and one thing people can't stand is a "Know it all" but I chose that title to represent my services because it does fit the description of what we offer. I say "we" because it's not just me but my team of affiliates that I work with to assist authors with the best services at an affordable rate. As an author I know it's hard to generate a lead without someone trying to take advantage of them, which is nonsense because blessings come to those who give. Why do you think God gave you two arms? To give and receive! I consult with authors to get to know their needs before servicing them, as different authors have different needs and I'm passionate about what I do. I suggest try our services as we offer the tools for authors to find their gold.

**Michelle:** When it comes to promotion, do you take on an equal amount of responsibility as the authors you represent, or is your involvement limited to publishing only?

**Michael:** I promote my authors as if I'm promoting myself. See, it's not about the book; it's about the cause, promoting literacy and building a brand. We are a team and moving straight to the top, it's too crowded on the bottom.

**Michelle:** What have you found to be the hardest part of self-publishing thus far, and what have you done to make it less complicated moving forward?

**Michael:** Distribution will always be a stumbling block and that's why our next step is securing an imprint deal with a major. Bigger distribution outlets means bigger checks and at Legacy Publishing we love bigger checks!