

Life of glamorous supermodel, domestic violence comes face-to-face in new novel

Green-eyed, Ethiopian-Jamaican bombshell, Lime Prince, takes the fashion world by storm only to be undone by her private family shame in “Lime” by Melda Beaty

CHICAGO – Melda Beaty has created a probing and insightful women’s fiction that uses the publicly glamorous and privately painful life of a supermodel to examine notions of beauty and domestic violence. “Lime” (ISBN 1475090714) centers around the life of Lime Prince, a green-eyed international supermodel of mixed Jamaican-Ethiopian heritage who lands the cover of Vogue and becomes the new face of haute couture. Though she takes the New York fashion world by storm, her sordid, violent past comes back to haunt her.

“Lime” traces back to her painful coming of age in England and America while trying to break into modeling. As a child, Lime is abused and abandoned by her Ethiopian mother and forced to live with her Ethiopian grandparents, but finally rescued by her half-Jamaican father. She finds a modeling agent who siphons off her profits and is later coerced into a sex scandal by her ex-husband, a Jamaican trumpet player.

Amidst the nonstop pressure of the fashion world and the painful memories of her upbringing, her one solace is her witty, no-nonsense best friend AJ. Yet AJ too becomes the victim of an atrocious act of violence committed by her ultra-possessive boyfriend. To respond to her friend’s victimization, Lime organizes an unprecedented national crusade to bring public attention to the innumerable acts of violence committed against women.

Beaty was inspired to write the book after watching several episodes of “America’s Next Top Model” and wondering about the personal lives behind the faces on the show. When she discovered a very independent, law school graduate friend of hers had become the victim of domestic violence, she knew that abuse was a crime that could happen to anyone.

“Lime” is a gripping novel about the violence committed against women and the social and family pressures that encourage them to remain silent. Set in the glitzy world of New York fashion, it balances glamour with pain, beauty with violence.

“Lime” is available for sale online at Amazon.com and other channels.

About the Author:

Melda Beaty is a college writing instructor whose work has been published in Black Issues in Higher Education. She has taught at several universities and currently teaches at South University. Beaty is also the author of “My Soul to His Spirit: Soulful Expressions from Black Daughters to Their Fathers.” She lives in Chicago with her three daughters.

MEDIA CONTACT

Melda Beaty

E-mail: melda@meldacreates.com

Phone: (708) 870-9759

Web: www.meldacreates.com

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