

OMO HENRY-EGBO



BORN A STAR

HOW TO FIND YOUR PURPOSE AND SHINE IN IT

Dedication

This book is dedicated to my Lord Jesus Christ and my best friend and playmate, late flight lieutenant Ohai Prosper Idonije.

Dear Jesus, you are the one who loves me the most, the one who saw the mess in me but turned it into a message - My sweet Jesus. When I see you, the first thing I will say is to thank you and then ask why you chose me for this assignment. I am curious about the answer.

Dear Ohai, on the *23rd of March 2020* at age *30* you went to be with our sweet Jesus in heaven. My heart broke in a billion pieces. My baby, my confidant, my fellow dreamer, my dream keeper. You always pushed me to fulfil my purpose.

You believed in me and never stopped reminding me of the dreams I shared with you when we were kids.

I won't forget them, my beloved brother, I will do it all and tell you all about them when we meet again. You became what you said you wanted to become when we were kids. A military officer you were the very best military pilot, and you went to heaven in active service. Keep resting my number 1. I love you.

Acknowledgements

I stand on the shoulders of many people who have carried and are still carrying me. Truly, I am rich in people and I will not be the woman I am today without the many angel's God has blessed me with.

I am blessed with a supportive family, supportive friends, teachers and mentors—my definition of true wealth.

I am who I am because I'm loved by you all.

Thank you.

Introduction

In a football team, every player has a role. No player in the team is useless. The striker scores goals; the goalkeeper stops the ball from entering the goal post; and the midfielders, wingers, and defenders all have their specific roles.

No one is more significant than the other. The coach does not send a player into the field just to occupy space. Every player comes into the pitch with an intention, an assignment and his success or failure depend on how well he fulfils his assignment. Everyone is useful and has a unique and specific role.

The same principle applies to make a pot of soup; every ingredient has a role. A good cook knows that each ingredient has a distinct flavor and taste which it brings to the soup.

This is how life is.

God, like a coach, creates no one that is not useful. God doesn't just create for the sake of creating, nor does He create to fill space; He creates to meet a need. He brings a human being into this world because He has a need He wants the human to meet; a problem He wants the

person to solve; an aspect of the life he wants that person to be a genius in, and a question the person was created to answer.

You were created and sent into this world like a shooting star, loaded with a solution for your generation. If you don't discover and fulfil your God-given mandate, you will leave your generation worse for it.

Take Nigeria as an example. There is a need for good leaders in Nigeria. To meet this need, God can choose to create someone and send him through parents who are from Nigeria. He will put all the abilities needed to be a distinguished leader in that person. Let's call the person John. All John needs to be a distinguished leader in Nigeria will be put in him at birth. John will be custom-made for this particular responsibility of delivering good leadership. Meeting this need is John's purpose, this is what he is expected to do with his life.

It is in doing this that John will find fulfilment and become truly successful in all aspects of his life.

Hence, no matter the circumstances of John's birth, they will not affect who he is. He can still become all God has created him to be if, and only if, he discovers his purpose and manifests it.

However, if John never finds out his purpose, he can't live life purposefully.

It is possible for the leader who was created to change Nigeria to become a thief, a roadside beggar, a drug addict, or just to live an average life when he was born to be a star.

This is why I am writing this book.

For all the Johns out there, whom God has loaded with great destinies and sent into this world as stars to radiate out solutions to the problems of this generation. I mean you reading this book right now.

It is not by chance that you are reading this book. You are 'John.' John, you can never fulfil your great purpose if you don't find it. Your purpose is not created by you; it is created by your creator, God and discovered by you.

You are born to shine like a star, walking in your purpose.

Your coach (God) sent you into the field of life to meet a need, change lives, and make the world better; to be a blessing to others, yourself, your family and God.

You are a champion, customized by God to champion your generation.

This book aims to help you find your purpose and roar with it, a roar that will be so loud; it will be heard by many generations long after you are gone.

As you dig into this book, be determined to find your purpose in life. Finding your purpose will dignify you, put you ahead in life and make you a generational change agent. It will meet your needs and that of others too. It will make you a star.

CHAPTER ONE

Born a star

Let us do a little biology here; I want you to see that even science recognizes that you are born a star.

When a man and a woman have sexual intercourse, millions of sperm are released by the man into the woman. All these millions of sperm race within the woman to meet the egg and upon their meeting, a new life is formed.

The egg receives only one sperm out of the millions and shuts out all the other sperm. We then say the woman has conceived.

This means that millions of other people could have been born instead of you, but you raced against them and you won hands down!

That you were born means you are a star already.

In my mind, I see you racing to the egg and as soon as you entered the egg, every other sperm stopped running and started clapping for you.

Just in case you are thinking, “I have won nothing in life”, “I have never been the best at anything”, “I have never really been the shining light, hear this: you came to life as a champion by your birth and if you could win the race for life, you can win many other races.

It doesn't matter if you are reading this in the worst kind of condition, there is a star in you and that star is about to rise as you read this book.

You are Custom Made to Shine

No two human beings are the same, not even identical twins; you'll see the differences in them when you get to know them. Their DNA is different and so are their purposes. This is because everyone is custom made. No one is created as a copy of another. God creates only originals. Hence your looks, desires, gifts, and your perspectives are all deliberately put together by God to suit your purpose.

I know you have probably been called too short, too tall, or you've been told you talk too much or that you are too quiet. All these attributes that are most times criticized by others are the raw materials God put in you with which you will change your world.

Many people who have been called too tall are the biggest basketball stars today.

There is no mistake in you. God created you deliberately; he took his time and made you a perfect fit for your purpose.

In *Jeremiah Chapter 1 verse 4*, God told Jeremiah that he chose him to be a prophet before he entered his mother's womb.

Think about this for a moment. Before your mother was pregnant with you, God had already decided your purpose. He already had a purpose for you before He gave you your nose, height and temperament. He had a purpose for you before putting you in that family; so no matter how bad things are, they are all part of God's plan to make you who He has created you to be.

Hence, there is no mistake in you. You were uniquely packaged by God to suit your distinctive purpose.

You are a person on a mission and the destination of that mission is greatness.

I know as you are reading this you might be wondering, "How shall this be when I am not one of the special ones or anyone's favorite, neither am I from the kind of background great people come from?" I know these thoughts are going through your mind because they went through my mind too.

Sit tight, get a bottle of water and let's answer them one after another.

Thought 1:

I am not one of the special ones.

God doesn't make misfits. Let's use cars as an example.

When Toyota is about to release a new product, they know their reputation is at stake. So, every product they create has to be of the highest standards. If they go below their standards, it will affect their market value.

If you go to your favorite grocery store and all the foodstuff you bought is rotten, aren't you going to tell your friends and family about your experience? I'm sure you will and lots of them will think twice before going there again. This will also reduce the market value of the store.

Every product God creates is of God's quality. To create anything less is to reduce His person, spoil His reputation, and reduce His market value.

You are God standard. Made from God quality. There is something special about you, something you can do that no one else can like you.

No matter how wonderful the eyes are, they cannot replace the mouth. When the time to eat or talk comes, the eyes must step aside and let the mouth shine.

This is how God created the world. Just as He created the body with different unique functions and no part can replace the other, nobody can replace you. You matter and you are needed in your unique way. Don't allow anyone's gift to make you feel small. Imagine the mouth feeling small because it doesn't see or the eyes feeling bad that they don't walk like the leg. This will be absolute foolishness.

Everybody has their brand of shine and no one can take the place of another. Honey, you matter and you are needed by man and God.

Your life and lives of others around you will change if you discover, develop, and deliver the gift God has put in you.

Lots of people who have made an impact in the world also had experiences that suggested they were not one of the special ones.

Meryl Streep, for example, is the most awarded actor with 21 Academy Award nominations. She is an actor who is studied by other actors all over the world. She was told at the beginning of her career that she wasn't beautiful enough to be an actor. They told her she wasn't one of

the special ones, but she went on to become arguably one of the greatest actors in her generation because she refused to believe the lie.

Whoever has told you or treated you in a way that has made you feel like you are not one of the special ones lied. The truth is you are special and there is an aspect of God's creativity He has put in you and you alone. He entrusted this to you, so do special things, act like a special person because you are one of God's special ones.

Perhaps you are not feeling special right now; this might be because you haven't discovered your purpose. But don't panic; just make sure you read the next chapter where I will help you get on the journey to discovering your purpose.

Thought 2

I am not anyone's favorite

Having people closest to us not to see value in us is one of the most painful things one can experience, especially at a very young age. It is a kind of pain that can ruin one's self-esteem.

No matter how much we try to act like their opinions don't matter, we know within us they do.

But thank God no man is God; hence, no man can decide another's destiny.

There is a story in 1st Samuel Chapter 16 which I love so much.

The prophet Samuel came to a man named Jesse and invited him and his sons for sacrifice, intending to anoint one of them as king of Israel. This was an extremely honorable occasion because the prophet was the mouthpiece of God, meaning they were invited to the very presence of God.

The prophet told Jesse specifically to bring all his sons, but Jesse brought all those he considered important and forgot about David. To him, David was not important enough. He had weighed him and thought he wouldn't amount to much and didn't think twice about letting him remain with the sheep in the bush, while the important ones go for the honorable meeting with the prophet of God.

He forgot that no father, mother, pastor or president can decide one's destiny. Only God and you can decide your destiny.

But to Samuel's surprise, God rejected all the sons Jesse brought with him. A surprised Samuel knowing that God cannot lie had to ask him,

“Are these all your sons?”

It was then he remembered David - 'the forgotten one.'

A father forgetting his son — I can only imagine how he was treated at home daily.

Samuel told him to send for David and that no one was permitted to sit until David comes. The one that was seen as nobody now had his father and all the favorite sons standing up to wait for him.

The frowns on their faces must have been epic. God truly has a sense of humor. And when David came, God said yes. This is the one.

He was anointed king and became the greatest king Israel ever had. It doesn't matter if the people who were meant to protect you abused you or treated you like a slave when you needed care. If they called you a failure, it cannot stop you from becoming the world-changer God has destined you to be, except you allow it by believing what they have said.

Thought 3:

People from my kind of background don't become great.

In life, anybody can become anything. Let me repeat that. IN LIFE,

ANYBODY CAN BECOME ANYTHING.

It is an absolute truth.

However, if you have never seen something before, you can't know it exists; neither can you think nor dream about it. And that which you can't dream about, you can't achieve in your life.

I remember when God started to tell me about my purpose and how I was not just born to live a mundane existence but to be a star. It was very difficult for me to accept because I have never seen someone close to me truly find their purpose and soar with it.

Plus being a girl, all I was told by my environment was, "you are beautiful, marry a rich man." I saw women treated and talked about with honor majorly because of the wealth of their husbands.

So, for me to receive a word from God telling me I was born to inspire people all over the world, to win souls to His kingdom and be global with words from my mouth and my hands were very difficult.

I wrestled with the thought for many years, I never felt good enough. I was in mental bondage. Two hammers broke the chains and set me free from mental bondage, and I hope they break yours too.

1. Stories of people who were like me and doing great things:

Something happens to your mind and spirit when you spend time with people who are doing great things; you begin to think you can do it too. This is why 'who you associate with' will either make or break you.

I remember as a young teenager watching Paula White speak to prisoners on TV and I suddenly started crying. My siblings were shocked as they did not understand why I was crying and they had a pretty good laugh.

I cried because my heart kept leaping, I felt a rumbling in my heart like oceans gushing and I knew in my spirit that I was born to change lives through words. I was confused at first, and as a young teenager, all I could do was run into the room and cry.

Then I read a book that changed my life forever, titled How to Become like Women of Influence. I was amazed as I read that I could do anything

I wanted to do with my life. I learned that I was more than a pretty face and could be more than a baby machine.

I said to myself, “these women are like me; if they could live their lives and fulfil a purpose and leave their marks on the world, I can too.” This was when I dared to dream and accepted God’s purpose for my life. Gradually, I watched and learned from people whose lives showed me what my life could become. The more I watched and learned, the bigger the dream became, and you are reading this book today because the dream became so big that it swallowed up my background.

No matter what kind of environment you are in now, start feeding your mind with pictures and stories of the kind of life you desire. You can do this through books, videos, and forming new relationships. Put up pictures of people who inspire you on your wall until courage to break free from your background enters you.

2. Discovering that I am a child of God.

Every human was created by God and this means no opinion is more important than God’s opinion. It was mind-blowing when I discovered God's thoughts about me, it kept me up at nights and this changed my life:

I AM A CHILD OF GOD.

The Bible in *John Chapter 1 verse 12* says, "But too many as received Him and welcome Him, He gave them authority to become the children of God, that is, to those who believe in His name." This means that when I gave my life to God, I became a child of God.

I know you've heard this before, but please don't rush over this.

Ask yourself, who is God? God is the Creator of the universe and the King of all kings. So, can God lie? The answer is emphatically no. If God can not lie and He says anyone that believes in Him is His child, this means I am a child of God now because I believe in him.

As a child of the King of kings, I am a member of the most royal family in the world. Being a huge fan of the British monarchy, I know the amount of power and influence they wield. When I thought about the fact that my royalty is above all others, I realized there is nothing too big for me to achieve and nothing too good for me to have.

Now, you might wonder "how I can hold on to such claims?" *2nd Corinthians Chapter 5 verse 17* confirms it; it says that when I believed in my heart and confessed with my mouth that Jesus died for me, my

spiritual lineage overtook my earthly lineage and my background suddenly became irrelevant to me.

I remember vividly the Sunday this revelation dawned on me in 2008. I made a deliberate decision to clean the slate of my life and start afresh as a royalty who could be anything and have anything. This can be your story too; your past can lose its hold over you forever.

So be free to shine like the star that you are as you get on the journey to finding your purpose in the next chapter.

BORN A STAR

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Omo henry-Egbo is the founder and president of 100percent life international.

Omo is a student of Gods word, a teacher, an ordained minister for over 13yrs and a seasoned broadcaster.

Armed with a heart for the young people in Africa, an anointing and instruction upon her life to pump inspiration into the young African hearts, she is determined to set their hearts on fire while introducing them to God as a father, just as she has known him.

she has degrees in computer science, media production and theology. she is also a proud and grateful child of God, a loving wife, mother, daughter, sister, mentor, instructor, counsellor and friend to many.

