

FRANCES MENSAH WILLIAMS Readers'

BOOK CLUB

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO 16 | September/October 2021



WELCOME DEAR READER!

It's September already?! Where did the year go? Welcome to all our new readers and thank you for your interest in my books.

2021 has been a funny old year for me with lots of highs and lows. How has your year been going?

It's always great to hear from Readers Club members, so write in and tell us about yourself and what you're up to and, of course, share any great books you're reading and would recommend.

[Drop me a message with any news you'd like to](#) share.

Stay safe,

Frances x

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AUTHOR Q&A

10 Questions with Frances

SETTING THE SCENE

A glimpse into the Ghana of the Marula Heights Series

FREE ROMANCE BOOKS FOR YOU!

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What's been happening?

Author Q&A: 10 Questions with Frances



The Sage Literacy Foundation is a non-profit organisation that distributes literacy materials to pupils in Ghana. They also host activities such as an online essay contest and author interviews.

I was delighted to participate in an author interview and I share below a few of my answers with you.

Q: What time of the day do you usually write?

A: Because I juggle so many different work projects alongside writing, my diary looks different every week. I write whenever I can and the challenge is to create sufficient time each day, if possible, to work on whichever book I'm writing as well as doing some social media/book marketing.

Q: Do you have a favourite writing snack?

A: Truthfully, I often forget to eat when I am deep into writing. However, if my concentration drops between meals, I usually make some tea and maybe sneak a chocolate biscuit or two if there are any left in the house.

Guilty pleasure... 😊



Q: What advice would you give an aspiring writer?

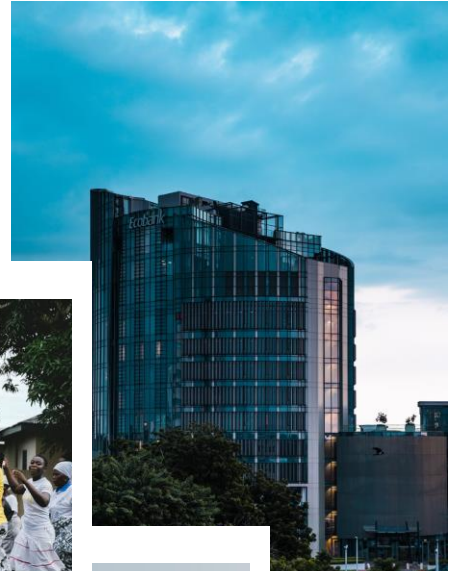
A: The most important advice for an aspiring writer is to write. Like any other craft, the more you do it, the better you become. It's also a good idea to read the genre you want to write in, not to copy what's out there but to get a sense of the conventions of that genre.

I would also encourage any aspiring writer to think like a reader as you tell your story. Are you describing your setting in a way that allows the reader to picture it? Have you explained the key elements in the story at the right time, so the story makes sense to the reader as they progress through the book? Have you researched the issues you raise in your book sufficiently to sound credible? Your imagination can take you a long way but at times you also need to really understand the issues you are weaving into your story.

Finally, being a writer is all about perseverance and handling rejection maturely. Writing is a lonely task which sometimes feels thankless, and so you need to develop a thick skin to withstand negative criticism as well as motivate yourself to keep going when that book deal feels out of reach. Which is why my second most important piece of advice is to never give up!

Read the full interview here on the [Sage Literacy Foundation website](#).

Setting the Scene: Ghana – home of the Marula Heights Series



The Marula Heights Series:



Looking for great books for September?

I've joined forces with other authors to showcase some great books at SUPER PRICES for a limited time.



Romantic Comedies at your fingertips

AVAILABLE UNTIL 15 SEPTEMBER ONLY!!

CLICK [HERE](#) TO BUY YOUR ROMANCE BOOKS!

PREFER FREE BOOKS? 😊



CLICK [HERE](#) TO CHOOSE FREE ROMANCE BOOKS!

AVAILABLE UNTIL 14 SEPTEMBER ONLY!!

Q&A

Q: Where Can I Buy Your Books?

A: [Click here](#) for a list of retailers and booksellers.

Q: Where can I review your books?

A: If you have read and enjoyed my books, please do me a massive favour and post a short review on Amazon. [Here's a helpful link to](#) post your review of *Imperfect Arrangements* on Amazon! (For readers outside the USA, please use your country Amazon website)

WHAT I'M READING ...

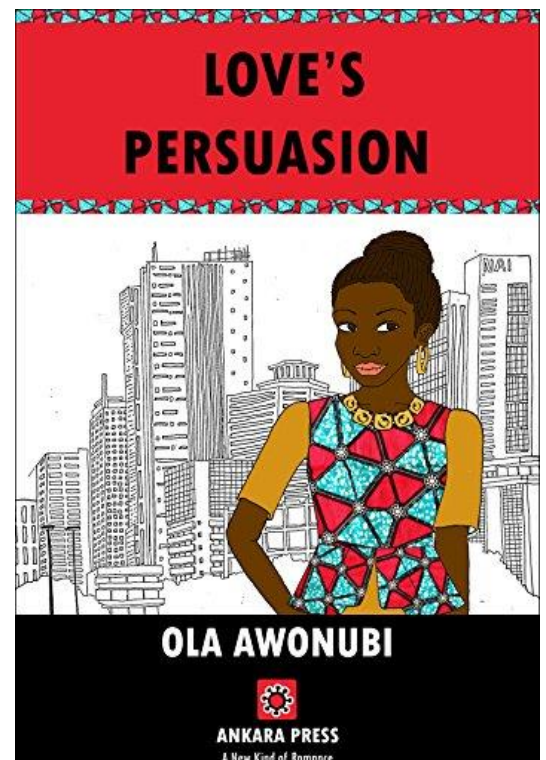
Love's Persuasion

By Ola Awonubi

Beautiful trainee accountant Ada Okafor is trying to ignore her feelings for Tony Okoli, the new Managing Director of her Lagos firm. But their love of books draws them closer together and soon they embark on a secret but passionate affair.

A host of obstacles including jealous colleagues and disapproving family litter their path as they fight to persuade themselves that love trumps social status.

Try this pocket-sized book (also in Kindle) by my friend and fellow writer Ola Awonubi for a short, sweet read. 😊



[Write in and share](#) *what's at the top of your reading list!*

BOOK REVIEWS of *River Wild*



“Wow! I really enjoyed this book. It really captures the intricate life of a determined career woman in the world and specifically in Ghana.

It captures so vividly the complexity of love, relationships, family, career, and culture.’

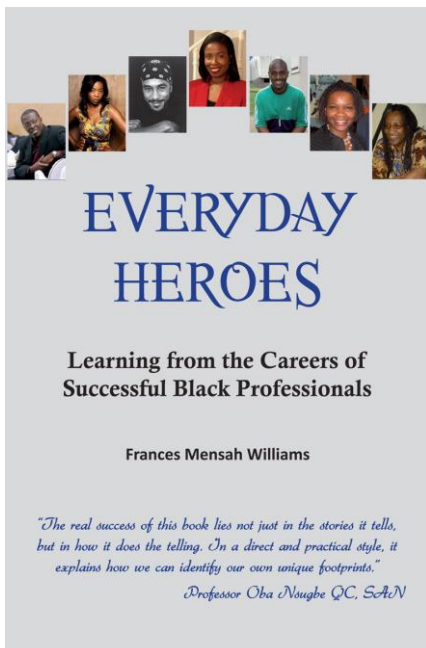


5 Star Review!

Available on Amazon now!

EVENTS

Keynote Address for a Youth Empowerment Programme – July 2021

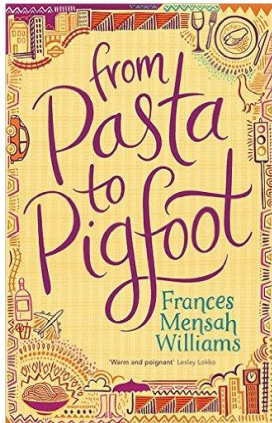


I was honoured to be invited to deliver the keynote speech for the inaugural session of an education and empowerment programme by a Canada-based Christian organisation. The online event in July focused on inspiring young people of African origin in the diaspora.

In my speech, I shared some of the lessons from the fabulous ‘everyday heroes’ I interviewed for my first book and explored how we can adopt some of their learning to aid our own critical thinking.

Thank you so much, CECEAIEP!

Have you read...?

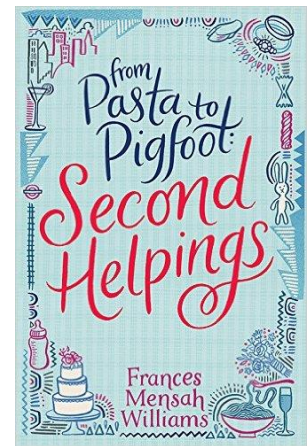


A novel set in London and Ghana following the mishaps of under-achieving PA, Faye Bonsu. On a mission to find love, a disastrous night out leaves pasta-fanatic Faye's romantic dreams in tatters and underscores her alienation from her African heritage. Leaving her cosy middle-class life in London's leafy Hampstead to find out what she's missing, Faye is whisked into the hectic social whirlpool of Ghana where she meets a host of characters. Transported into a world of food, fun and sun, and faced with choices she had never thought possible, Faye is forced to discover that no matter how far you travel, you can't find love until you find yourself.



'Brilliant characters...very true to life and you got a glimpse into Ghanaian life and its culture.'

Pasta fanatic Faye Bonsu seems to have it all; a drop-dead gorgeous and successful boyfriend, a burgeoning career as an interior designer and a rent-free mansion in leafy Hampstead to call home. But with all her friends shifting into yummy mummy mode, a man who seems to have no desire to put a ring on it, tricky clients, and an attractive and very single boss, things are not quite as straightforward as they might appear. Hoping to escape from her suddenly complicated life and revive her wilting romance, Faye returns to sunny Ghana for what she hopes will be the time of her life. But life doesn't always offer second chances and when disaster strikes, she is forced to confront the biggest question of her life and to make a choice that comes with consequences she will have to live with forever.



[Paperback and ebook versions available online](#)

[Get in touch](#) – *I'd love to hear from you!*

Frances

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Facebook: facebook.com/francesmensahwilliams

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[contact me](#)



A final thought...

"Literature is the most agreeable way of ignoring life."

— Fernando Pessoa