

TWENTY-FIVE

My voice, my thoughts, my beauty in twenty-five shades

feji khai

I am not for sale

Don't steal me

Don't reprint me without permission

Feji Khai does not have an unseen eye watching you

But she believes that you will comply.

I am 25, you will love me.

Copyright © 2017, FEJI KHAI

Some things to note.

You may or may not find errors in this work. I will treat myself to a special treat if none is found but should you find any, kindly let us know.

This book was born to inspire; to stir you towards becoming all that you can be.

We all need inspiration. This book is for you as it is for me.

This book has no table of contents, just go ahead and read.

UN (1)

TAKE FEAR ON THE RIDE WITH YOU!

I once heard something. It was a quote. I was reading through Facebook when I saw it on the wall of a special friend, Divine Basil Frank. I immediately wrote it down in my journal as it became equally engraved in my heart. “Do it afraid”!

In the course of time, as I wrote down fresh ideas and goals, these words became my companion, always whispering to me, nudging me to go ahead, to go for my dreams by all means, even if I walked the path with wobbling feet.

This quote is not in any way suggesting that we go about afraid. It is in no way condoning fear. Fear is toxic, it chops off our wings, so instead of soaring, we crawl. “Do it afraid” is simply said in the light of courage, in relation to rising to do that which we have been given to do, rising up courageously even in the face of oppositions.

BE COURAGEOUS! IT TAKES COURAGE TO TRAIL NEW PATHS.

What is that thing that you know you should be doing, that thing you have been desiring to do? What do you have a flair for but have not done because the voice of fear keeps holding you back, stealing from you the courage to soar? I urge you to soar. Fear is overrated and can only stop you if you let it.

Take fear on a ride with you. Do that which you must, with fear on the back seat. You are the driver, you call the shots.

“What if it doesn’t work”, someone is asking. What if it works?

Do it! Take steps! Do it boldly, or with fear, but do it either way.

FEJI KHAI.

DEUX (2)

YOU ARE A HOST OF COUNTLESS CREATIVITY.

There's a host of creativity in us all; this is a fact. However, situations and circumstances have made most people to live budded lives; like dry peas in a pod.

There are boundless ways to a concept or idea; a massive store of creativity abounds in you. How do you fully maximize the depth, the breadth of the peculiar greatness in your being?

It's simple. To begin, it is by deciding to be different from the usual and to be more than you are presently; to accept that your way or any other way you are familiar with is not the only way. This decision, opens in you a channel from which creativity begins to flow.

You should agree that there's more to you than meets the eye; there's an angel, a dragon, a lion, a leader in you.

Being creative is being alive. No two Days dawn alike, no two people look exactly alike, even the most identical of twins differ in their core. Since this is true, it is therefore true that you are unique. There's something in you that can't be found in any other; there's a flavor to you that can't be seen anywhere else.

Take off the concrete piles barricading the streams of your uniqueness, let the banks break. Unleash the dragon in you; it will slay the beasts of mediocrity with its fire. Unleash the lion in you, let us here your roars. **RELEASE, THE LEADER IN YOU, LET HUMANITY BLOOM.**

Be true to you, trust your instincts, be comfortable with being different, and be at home in your style.

FEJI KHAI.

TROIS (3)

WHATEVER YOU WANT TO BE YOU CAN BE!

Read this funny but deeply insightful conversation between a mother (Ireti Oladapo) and her daughters (Missy and Mimi Oladapo) aged five and three respectively.

Missy: I am the queen of Cartwheel (Katwe)

Mimi: I am the queen of Cartwheel

Mum: Good

Missy: Where is Cartwheel?

Mum: Katwe is a place in Uganda

Missy: Can I be the queen of Cartwheel?

Mum: You can be anything you want to be

Missy: I am the queen of this house

Mum: Good (Wondering where that then places me)

Missy: Can I be the queen of Lagos State?

Mum: You can be anything you decide in your heart to be

What a powerful message from a mother to her daughters! It is a message for all likewise.

You can be anything you want to be, anything, just anything. Whatever you say you can be, you can very well be.

OPPOSITIONS MAY ENCROACH, BUT A STRONG DETERMINATION IN THE HEART WILL LEVEL ANY MOUNTAIN OF OPPOSITIONS. Weigh all your options, explore, dream, and make up your mind for what you want. It is achievable when you are

QUATRE (4)

FEAR CAN BE POSITIVELY TOXIC.

Fear of failing can be a positive thing. It can propel one to succeed.

The fear of sicknesses can push anyone to value healthy living and do what he can to stay healthy.

My point is this: There is a positive DNA in every negative bloodstream, it's more like saying in every disappointment is a blessing. It's all about what you allow to constrain and define you.

I have decided that that which I fear, I will face squarely and I will see the path of greatness that lies there.

Legendary David faced the bear and the lion fearfully, but he did not have to face Goliath that way.

WHEN WE LEARN TO FACE OUR FEARS, WE EVENTUALLY BECOME SO STRONG, SO BRAVE, SO COURAGEOUS, SO THAT WHAT SHOULD SCARE OTHERS INVITE US TO VICTORY, AND THEN WE ARE TERMED HEROES.

Allow the hero in you to be born. Man, release that seed of hero in you; Woman, push out that baby of greatness in you. Give it life, nurture it and watch it grow.

Are you scared of singing that song, sing it anyway. Do you fear to walk the stage, contesting for your beauty, go in anyway. It buttresses the first quote in this book "Do it afraid!"

There is more to learn in failure than in never trying, and who says you will fail.

FEJI KHAI.

CINQ (5)

DO NOT SIT WISHING, START AND KNOW GREATNESS.

This one is as simple as it states, however, I will expatiate all the same.

So many think they can be great by simply wishing to be. If wishes were horses, beggars would sure ride. It is good to wish, but that has never been enough. You can't stare at a plate of food in front of you and just wish it will find its way into your mouth. You may wait for all eternity, yet it simply won't. This is exactly how weird it appears when you don't take any steps towards achieving that which you wish for.

UNTIL A WISH IS STRONG ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU ACT, IT DIES ALONE WITHOUT ACCOMPLISHING ANYTHING. LET YOUR WISH LIVE, AND REPRODUCE, START!

Greatness is available and that to every human being. No one is born greater than another, yet some are greater than some because they dared to allow their wishes to live and reproduce, they turned their wishes into wagons that amass wealth.

Until you start, greatness sleeps, but it awakens to you as you start.

Start! Write that book! Produce that song! Join that group! Write that exam!
Take that training!

Start!

FEJI KHAI.

SIX (6)

WHO ARE THE BIRDS OF YOUR KIND OF FEATHER?

I love cooking, but I never used to. I didn't like cooking as such until I met Uloma Okoro, my friend. So passionate is she about cooking, and without a conscious effort, I became so too. Now, I enjoy cooking, I enjoy having people eat my food. Who are the birds of your kind of feather?

The power to stand for your beliefs and values is most potent when your intimate folks share the same belief and values. It is not until when a person threatens to kill you that the person is termed harmful. Anyone that does not share the same values with you, who does not believe as you do, such a one need not be of your inner caucus because he can be harmful to you and posterity in the long run. YOUR CLOSE FOLKS ARE THOSE ONES THAT YOUR HEART HAS LATCHED ONTO. YOU CARE FOR THEM AND THEY CARE FOR YOU. Their words matter to you, their values too and because you are intimately knit together, it is easier for them to influence you. These people should therefore share same core belief and values with you.

Choose your persons wisely. Your spouse, your special friend, your business partners, your mentors. You become and think more like these people overtime. Pay attention to these ones. Should you notice any one who is not in your lane, decide to walk away, and the occasion will present itself. It may not be a pleasant experience, but it will lead to a pleasant existence for you.

FEJI KHAI.

SEPT (7)

BE MORE AFRAID OF CONTINUAL INERTIA THAN OF GRADUAL
GROWTH.

Do you fear?

Then have the right fear

For fear varies.

She sits still, never budging

Why? She's asked

"I fear to fall".

And because she fears to fall,

She is fallen already.

He marches on bravely,

Yet his every step mirrors fear.

He proceeds courageously,

Yet in his heart fear drums roll.

Slowly, tiredly, he approaches the enemy

Only to meet a surrendered foe.

He wins, though fearfully, he wins.

FEJI KHAI.

NEUF (9)

YOU MAY DOUBT ANYTHING ELSE BUT NEVER DOUBT THAT YOU ARE OF GREATNESS.

This thing called doubt is subtle. It's almost never seen, but it's there. Doubt is uncertainty, it is hesitation to believe. Doubt has no childlike innocence; it is flawed.

It is distrust.

The antonym of doubt is trust, and it is a virtue.

DOUBT IS TO A MAN WHAT PESTS ARE TO ANY PLANT. IT IS NEGATIVE, AND SHOULD NEVER BE ACCOMMODATED.

On a general note, to go about doubting everyone, never trusting and resting is burdensome. Living as if everyone is a potential evil is idle. However, all these are not as bad as when you doubt yourself, when you never expect good from you.

Yes, you may be at a place in your life where it seems as if your strengths are weakened by your weaknesses, yet don't look down on you, don't doubt you.

Don't disbelieve you. If you do, others will follow suit even when they have no reason to, for people see you through your eyes and respect you to the degree to which you respect yourself.

Arise! Call to remembrance all the great things that you represent, great words that have been spoken to you, and never doubt them. If nothing has been said of you, open your mouth and speak to yourself by yourself.

Never doubt that you are great, or that you can be the next whatever it is that you want to be. Why should it not be you?

FEJI KHAI.

DIX (10)

MIND YOU DECISIONS, THEY DETERMINE YOUR LIFE EXPERIENCES.

I have heard phrases like “Oh, never again will I allow anyone talk to me like that”. That’s a decision.

Your decisions are a part of who you are. They make or mar you.

We make decisions daily, consciously and unconsciously. We stand for different beliefs and ideologies daily. However, sometimes we make the decision of not deciding, staying in the middle of two different views is a decision.

EVERY TIME, WE DECORATE OR DESTROY OUR DESTINIES BY THE DECISIONS WE MAKE.

Yes, every time! Undoubtedly, this is so true because our decisions determine our actions and our actions form the fabric with which our lives are designed. Our lives consist of the things we do or do not do.

How do we come to a place of decision? It is by coming to a place of decision. We decide simply by deciding. Times of decision happen on us when we decide for or against something because of one reason or the other.

Decide for success. Decide for excellence. Decide for virtue. Quit just living by whatever comes, decide for what you want or don’t want. Genuine decisions always go hand in hand with actions.

Decide and act now!

FEJI KHAI.

ONZE (11)

TATTOOS ARE NOT BRUISES, FAILURE IS NOT PERMANENT!

I love tattoos; I may eventually get one someday. Well, this is by the way.

Bruises are marks on our skins too, though not as skin deep and permanent like tattoos. A tattoo once gotten cannot be removed, bruises however come and go. Failure is like a bruise, not a tattoo. How true. Bruises fade away after a while, so does failure. Believe this and you will see failure in another light.

Toddlers as they grow and navigate through their day encounter bruises, yet they continue learning to crawl, stand and walk. They stumble, they bruise, they continue. Failure should not be an obstacle. Some people have allowed failure hold them back for too long.

You can imagine a home maker who refuses to ever cook again because the first time she did, or once upon a time, she made a mess of a meal, got it burnt beyond remedy. Sad as that day may have been, it is still not a valid reason to stay out of cooking forever. However, this is how some people live. They allow all their failures to become obstacles, they quit because of setbacks and failures, never trying again. They see failure and tattoos as synonyms.

DO NOT BE SCARED OF FAILING; BE SCARED OF NEVER ATTEMPTING INSTEAD. FAILURE DOES NOT KILL, IT STRENGTHENS, IT PROPELS, AND IT IS A TUTOR.

Failure is not a scar and it is not a must. If you fail, you will heal, then you will flourish.

FEJI KHAI.

DOUZE (12)

I BELIEVE IN FAIRY TALES.

My friend Firi Kamson believed in the fairy tale for her marriage and she got it. I used to listen to her talk about the kind of man and marriage she wanted. Now, she has it. I can't begin to give you details here, but she does have it. From the romantic way she met her husband, then admirer and boss, to the delightful and jaw dropping way he proposed to her, to the royal and loving way he courted her, to the blessed way he married her and now to the happy way he lives with her.

She also used to talk about wanting to travel the world with her family. Oh, how she is right in the middle of that as I write.

Well, there are others like that, 'fairy talers' and if you are one, thumbs up to you. If you are not yet a 'fairy taler', you can be one. You can be in any area of your life, concerning anything. You can believe for anything and you will have it. There is no such thing as not building castles in the air, you should, those castles are achievable. Someone else has. You can too.

Believing in fairy tales is another way of saying "Dreams do come through". This is not to say that there wont be challenges on the path to living your fairy tale; however, **YOUR BELIEVE IN THE POSSIBILITY OF WHAT YOU DESIRE MAKES CHALLENGES BECOME A WALK IN THE PARK.** I do believe in fairy tales. I believe my dreams are all going to come through. What do you believe?

FEJI KHAI.

TREIZE (13)

FIRST AN AMATEUR, NOW AN EXPERT, THAT'S THE WAY THE STORY GOES.

It's so easy to look at someone when they have attained success and never imagine that they were once beginners; unskilled and plain. Yet it's so true that not one single skilled soul began so, they put in some period of dedicated work. The duration may vary from person to person; still, the truth is that they were dedicated to their pursuit.

The only reason an amateur remains an amateur is when he refuses to start out as an amateur; when he refuses to bend his back and work.

For you who have started out on the journey of success, I commend you. I celebrate the star that is emerging. The world will certainly be better because of you.

DO NOT DESPAIR WHEN TRYING TIMES COME, REMEMBER THAT TOUGH PEOPLE ARE TOUGHER THAN TOUGH TIMES, AND THEY SHORTEN TOUGH TIMES.

Soon, the amateur will become a professional. So, buckle up, enjoy the ride, bumpy or not, your destination is sure.

You know why I am so sure? Well, I am as sure as you are sure.

FEJI KHAI.

DIX-SEPT (17)

THE FEARFUL MUST **LEARN** TO SURMOUNT HIS FEARS.

Fear, like thoughts happen on us sometimes, when we least expect them. They fly round our minds looking for a place to nest. Some minds have afforded them ample space, some have learnt the art of wading off every one of them.

Fear is defined by someone as “false evidence appearing real.” I find this definition very correct. What people fear are always in the present and future, never in the past. The reason for their future fear may have happened in the past, but it attaches itself to their now and tomorrow causing them to live in fear.

A man is afraid his boss is going to lay him off, because of a mistake that he made; well, the boss hasn't yet laid him off, that may happen in the future, yet he is already submerged in fear. Peradventure, he never is laid off, however he has already murdered the life and fun in the days he spent being afraid.

THERE WILL ALWAYS BE A REASON TO FEAR BUT HAPPY IS THE ONE WHO HAS LEARNT TO MASTER FEAR, TO TAME IT AND RULE OVER IT.

What are you afraid of? Fear would not prevent it from happening, so it's pointless to stay afraid.

Do not fear. Have faith instead. Live believing that, all things will always work for good for you eventually.

FEJI KHAI.

SHINE YOUR LIGHT, LET YOUR BRILLIANCE BE SEEN AND FELT.

In the bid to appear humble so many have passed by opportunities to let the greatness in them show. So that they won't appear too forward, they keep their mouths closed when they should have proffered a solution and shun their light; instead, they allow the stench of false humility to fill the air.

False humility is not found among the mighty, never fall prey to that, you are among the mighty.

Let your light shine; you have light in you, light that can light up the whole world. There is light in the things that you do, in your beliefs, in your talents and in your experiences. **SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES; CREATE OPPORTUNITIES WHERE THERE ARE NONE.**

It is not enough to believe that you are unique; you must bring out that uniqueness so that humanity can be powered by the current of your uniqueness.

Talk about yourself, sell yourself, and embrace calls to serve. These are some ways you can let the sweetness of you out for people to

DIX-NEUF (19)

FORGET FRAIL FLAWS, FORGET NOT FRAIL FAVORS.

That small, frail favor may be his or her greatest gift, his or her widow's mite.

That small frail flaw can be overlooked; you should remember the good times.

TAKE AND APPRECIATE SMALL ACTS OF KINDNESS FROM A SINCERE HEART THAN SCRAMBLE FOR FAVORS FROM PALACES THAT NEVER GIFT PEOPLE FREELY.

That little fault; leave it. Do you forget that you have yours? Will you feel great if for one mistake you make, you many efforts of kindness are trashed?

Be guided by this; be generous with your love; with your good wills. Tune down on your temper; lock it up, trash it.

FEJI KHAI.

VINGT-ET-UN (21)

THE TIME IS RIGHT WHEN YOU SAY IT IS. SAY NOW, START NOW!

Don't wait anymore. Get spontaneous, get at it, start!

Ask anyone who has started out on any path, find out if they felt the time they started was the right time, the perfect time. I bet you would have them all say the same thing, which is that it wasn't.

Just start please!

Yes, with the little you have. The good thing about this is that when you start, you have risen above the fear that keeps people bound, you would have silenced the voice of fear that promises tomorrow is a better time to start, promises without guarantees. When you start, you see clearer. You realize it wasn't so much of a big deal.

When I started out writing on social media, I didn't think it was the best time. there were certain things I wanted to sort out and I was on that, but the more I tried, the more it seemed as if I had more to sort out. This is mostly the case for so many. Therefore, there will never be a time when everything will be just right to start, no, you just should jump in.

I jumped in, and here I am; and this is just the beginning. If I hadn't jumped in when I did, maybe I would still be nursing and warming up my cold feet, waiting for a perfect time,

THE TIME IS PERFECT WHEN YOU SAY IT IS. The time you begin is the best time to begin so why wait till tomorrow when you can today.

Jump in, now! Just start, now!

Now!

FEJI KHAI.

VINGT-TROIS (23)

COMPETE OR COMPARE WITH NO ONE BUT YOU.

The only safe comparison to do is to compare you with yourself, never with others. It's tempting to want to measure your success in the light of another's success, but it's evil and as with every evil temptation, it's demeaning, it's exhausting, it's draining!

You are always only sure of you and your efforts, beliefs and drive. You will never be able to completely tell what others sacrifice or embrace to reach the top of their ladder. You can observe, but never compare and compete.

OBSERVE THE PEOPLE YOU ADMIRE, LEARN FROM THEM BUT NEVER BE CAUGHT IN THE WEB OF WANTING TO BE LIKE THEM; OF COMPARISON. Likewise, observe the ones you don't want to be like; but never compare too; never see yourself better than them; because that, you never know since you don't know everything about how they got to become what they are; their weaknesses, their struggles, you can't then say you are better than them.

The safe place, the sane place is staying with you; going and moving at your pace and in your space.

Dream, stretch, learn, but never with the intention to outshine another, or be like another, rather with the intention to be a better you, to do more than you did yesterday, to live better, richer and greater than the person in your past.

FEJI KHAI.

VINGT-QUATRE (24)

MAKE USE OF YOUR SHIT, GROW SOME CROPS.

I don't like it when bad things happen. I have never liked it and I never will. However, does that mean that bad things won't happen? Definitely not!

'Bad' is relative. What is bad for one may just be best for another; yet we all know how bad feels though. Bad is the opposite of good. It's bad when I expect rising sales in my venture but record no sale, and even record loses; this a shade of bad.

Hey, bad can become good depending on how bad is handled. Bad can very well be the push that is needed for the best that is ahead. Bad is like dung, shit but on the flip side, it can be used for planting.

Shit, we all know smells, but it causes plants to smile; it causes the planter to smile too. **WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN, IT CAN ALSO CAUSE YOU TO SMILE. YOU CAN FROM THE BAD BORE A HOLE TO THE PLANET OF GOOD, AND TO THE PLACE CALLED BEST.**

Have this knowing now, "My shits are beneficiary, they grow my crops." By this. when shit comes, you would not be disturbed because you are the one that knows what it is exactly; so, you smile, you don't sulk because you know good has landed. Soon you will have a plantation, soon all bad experiences will have birthed good, good and good.

FEJI KHAI.

VINGT-CINQ (25)

YOU ROCK!

You rock! There is no second-guessing this. There is one thing you are good at; there is that thing that you do easily but enthusiastically, for that you rock!

You rock! You have not done all you can do about that situation, yet you rock. You rock because in you still lies the solution for the situation. You have a life that is blessed, full and divine. For this, you rock.

You rock! You have made mistakes that you dare not share with any mortal. You have spent precious time doing what you should not. You have lived in ways that defy your core values; yet you rock.

You rock because you are here and you can change. You rock because your circumstances do not define you, neither does your character. **WHAT DEFINES YOU IS THE GOOD YOU WERE BORN WITH AND HOW YOU ACCEPT IT AND BELIEVE IT.**

FEJI KHAI.

ABOUT FEJI KHAI



Feji khai, short for Bethel Fejiro Oshokhai is one woman who loves to be a woman. She loves to look beautiful, in the simplest of ways. She loves to write. She loves photography, and loves to craft. God knows her, they are intimates.

She is married to David Victor Oshokhai, who is her friend. Their sons and daughter will soon be here.

Port Harcourt, Nigeria is where they live at the moment.

ABOUT YOU.

You are awesome. I love this word; I could not help using it.

You are awesome, not for reading this book, but because you simply are awesome by design.

For reading this book, thumbs up. You rock!

BECAUSE YOU WILL ARISE AND BE MORE, HURRAY!

LET'S MEET.

Mail: fejikhai@gmail.com

Twitter: @FejiKhai

Instalgram: fejikhai