

### **PREFACE**

Reading is indeed, fundamental, and Writing to me is an art. Writing has been something I have enjoyed since I was able to pick up a pencil and spell words. In a sense, writing and reading are interconnected, and research supports the fact that the more a person reads, the better the person writes. This principle applied to me, for the more I read, the more I wrote, until I developed my own unique writing style.

I began writing children's literature and inspoetations during the 1990s when I was in college at the University of Alabama. An insportation, a new, authentic term I coined in the late 1990s, which is exclusive to my writing style, is purposefully defined as -amotivational and inspirational dynamic, rhythmic, rhyming poetry selection that conveys a definitive meaning to the reader, typically associated with reading and learning, education and entrepreneurship, and positive growth and development. It was not until after I had fulfilled my goal of acquiring my doctoral degree in Educational Leadership from Clark Atlanta University that I chose to complete and publish my works. This inspoetation compilation is designed to reach at the core of everyday messages that mom, grandmom, and even auntie, choose to relay to their little girl – the little girl who will one day become a woman. I could not relate until I had a daughter, and I admit...I am eternally thankful for her Mom(kudos), Grandmoms, Aunties, teachers, and all positive surrogate female role models.

Enjoy reading this *Inspoetation* compilation which contains messages that resonate with positive female development – from being respectful and having good manners to educating and empowering yourself so that you become the woman you were raised to be. And the bonus *inspoetation*, "Phenomenal Response", is certain to be a favorite and a classic.

## **TABLE OF INSPOETATIONS**

TEACHING MY DAUGHTER

**GRANDMA TO GRANDDAUGHTER** 

MADE ESPECIALLY

THE PERFECT ARTIST

LOVELY LADY

MY LOVING MOM

(bonus inspoetation)
PHENOMENAL RESPONSE

A WOMAN'S BEAUTY

I AM A LADY

CHARACTER AND CLASS

THE CHOSEN ROAD

I AM A SPECIAL WOMAN

**GROWING INTO A WOMAN** 

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A WOMAN

LITTLE GIRL, LITTLE GIRL

I WANT TO KNOW

TIME TO CHOOSE A CAREER

SUCCESS IN THIS WORLD

**TEACHER TO STUDENT** 

THE EXTRAORDINARY STUDENT

THIS YEAR'S ELECTION

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Dr. Cleophas Jones

## **TEACHING MY DAUGHTER**

I can teach you how to speak, But for you I can't talk. I can teach you how to stand, But for you I can't walk.

I can teach you how to read, But for you I can't learn. I can teach you to go straight, But for you I can't turn.

I can teach you how to look, But for you I can't see. I can teach you to be you, But for you I can't be.

I can teach you how to grow, And become all you can. But after that, it's up to you, To become a woman.

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