

A Fiction Book That Exposes Alarming Skin Bleaching Trends in the African-American Community

Atlanta Author Wins Top Book Award



Atlanta, Nov 20, 2018 (Issuewire.com) - On November 13, 2018, The American Book Fest announced the winners and finalists of the 15th Annual Best Book Awards. The title— *The Caged Butterfly* by Atlanta author, [Marian L. Thomas](http://www.Issuewire.com), received top honors as a Fiction Winner in the [African-American](#) category.

In a recent press release published on the Best Book Awards website, Jeffrey Keen, President, and CEO of American Book Fest said this year's contest yielded over 2,000 entries from mainstream and independent publishers, which were then narrowed down to over 400 winners and finalists.

Mainstream winners and finalists included authors from publishing houses such as Penguin/Random House, Simon and Schuster, Berkley, Hay House, and many others.

"I can't tell you how excited I was to get the email indicating that *The Caged Butterfly* had won. It was a great feeling. A great milestone that I was thankful to have reached," said Marian.

The Caged Butterfly, is a fictional story that follows three characters as they navigate life's often rocky terrain in search of hope, courage, and forgiveness. One of the main characters, Nina Taylor — is convinced that having white skin is the only way to make it successfully in the entertainment industry and thus dives deep into the dangerous world of skin bleaching.

The topic of skin bleaching sparked heated debates on social media platforms like Instagram when Jamaican rapper and Love & Hip-Hop star Spice, real name Grace Hamilton, posted a picture of herself sporting blond hair, grey eyes, and white skin. [TMZ](#) reported that a rep for the rapper stated "that there's a track on the mixtape called "Black Hypocrisy" -- thus the look."

Ms. Thomas wrote [The Caged Butterfly](#) just over a year ago with hopes of bringing exposure to the alarming skin bleaching trends in the Black community. "At the heart of Nina's story, lies a very dangerous obsession that has become an authentic reality for some women in the Black community today," Thomas stated.

The Caged Butterfly made its release debut on October 23, 2018, topping number eight on Amazon's Hot New Releases chart.

For further details, visit <https://www.marianlthomas.com/>

About Marian L. Thomas:

Award-Winning Author and Speaker, Marian L. Thomas, has penned six contemporary fiction novels to date. Her books continue to be featured in print magazines, newspapers and Marian has appeared on many local, national and online radio stations. For her book, *I Believe In Butterflies*, Marian ranked among the top 100 Most Popular Authors in Literary Fiction on Amazon. She spent most of her teen years in Oak Park, Illinois, but now resides in a suburb of Atlanta with her husband.

Media Contact

Leann Sellers

leann@blackdiamondfirm.com

903-952-7075

Atlanta, GA

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