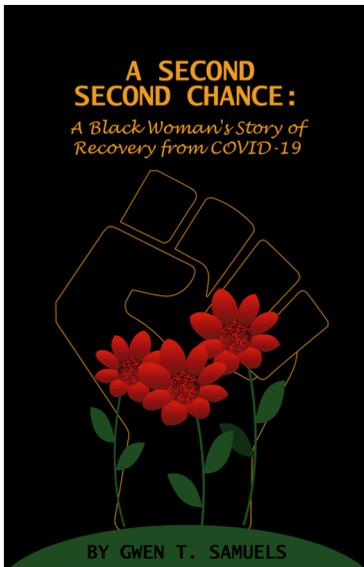


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Publication Date: October 1, 2020

Title: ***A Second Second Chance:
A Black Woman's Story of
Recovery from COVID-19***
By Gwen T. Samuels



Award-winning Poet and Visual Artist releases her debut title chronicling her experience contracting COVID-19, her near death experience, and her perspectives on prevention and healing, all especially relevant to Black and Brown people today who are dying disproportionately from the disease.

Read what reviewers have to say about this timely work:

A Second Second Chance recounts, with wisdom and astute insight, one Black woman's battle against COVID-19, the novel coronavirus. Expect this fierce and fiery treatise, to ignite you to do some essential work toward personal healthcare...Gwen delivers an unapologetically blunt narrative of the conditions and systems that render Black Americans vulnerable to disproportionate fatalities from COVID-19. With provocative candor, Gwen chronicles her health journey across landscapes of environmental injustice in the Black community...As an outstanding educator, poet, and artist, Gwen stitches a story that pits optimism against skepticism and undaunted resilience against the nadirs of despair. Her revelations offer a north star through the wilderness of misinformation and hopelessness. Gwen's memoir celebrates the overcoming spirit with compelling lucidity.

-Carolyn Joy Matthews, MFA, Educator, Artist, Cave Canem Poetry Fellow; Memphis, TN

...Gwen has eloquently described the systemic problems that have affected Black people especially, but also people of color, and people in general. Her narrative in the first person highlights the non-fiction, real life experience of her book. This is a must read for people of any hue facing any health crisis. She provides concrete solutions to many of the pressing health issues society faces today. It is a marvelous book.

-Charlotte Smith, MSN, Registered Nurse, Activist; Albuquerque, NM

*An award-winning quilter, poet, teacher, and translator (who COVID-19 attacked and muted) returns from the cusp of destruction to weave a diagnosis and prescription that will strengthen our spirits and bodies. Gwen's witnessing is especially crucial in an era when pseudoscience and incompetent political leadership render us vulnerable to hatred, cruelty, illness, and death...Above all, *A Second Second Chance* convinces of the healing powers of love, persistence, and prayer—too often downplayed, even ignored, when the whole suffering world is desperately groping for physical and emotional sanctuaries.*

-Dr. Charles H. Lynch, Professor of English, Memoirist, Cave Canem Poetry Fellow; Brooklyn, NY

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