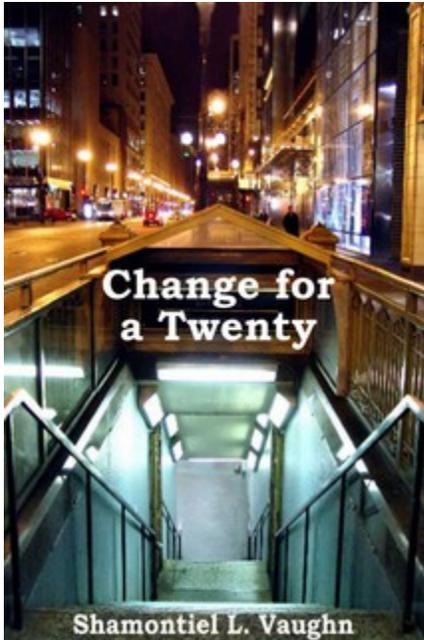
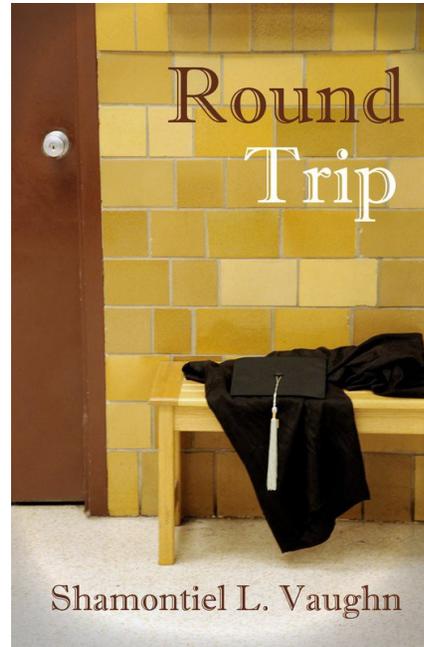


PRESS KIT 2013



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AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT



Shamontiel L. Vaughn is a two-time novelist and a freelance journalist. She graduated Cum Laude from Lincoln University (MO) with a Bachelor of Arts in English/Creative Writing after attending Northern Michigan University. She also took certificate classes at University of Chicago and attended grad school at DePaul University. She studied communications, criminal justice and Spanish. Shamontiel has over 800 articles, 4 poems, 4 short stories and 2 novels published in various magazine, newspaper and book locations, such as the *Chicago Tribune*, *Chicago Defender*, *Citizens in America* magazine, *Fate* magazine, *Spoken Visions* magazine and *Underlined* magazine. Previously she has worked as a Digital News Editor for *Chicago Tribune* and *Chicago Defender* newspapers. She was a regular freelance reporter, tech writer and reviewer for online publications, such as Associated Content (later renamed Yahoo Contributor Network), Examiner, The Frisky, AT&T and Ehow. Shamontiel started writing fiction at 11 in elementary school for the *Fort Dearborn Gazette* with encouragement from her computer teacher, Mr. Quirk. Her mystery stories were called "Mr. Slick" and she hasn't stopped writing since.

Shamontiel was also a volunteer for an HIV/AIDS free testing facility called BEHIV located in Chicago, completing news coverage and helping out at arts auctions. She has spoken on the radio and at Lincoln University to several classes about the importance of safe sex, condom usage and HIV/AIDS testing facilities.

PRESS RELEASE

According to CDC, approximately 87 percent of all newly diagnosed HIV-positive patients are African-American women through heterosexual sex, and in 2010, black women accounted for 29 percent of new HIV infections among all adult and adolescent blacks. In Shamontiel L. Vaughn's novel "*Round Trip*," she takes on the subject of AIDS from a college student's perspective.

BOOK DESCRIPTION OF "*Round Trip*"—Four years of relationships, pledging, classes, finals, partying, and friendship is what three of "*Change for a Twenty's*" characters reminisce on while planning their college graduation. This is Memo's, Arnez's, and Jermaine's time to collect caps and gowns, pursue their careers, and celebrate their success. However, Memo is trying to deal with the issues of his corrupt cop father being released from prison and pursuing a relationship with Seleste. Jermaine has decided to propose to Cara, but she can't seem to decide between him and Arnez. Arnez is still flirting and floating away, but now he has to deal with rumors on campus that could ruin his swagger. With a potential wedding in Atlanta, a graduation in Chicago, and some unfinished business in the boroughs of New York, their journeys are nonstop.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Shamontiel L. Vaughn is the author of novels "*Change for a Twenty*" and "*Round Trip*," and the Digital News Editor for the *Chicago Tribune*. A graduate from Lincoln University (MO) with a Bachelor of Arts in English, she has over 800 articles, 4 poems, 4 short stories and 2 novels published in various magazine, newspaper and book locations.

Ms. Vaughn is also the author of the novel "*Change for a Twenty*." "*Round Trip*" continues where "*Change for a Twenty*" leaves off, with five college students learning to grow up and face the trials of reaching adulthood. "*Change for a Twenty*" and "*Round Trip*" can be purchased on iTunes, Barnes & Noble, Lulu and other online locations.

ABOUT THE BOOKS (1 of 2)



Four years of relationships, pledging, classes, finals, partying and friendship is what three of "Change for a Twenty's" characters reminisce on while planning their college graduation. This is Memo's, Arnez's and Jermaine's time to collect caps and gowns, pursue their careers and celebrate their success. However, Memo is trying to deal with the issues of his corrupt cop father being released from prison while trying to pursue a relationship with Seleste. Jermaine has decided to propose to Cara, but she can't seem to decide between him and Arnez. Arnez is still flirting and floating away, but now he has to deal with rumors on campus that could ruin his swagger. With a potential wedding in Atlanta, a graduation in Chicago, and some unfinished business in the boroughs of New York, their journeys are nonstop.

Book title: Round Trip

Publisher: Shamontiel

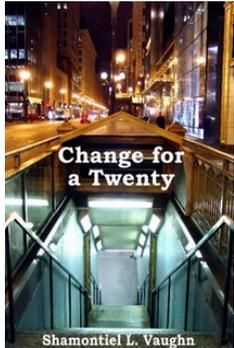
ISBN number: 978-0-6151-5615-6

Page count: 197 pages

Publication date: July 18, 2007

Price: \$14.95 (paperback), \$22 (hardcover), \$5 e-book (lulu.com/shamontiel)

ABOUT THE BOOKS (2 of 2)



Growing up is hard enough, but when five friends argue, cry, laugh, pledge, fight, and hang together on an HBCU campus, a bond is formed. Seleste is a college junior studying criminal justice, denying her feelings for Memo, and facing the pressure of being a virgin when temptation surrounds her. Her best friend, Cara, is a college junior who lives in the dorms and has a friend with benefits, Arnez, who is more concerned with pledging with Jermaine than Arnez is with Cara. Jermaine is caught between the two. Arnez's friend, Memo, is a troubled senior from New York who came to Chicago to escape his father's past as a crooked cop. "*Change for a Twenty*" is a fiction novel set in Chicago about five college friends, two nemeses and the path to adulthood.

Book title: Change for a Twenty

Publisher: Shamontiel

ISBN number: 978-1-4116-9492-7

Page count: 267 pages

Publication date: March 17, 2006

Price: \$16.95 (paperback), \$23 (hardcover), \$5 e-books (lulu.com/shamontiel)

BOOK REVIEWS

"The characters in '*Round Trip*' will have you laughing, crying, stomping and reminiscing about your college days on or off campus. This book was well-written with good details and vivid descriptions that made the people just jump off the pages into your living room. Shamontiel L. Vaughn knocked my socks off with this fast-paced, well-told story of college friends coming together to mend the broken pieces of a friendship. This book had a great story line, no cliffhangers; the ending was wrapped up very nicely; and the shock factor played a big part in helping me to finish this book in less than four hours. My fingers could not turn the pages fast enough in anticipation of what was going to happen next. I recommend this book to all contemporary fiction readers, and people who crave drama. I look forward to reading Ms. Vaughn's next book." — Cheryl H. (APOOO Book Club)

"A strong coming of age story surrounding six friends at a black college. [*Change for a Twenty*'] captures the feel and the emotions of college students perfectly and has no problem weaving the multiple stories and effectively capturing the dialogue. I couldn't put it down, and I have already recommended it to three other people." — Andre Coleman (Author of "Blackbirds, Volume I")

"As the readers progress through [*Round Trip*'], they are challenged to reflect on the AIDS epidemic (prevention, transmission, life after acquiring the disease). I think this book is definitely a worthwhile reading experience, and I totally recommend it!" — Jolanta Pomiotlo (Barnes & Noble review)

TARGET MARKET

"Change for a Twenty" and *"Round Trip"* cater to the college generation (primarily Generation X and Y) who are current students and alumni from historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). However, alumni of nonHBCUs easily relate to the college scene. Readers who are interested in books about relationships, commitment, brotherhood, HIV/AIDS prevention, the Greek hazing controversy, abstinence and the complexity of police corruption may also find the books intriguing.



CONTACT SHAMONTIEL

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YouTube: **<http://www.youtube.com/ShamontielLVaughn>**