



SAME FIRE

A journey of unfiltered grace

K E M I O L U M U Y I W A

© **Kemi Olumuyiwa 2026**

**This book is the private property of Kemi Olumuyiwa.
All quotes, articles and pictures copied or sent are
hereby acknowledged.**

All rights reserved.

**ISBN: 978-978-68-7876-8
NEW DAWN, SAME FIRE:
A Journey of Unfiltered Grace**



**Idea Consultants +
Legacy Publishers**

+234 0803 721 9064 // +234 08087862896



UNENDING GRATITUDE

To the Almighty

First and foremost, this book is dedicated to the All-Knowing and All-Wise God. Lord, You have freely and lovingly granted me these last 60 years to witness Your wonders. Your faithfulness is legendary, and I am eternally grateful to be a partaker of your unfiltered grace.

To My Parents

Good parents are gifts from God. To my parents, represented by my mum, I say a resounding thank you. To my late dad, for showing me what is possible and my mum for sustaining possibilities in the midst of challenges. Role model, cheerleader, supporter, many words describe the woman I call Mother. I'm glad your womb bore me. Thank you for being there, always.

To My Adoptive Children & Family

My profound thanks go to our adoptive children: Lolade, Bidemi, Tolu, Taiwo, Kehinde, Bolu and Tomi, thank you for allowing us to be a part of your journey. To the parents who trusted us and saw us as family long before our own journey to parenthood fully unfolded, your belief helped enlarge our capacity to love. You are all true sources of joy.

To Our Miracles, David and Eniabisola

Our biological son and daughter, you are both living proofs that God's Word is real. You are testimonies that miracles have no expiration date. David, true to your name, you've turned out a giant-killer. Eniabisola my beautiful daughter, you're indeed a child of honour born into God's definition of wealth. Thank you for bringing incomparable light into our lives.

To Our Mentors and Spiritual Covering

I am deeply indebted to our father and mother in the Lord, **Daddy and Mummy Adeboye**, for their consistent love. To **Dr. and Dr. (Mrs.) Okey Onuzo**, thank you for your vital guidance at the very start of our journey.

To our Head Pastors, Pastors Kayode and Femi Pitan

thank you for your subtle way of sharing the word to meet our essence. Thank you for freshness of spirit. You are a blessing to us.

To the "Cameron Boys"

Hmm! What can I say? I never tire of hearing your success stories. Seeing the ten of you all thrive brings me immense pride. Keep soaring.

To the Visionaries

To **Emmanuel Effiong-Bright** and **'Dare Tanimomo** who helped breathe fire into this legacy book project: keep the fire of your dreams burning. You were clearly born to impact generations.

To our Community and Partners

To our friends, colleagues and partners at Mutejero Ventures and First Tricon Limited, you are all firmly within my radar of gratitude. First Tricon Limited, allowing me use my wealth of experience in my capacity as your Executive Vice Chairman, to support business, is an experience I cherish.



To My Husband, My Faith in Action

Finally, to my honey: I am so blessed to have you by my side. I love you more with every passing day. If I could give you one gift, it would be the ability to see yourself through my eyes for only then would you truly understand how rare and special you are. Loving you isn't just a choice; it's the only option for my heart. You are a rare gem.



THE BACKSTORY

"I believe in strong women. You face the world with a head held high and you carry the universe in your heart." This sentiment by C. JoyBell perfectly mirrors the essence of the woman we celebrate in these pages. While all women possess a natural grace and an evolutionary gift for nurturing community, 'Kemi belongs to a rare echelon of women who consistently redefine the boundaries of the possible.

She is a multifaceted force: wife, mother, corporate leader, and minister. As the sixth of seven children, she has spent her life defying the odds and setting benchmarks that belong in a hall of fame. Kemi does not seek the spotlight; instead, her purposeful life acts as a beacon, drawing opportunities and people toward her effortlessly. My own life, fortune, and spiritual walk have flourished since meeting her. It is a testament to what happens when a woman creates a space where faith and partnership can truly thrive.

-Remi Olumuyiwa



INTRODUCTION

New Dawn, Same Fire: A journey of unfiltered grace is a synthesis of 60 years of events, experiences, lessons and responses that have shaped the life of a woman dipped in grace. It is curated to celebrate the journey, milestones and landmarks that are testimony to how God can co-partner with an individual to paint something beautiful out of their life. Inside, is packed powerful stories and "life nuggets" designed to transform every area of your world; from the boardroom to the altar, and from your spiritual walk to your personal bank account. Whether you are single, married, young, or simply "in-between," these lessons are practical, battle-tested, and ready to be applied. I invite you to visit its pages. Yes, we are all beautifully imperfect, but this is a story of how those imperfections are woven into a tapestry of triumph, grace, and undeniable success. This book is a loud, joyful call to **never settle for less**. It's time to step out and become more.

-Kemi Olumuyiwa

**“Be I formed you in the womb I knew you;
before you were born I sanctified you; and I
ordained you a prophet to the nations.
•Jeremiah 1: 5 (NKJV) ”**

Grabbing my marital boarding pass

My story begins. Like one preparing for an important flight. For me, it was dream versus the reality. Like they say on social media, I wanted what I ordered to be the exact thing I got. I had a spec when it came to choosing a husband. There I was in my thirties, successful, and still waiting for "The One" I could board with. Like I said, I had a very specific image of the man who would finally sweep me off my feet. In my mind, he was the ultimate package: an American, tall, dark, handsome, and a self-made professional who was as secure in his bank account as he was in his soul. He had to be a "posh" Christian, someone with a limitless capacity to love. Was that asking too much? I didn't think so. But as the days turned into months and the months into years, my dream man was nowhere to be found. I had plenty of suitors, but none of them fit the "American-Standard" specification I had etched into my heart.

Enter The Unexpected passenger

one conversation changed everything. My friend (let's call her Engineer) told me she had found someone. But as she started describing him, I actually thought she had lost her mind!

"How on earth could you even suggest him?" I snapped. "I haven't even met him and I already know I don't like him!"

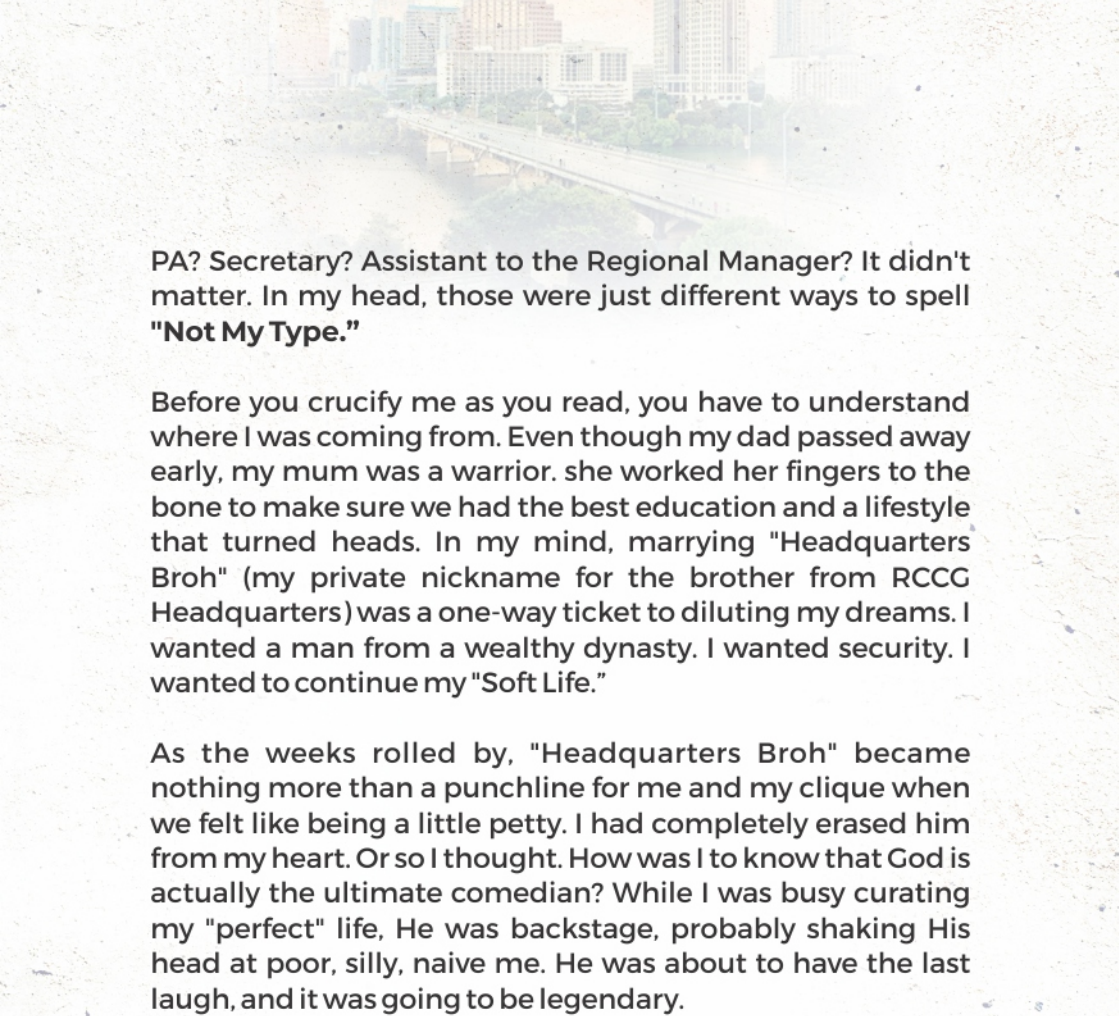
My logic was simple, I wanted someone that loves and fears God, yes, but he also had to be wealthy, trendy, and frankly good-looking which is normal with every girl. I wasn't ready to compromise on the package. Engineer had met this mystery man during a programme at the RCCG Headquarters in Ebute-Metta, and she was convinced. I, on the other hand, was convinced she was wrong. Little did I know, God was about to take my specification list and show me that sometimes, the person you think you don't want is exactly the person you need.

“He's a really devoted Christian and he's Mummy GO's Sunday School Teacher”

"Stop right there!" I cut her off before she could even finish. I was not having it.

Let's be real. I was a 'Big Girl' by every definition of the word. I was killing it in the oil industry, cruising around in my own car, and my bank account was looking very healthy, thank you very much. It wasn't like my front porch was empty either, suitors were practically taking numbers.

I looked my friend dead in the eye, "If you're going to play matchmaker, at least stick to the script. I gave you my specifications. Why on earth are you marketing a 'nice Sunday School teacher' from Redeem Christian Church of God (RCCG) Headquarters? He's even fortunate to be in the aviation industry. And wait, did you say he's a Personal Assistant?"



PA? Secretary? Assistant to the Regional Manager? It didn't matter. In my head, those were just different ways to spell **"Not My Type."**

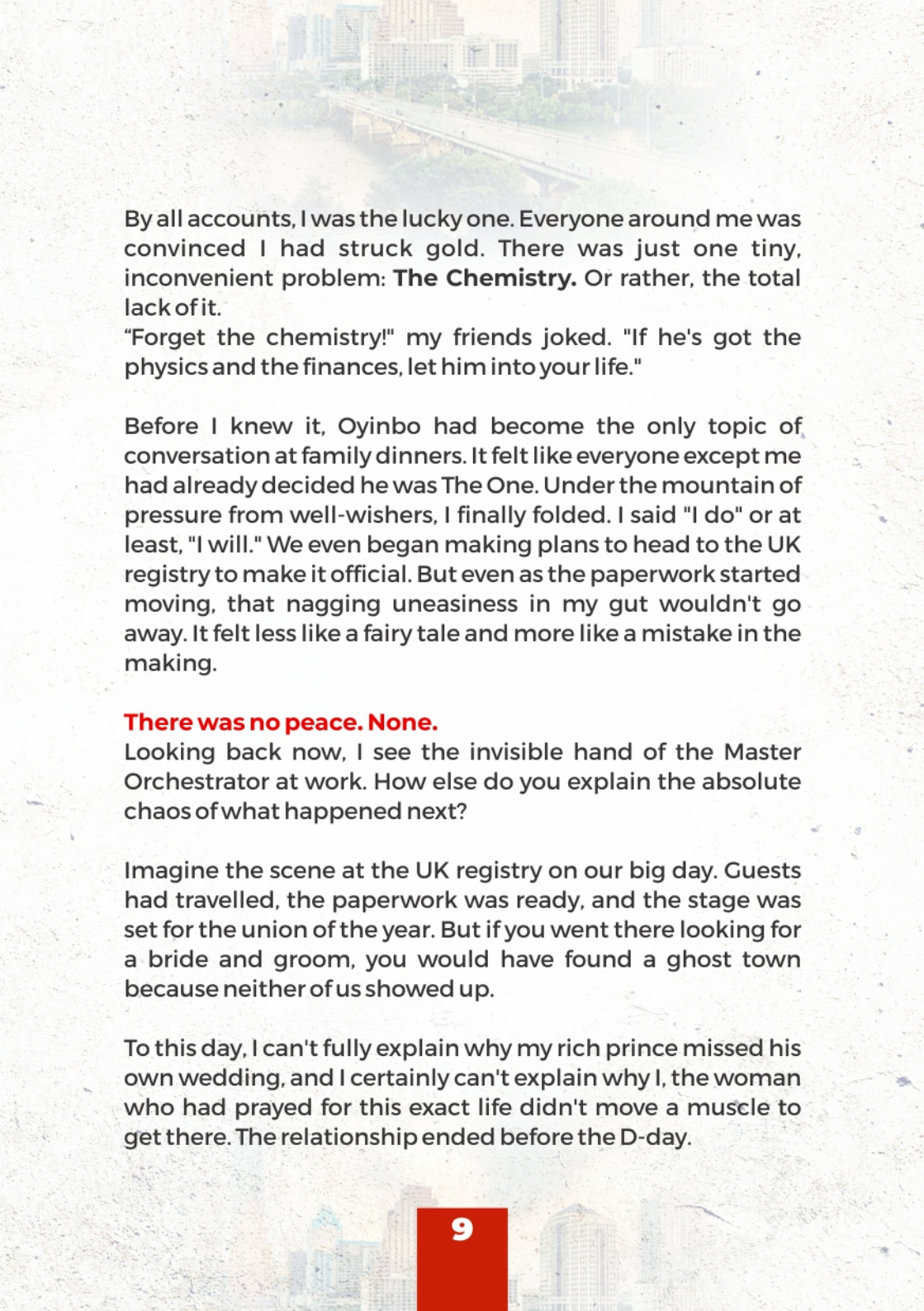
Before you crucify me as you read, you have to understand where I was coming from. Even though my dad passed away early, my mum was a warrior. she worked her fingers to the bone to make sure we had the best education and a lifestyle that turned heads. In my mind, marrying "Headquarters Broh" (my private nickname for the brother from RCCG Headquarters) was a one-way ticket to diluting my dreams. I wanted a man from a wealthy dynasty. I wanted security. I wanted to continue my "Soft Life."

As the weeks rolled by, "Headquarters Broh" became nothing more than a punchline for me and my clique when we felt like being a little petty. I had completely erased him from my heart. Or so I thought. How was I to know that God is actually the ultimate comedian? While I was busy curating my "perfect" life, He was backstage, probably shaking His head at poor, silly, naive me. He was about to have the last laugh, and it was going to be legendary.

The "Paper-Perfect" Suitor

I wasn't exactly hurting for attention. I had a lineup of suitors that would make any single lady feel like a queen, a feeling most of us savour sometimes for a little too long, if we're being honest. Among the pack was a young man I'll call **"Oyinbo."** Now, on paper, Oyinbo was a total knockout.

He came from a wealthy dynasty, lived abroad, and was Ivy League educated. He was the exact "American-Standard" professional I had been dreaming of. He was the kind of guy you proudly parade in front of your mother; the kind that makes other ladies do a double-take.



By all accounts, I was the lucky one. Everyone around me was convinced I had struck gold. There was just one tiny, inconvenient problem: **The Chemistry**. Or rather, the total lack of it.

"Forget the chemistry!" my friends joked. "If he's got the physics and the finances, let him into your life."

Before I knew it, Oyinbo had become the only topic of conversation at family dinners. It felt like everyone except me had already decided he was The One. Under the mountain of pressure from well-wishers, I finally folded. I said "I do" or at least, "I will." We even began making plans to head to the UK registry to make it official. But even as the paperwork started moving, that nagging uneasiness in my gut wouldn't go away. It felt less like a fairy tale and more like a mistake in the making.

There was no peace. None.


Looking back now, I see the invisible hand of the Master Orchestrator at work. How else do you explain the absolute chaos of what happened next?

Imagine the scene at the UK registry on our big day. Guests had travelled, the paperwork was ready, and the stage was set for the union of the year. But if you went there looking for a bride and groom, you would have found a ghost town because neither of us showed up.

To this day, I can't fully explain why my rich prince missed his own wedding, and I certainly can't explain why I, the woman who had prayed for this exact life didn't move a muscle to get there. The relationship ended before the D-day.



***Spirit-filled, Bible-carrying,
and tongue-speaking woman***



God, the one I like to call The Great Humourist - was backstage, pulling the strings of destiny, saving me from a life that looked perfect on the outside but was hollow on the inside.

Back to Headquarters Broh

By this point, I'd heard a few more "disturbing" details about Headquarters Broh. Specifically, his car, a Mercedes-Benz 230. Now, don't let the brand fool you. This wasn't a sleek, modern luxury vehicle; it was a bright yellow jalopy. A "Yellow Fever" on wheels! Even as I write this today, the mental image of him cruising around in that old faithful makes me laugh until I cry.

I was actually relieved we hadn't met. If he had walked up to me with that car and an intent to date, I shudder to think of the reception I would have given him. It wouldn't have been pretty.

I can imagine you might be wondering:

"Kemi, were you even a Christian back then?"

Oh, I was. I was spirit-filled, Bible-carrying, and tongue-speaking. I loved God, but I was perhaps a little too eager to help Him fulfill His promises in the most expensive way possible. Today, as I counsel single women, I see my younger self in thousands of them, ladies with great faith but a mismatched mentality. That is exactly why I'm sharing this: to show you that God's best can come in a yellow jalopy packaging.

Time had passed, and just when I thought I was in control, God played His first card.

The setup was simple: my sister's husband in England was sending me a parcel. I expected the usual courier service, but fate had other plans. The package was coming through my brother-in-law's colleague. Armed with a name, I started making enquiries. When my friend Engineer stopped by for a chat, I happened to mention the change in plans.

"So, who's bringing your package?" she asked, casually.

"The TA to the MD of Nigerian Airways, a fellow named **Remi Olumuyiwa**."

The second the name left my lips, Engineer's face didn't just light up, she erupted into fits of laughter.

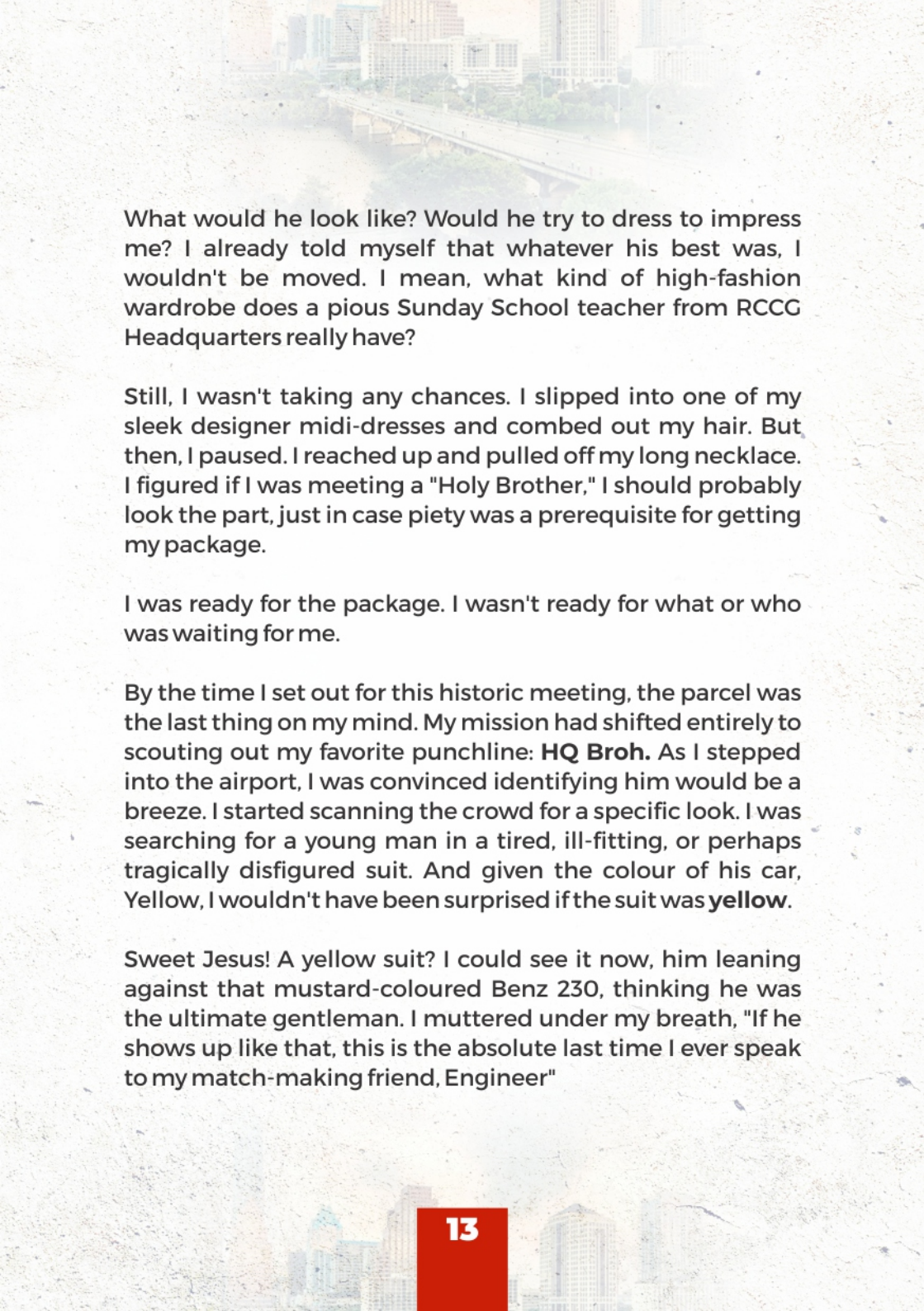
"What on earth is so funny?" I demanded, genuinely confused.

"Kemi!" she gasped between laughs. "That is the exact guy I've been trying to set you up with all this time! For goodness sake, that's **Headquarters Broh, our HQ Broh!**"

My heart dropped. "Ha!" was all I could mutter. The man with my parcel is the man I've been using as a punchline? God help me.

The Big Reveal: Face-to-Face with the Legend

The day I was billed to collect my parcel is a date etched into my memory forever. I woke up with a bizarre cocktail of emotions: high spirits mixed with a heavy dose of "what on earth am I doing?" I was curious, sure, but mostly I was bracing myself.



What would he look like? Would he try to dress to impress me? I already told myself that whatever his best was, I wouldn't be moved. I mean, what kind of high-fashion wardrobe does a pious Sunday School teacher from RCCG Headquarters really have?

Still, I wasn't taking any chances. I slipped into one of my sleek designer midi-dresses and combed out my hair. But then, I paused. I reached up and pulled off my long necklace. I figured if I was meeting a "Holy Brother," I should probably look the part, just in case piety was a prerequisite for getting my package.

I was ready for the package. I wasn't ready for what or who was waiting for me.

By the time I set out for this historic meeting, the parcel was the last thing on my mind. My mission had shifted entirely to scouting out my favorite punchline: **HQ Broh**. As I stepped into the airport, I was convinced identifying him would be a breeze. I started scanning the crowd for a specific look. I was searching for a young man in a tired, ill-fitting, or perhaps tragically disfigured suit. And given the colour of his car, Yellow, I wouldn't have been surprised if the suit was **yellow**.

Sweet Jesus! A yellow suit? I could see it now, him leaning against that mustard-coloured Benz 230, thinking he was the ultimate gentleman. I muttered under my breath, "If he shows up like that, this is the absolute last time I ever speak to my match-making friend, Engineer"

I eventually got tired of scanning for faded suits and decided to lower my gaze to people's **shoes**. That's usually the ultimate giveaway, right? I was certain his footwear had seen better days. I was picturing a tragic cross between a sneaker and a sandal; a "snandal," if you will.

I was already stifling a laugh. This was going to be comedy gold. I could practically hear my friends' voices in my head; I was going to have enough material to keep the clique laughing for a week.

Lost in my own mental comedy routine, I didn't realize I was seconds away from the big reveal.

"Please, I'm looking for HQ Broh... um, sorry, I mean **Remi Olumuyiwa**," I said, catching my slip-up just in time.

"Oh, you mean **Oga TA**?" the staff replied.

Whatever, I mumbled under my breath. Just give me my package and let me get out of here.

"This way, please," the staff directed. I followed, fully expecting to be led into some cramped closet of an office. I had my disappointed face rehearsed and ready.

But then... the door opened.


We didn't walk into a cubicle. We walked into a massive, posh executive suite. And **HQ Broh**?

Goodness. My tongue literally evaporated.



“YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL.”

He leaned and muttered from afar:



Standing right there was the definition of **Tall, Dark, and Handsome**. He wasn't wearing a yellow suit; he was wearing a designer cut so sharp it made my expensive dress look like a discount sale fit. I felt, dare I say it, cheap.

Why didn't my friend, Engineer tell me he looked like this?!

I waited for the usual. I expected him to trip over himself trying to impress the pretty lady in the room. I thought he'd be all over me.

I was dead wrong.

He greeted me politely and turned his focus to the task he was attending to. He went right back to his work as if I were invisible. I was beyond embarrassed. I sat there, fidgeting, thanking God there was another guest in the room to chat with just so I wouldn't die of awkwardness.

I was nervous. I was sweating. I just wanted my parcel so I could run away and hide. But then, just as I gathered the courage to ask for my package, Remi, our HQ Broh leaned and muttered from afar:

"YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL."

That was it. I fainted. (Okay, only mentally, but still, I **FAINTED**)

My palms were soaking, goosebumps exploded across my skin, and my heart was doing a 100-meter sprint. I was struck by his sight. Already?! No, it couldn't be. It was too fast! My friends would never let me hear the end of it. We just met.

I was in deep, deep trouble. It was too good to be true. A tall, dark, handsome, and virtuous man? At that moment, I didn't care if he had a kobo to his name or if he still drove that yellow jalopy.

Me? In love with **HQ Broh**?

It wasn't a joke anymore. This was a matter of life and destiny. I was officially, undeniably, struck by his presence.

If I thought that first meeting was the peak, I was dead **wrong**. That was just the trailer; the main feature was about to blow my mind! God really does have the most incredible sense of humour.

As I drove home that day, my brain was on a loop. One thought was, of course, **Remi**. The other was a brand-new life motto tattooed on my heart: "**Never judge a book by its cover or its car**"

A Thousand Roses for Juliet

Growing up, I devoured the story of Romeo and Juliet. I used to think Juliet was the luckiest woman to ever walk the earth until I met Remi. Even now, looking back, my life feels less like reality and more like a Hollywood blockbuster. Honestly, I should turn this into a movie. It would be an instant bestseller. Remi would be the leading man, I'd be his co-star, and every single scene would probably open with him handing me a bouquet.

And I'm talking fresh flowers, every single time.

If there were ever a world record for Lady with the Most Floral Gifts and Romantic Poems, I wouldn't just win, I'd retire the trophy! My pious Sunday School teacher turned out to be the ultimate romantic. I went looking for a parcel, but I ended up with a poet-warrior who treated me like royalty.

Who would have thought that the man I nicknamed "**HQ Broh**" would be the one to rewrite my entire definition of love?

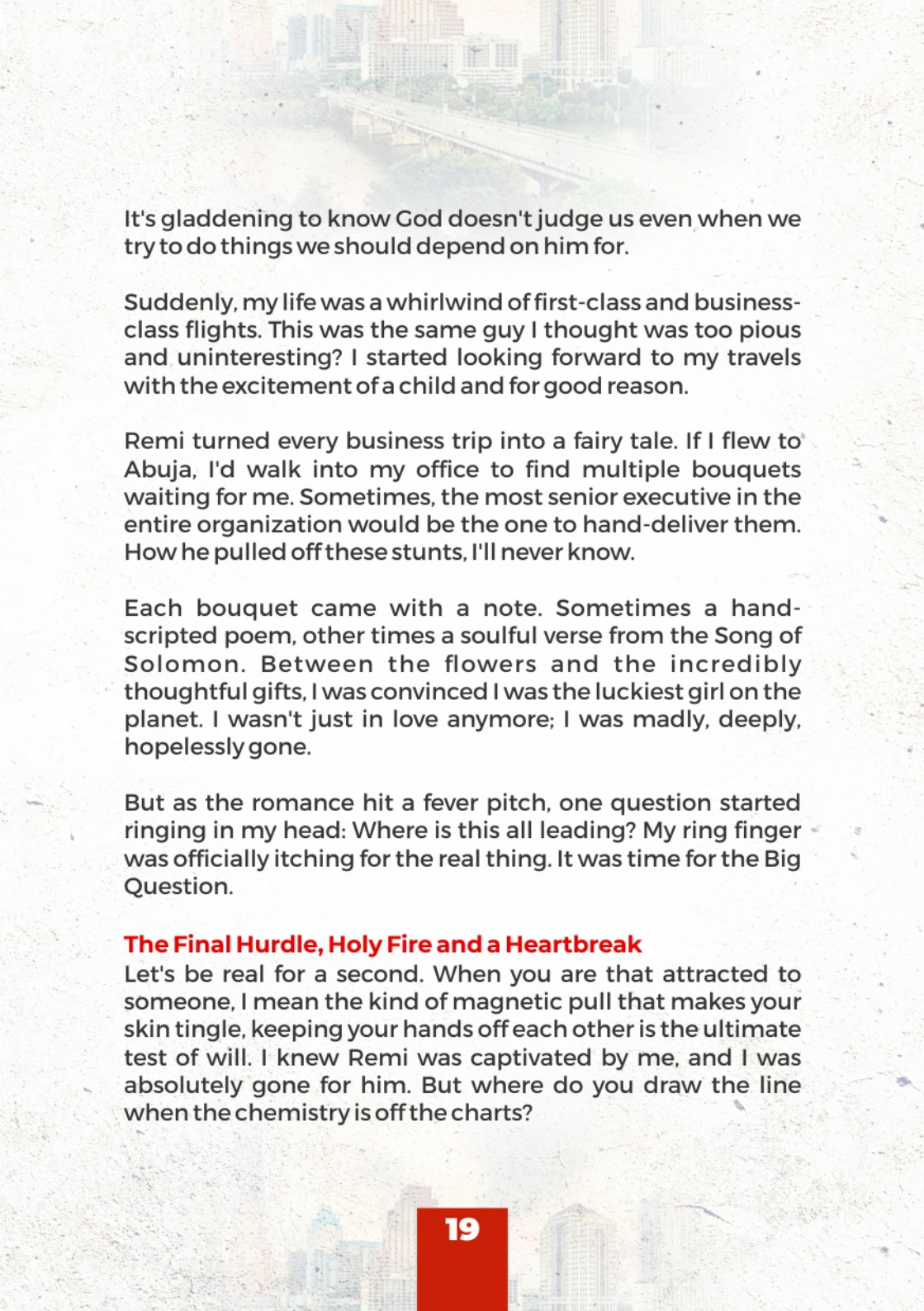
As our friendship deepened, it hit me that the only reason I was obsessed with marrying an American was because of the movies I had watched growing up as a child. I had spent my life waiting for a Hollywood Prince Charming to sweep me off my feet, convinced that a Nigerian man would be too traditional or too busy to bother with flowers and grand romantic gestures.

Remi didn't just prove me wrong; he completely rewrote the script

One day, I received a stunning bouquet. Tucked inside was a beautiful ring and a note that stopped my heart. It read:

"This is not an engagement ring; it is a commitment ring. With this ring, I proclaim and seek a new and deeper level of devotion from you."

I was floating. It felt so cinematic I almost burst into tears. And that was just the beginning. Yes, I wanted a spiritual connection with someone who understands the God element but having him in the mould of a romantic Remi or HQ Broh as we sometimes called him was not something I saw coming. I was already born again when we met, I just hadn't given up "trying my luck" as against trusting God 100% to bring my man my way.



It's gladdening to know God doesn't judge us even when we try to do things we should depend on him for.

Suddenly, my life was a whirlwind of first-class and business-class flights. This was the same guy I thought was too pious and uninteresting? I started looking forward to my travels with the excitement of a child and for good reason.

Remi turned every business trip into a fairy tale. If I flew to Abuja, I'd walk into my office to find multiple bouquets waiting for me. Sometimes, the most senior executive in the entire organization would be the one to hand-deliver them. How he pulled off these stunts, I'll never know.

Each bouquet came with a note. Sometimes a hand-scripted poem, other times a soulful verse from the Song of Solomon. Between the flowers and the incredibly thoughtful gifts, I was convinced I was the luckiest girl on the planet. I wasn't just in love anymore; I was madly, deeply, hopelessly gone.

But as the romance hit a fever pitch, one question started ringing in my head: Where is this all leading? My ring finger was officially itching for the real thing. It was time for the Big Question.

The Final Hurdle, Holy Fire and a Heartbreak

Let's be real for a second. When you are that attracted to someone, I mean the kind of magnetic pull that makes your skin tingle, keeping your hands off each other is the ultimate test of will. I knew Remi was captivated by me, and I was absolutely gone for him. But where do you draw the line when the chemistry is off the charts?

I had visions of romantic movie dates and candle-lit dinners in tucked-away corners. Instead, our dates consistently ended up at crusade grounds, missionary centres, and church programmes. That is Remi Olumuyiwa in a nutshell. And the crazy part? I was loving every second of it.

"We have to draw a line," he'd say with that firm, calm conviction of his. "Isolation and long hugs are a slippery slope to sex and sex outside of marriage has consequences. I don't want God to kill me"

I almost choked. God kill you? I was stunned by the intensity, but deep down, I was profoundly thankful. I had finally found a man whose Christian label wasn't just for Sundays; it was his nature. That boundary became the guardrail that kept our courtship focused.

Then came the real test.

"Kemi, I know we're already in this," he said, "but we can't just jump into marriage. We have to seek God's final consent. We need to fast and pray."

The God element

I was ready. I'd have climbed a mountain to ensure this heaven-sent gift stayed mine. But as the fasting period approached, a dangerous over-confidence started to creep in. "This fast is just a formality," I whispered to myself. "Prayer or not, the guy is obsessed with me. He can't breathe without me"

I was about to get the shock of my life.

On the very last day of the fast, Remi looked at me with a face of stone and dropped a nuclear bomb: "God said NO to taking the relationship to the next level of union."

My heart didn't just break; it shattered into a million jagged pieces. "Are you sure you heard Him right?!" I gasped. "This is a joke, right? Remi, tell me you're joking"

But he wasn't smiling. By then, I knew him well enough to know he never, ever played games with God. He was and still is a man who would choose his relationship with the Creator over anything on earth. Including me.

His prayer life wasn't just a routine; it was a powerhouse. I had seen enough miracles to know that when Remi spoke, Heaven listened. He didn't just "go to church" he had a direct line to the Creator. So, when he looked me in the eye and said God said No, I knew it was final.

I wept until I had no tears left.

That "No" was one of the darkest valleys of my life. It felt like my world had reached a dead end. Every morning I'd wake up and whisper, "Why, Lord? Why us?" But in that crushing silence, my eyes were opened. I realized that my love for him wasn't just a crush or a "specification" it was soul-deep. For the first time, my bank account and my career meant absolutely nothing. I saw the hollow futility of wealth without the right person to share it with. I didn't want a Rich Prince anymore; I wanted a life with this Living Epistle. I wanted to be bound to a man who put God's heart above his own desires.

I knew how to seek God's face. I just wasn't in tangent with Remi regarding that prayer of marriage enquiry. Looking back, I can say my overconfidence got the better of me. We looked too good together to get a "NO" from God. I learnt a lesson.

Then came the "YES"

After what felt like an eternity of waiting, we decided to seek God's face one more time. This time, the answer that broke through the heavens was a resounding **YES!**

I think I composed an entire album of thanksgiving songs in my head that week. The relief was electric. I was actually going to be married to the love of my life. This wasn't just luck, it was divine favour.

What's even more incredible? We met when he was in his late thirties, and despite being "Tall, Dark, and Handsome," he wasn't dating anyone. When I finally asked him, "Remi, how were you still single until I showed up?" he just smiled and gave me that steady look.

"I was praying," he said. "And I was waiting for the right woman."

Can you imagine? While I was out there looking for an American Dream, he was on his knees, waiting for me.

Wedding bells were finally ringing

As we prepared for forever, Remi made a move. He told me that if he was going to care for a wife, he had to sort himself out. But when I walked into his new apartment in GRA Ikeja, Lagos, I nearly fainted and not from romantic thoughts this time. The place was sparse. No furniture, no fancy paintings, just mountains of books and Bibles. Seriously, so many Bibles. The only thing fully furnished was his study because, let's be honest, Remi's true love affair is with learning.

Old Kemi would have run for the hills, but the new me? I knew better. I had seen the man behind the empty living room.

The Budget Battle: Faith vs. Finance

We had a world-class wedding to plan, and while I was busy crunching numbers and pulling my resources together with my bosom friends, Remi was busy spending his favorite currency: Faith and Prayer.

"Don't worry, Kemi," he'd say with that calm, annoying confidence. "Everything will be fine."

I wanted to believe him, but I was also working overtime to make sure my big day was Classy with a capital C. I wasn't being extravagant; I just knew what I wanted. I had a great salary, amazing friends, and a vision. Remi, on the other hand? He had little-to-no savings. He just kept leaning on God's infinite ability to provide.


The Miracle at the Eleventh Hour

Just when the stress was hitting its peak, God dropped a bombshell. Remi got a call from the office. He was being sent on a major foreign tour. It was a two-month-long assignment. I practically did a victory dance. Finally, some real money to help shape these wedding plans.

Every time he called from abroad, he'd ask the same question: "So, what's the budget looking like?"

I didn't have the heart to tell him. My friends and I had drawn up a budget that would make a banker sweat, and I didn't want him under any financial duress especially not before the honeymoon. Every time he asked, I'd dodge the question. "Don't worry about it, honey, we've got it covered!" I'd say, shelving the discussion yet again.

As the D-Day loomed closer and closer, I realized God, the Master of Surprises wasn't done with us yet...



But the man was persistent. Finally, I just told him, "Look, just send whatever you have, and we'll figure out the balance." At the same time, I got word that a major cheque was waiting for me at my office. I felt a surge of hope. Finally, my faith was starting to gleam. I thought I was the one saving the day.

The Faith Plot Twist

While I was busy crunching numbers and stressing over budget figures, God was busy doing a mega-work in Remi's life abroad. I had no idea just how deep his pockets or his faith actually went. To this day, the sheer audacity of that man's trust in God's provision leaves me speechless.

Our classy wedding didn't just happen; it was a **spectacle**. And here's the kicker; the man with no savings ended up footing almost the entire bill single-handedly.

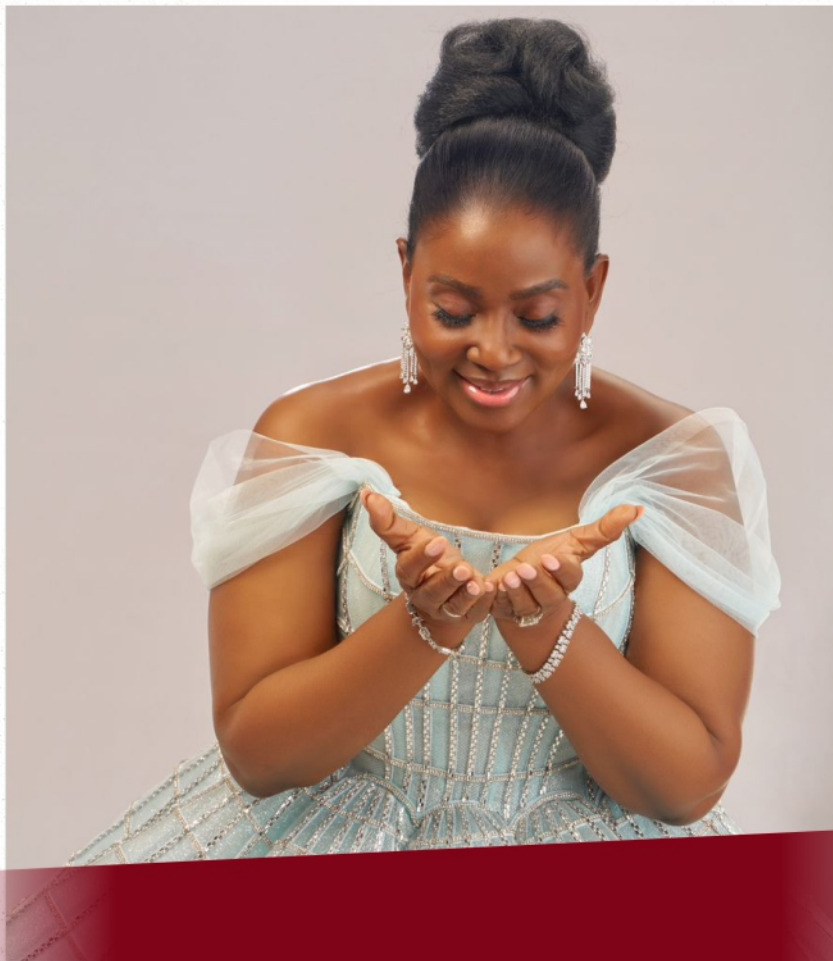
Everything was beyond my wildest dreams. The flowers, flown in fresh from Kenya. The Refreshments, every drink was imported, even the water. The Bling, he didn't just give me a ring, he gave me a retinue. Five sets of rings, with the sixth set coming straight from Tiffany & Co. The Labels, my room looked like a high-end boutique, overflowing with Louis Vuitton, Hugo Boss, and every designer name you can imagine.

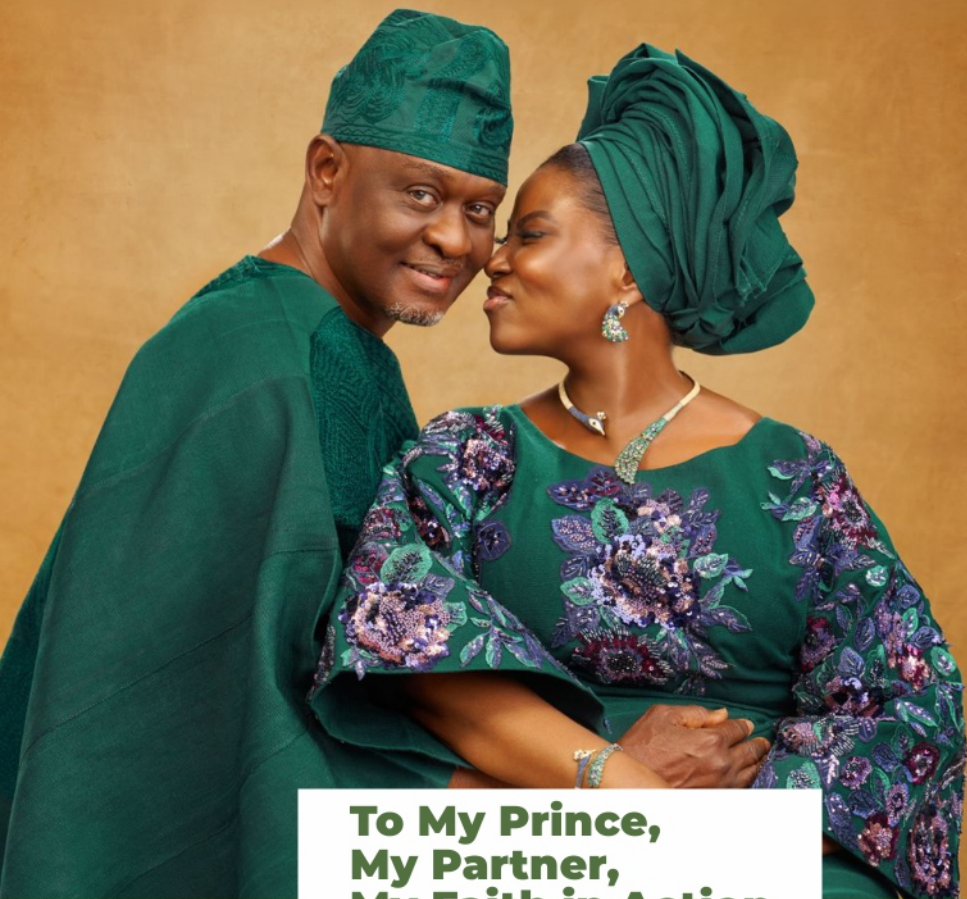
He absolutely shattered my imagination!

The Final Lesson

But here is the funniest part; remember that big cheque from my office? Yes, the one I was banking on to save the wedding? I fought and struggled to clear it for weeks. It didn't clear until after the honeymoon. God used that moment to teach me the ultimate lesson: the total vanity of trusting in human effort when He has already moved mountains.

I went looking for a "HQ Broh" to pity, and I ended up married to a man who showed me what it truly means to be a daughter of the King!





**To My Prince,
My Partner,
My Faith in Action**

Honey,

I find myself smiling at the simplest moments we share. They are the treasures I hold closest to my heart. Life with you feels like a beautiful dream; if this is sleep, let no one wake me, or I might just scream! I offer absolutely no resistance to this sweet existence. I'm wheeling the full cart of my love straight to you, the Prince of my heart. My only mission? To pour joy into your life every single day as I gladly remain your wife.

— Your Baby

The God of the Exceeding Grace

In so many ways, my life is a living billboard for God's overwhelming grace. To this day, He doesn't just answer my prayers; He does exceedingly more than I could ever think to ask. He listens to the silent whispers of my heart and responds with mercy.

When it came to finding a husband, I tell people this: I knew exactly what I WANTED, but God lovingly gave me what I NEEDED.

At what some might call an overripe age, I walked down the aisle toward a true lover of God. I married a genuine Christian, a deeply affectionate man, a protective older brother, a best friend, and my ultimate role model. Remi is a man whose life is a masterclass in what it means to have unshakable, intrinsic confidence in God's Word. I am the primary witness to his profound, ceaseless devotion to the Father.

The Vows That Stopped Time

I'll never forget one of our wedding anniversaries at church. Our Pastor asked us to refresh our vows in front of the entire congregation. I stood there and poured my heart out, saying all the beautiful things I felt for him.

But I was completely unprepared for what Remi said to me in return.

It has been years since that moment, and honestly? I'm still not over it. His words hit a chord in my soul that hasn't stopped vibrating. I've shared them below so you can see for yourself because words like this are too powerful not to put on display.

THE 4 "Cs" OF MY DIAMOND



A diamond's value is defined by four pillars: Clarity, Carat, Colour, and Cut. But as I look at you, I realize these aren't just metrics for a gemstone they are the very descriptors of your soul.

CLARITY: The Purity of Spirit

A master cutter seeks the Flawless grade, a stone defined by the absolute absence of internal inclusions or surface blemishes. Clarity is about transparency and truth.

Baby, in a world of shadows, your heart is perfectly clear. I see no faults, no hidden motives, and no blemishes in your character. You are my 'Internally Flawless' treasure, radiant with a purity that only grows brighter with time.

CARAT: The Weight of Influence


In diamond grading, Carat measures the physical weight and presence of the stone. It determines its stature and its ability to command the room.

You possess a spiritual and weight that is undeniable. You don't just occupy space; you command the attention and respect of the most discerning hearts. Your substance is heavy with wisdom, grace, and purpose, a true masterpiece of immense value.

COLOUR: The Rarity of the Divine


While diamonds come in many hues, the most prized are the completely colourless whites, the rare "D" grade stones that act as a prism for pure light.

Among all women, you are that rare, colourless white, untainted by the world and unmatched in your brilliance. You represent the highest value a human heart could ever hold. You are the rarity that every collector dreams of, but only I am blessed to keep.



TY Bello

The Making of a Visionary:
THE REMI OLUMUYIWA
STORY



CUT: The Hand of the Creator

Cut is the only "C" influenced by a master's hand. It determines how a diamond reflects light, its fire, its sparkle, and its brilliance.

What makes you truly extraordinary is your proportions. You weren't shaped by human hands or societal trends. You were cut to precise, divine specifications by the most skillful Craftsman of all: the Almighty God. He faceted your soul to reflect His glory, ensuring you sparkle with a fire that will never fade.

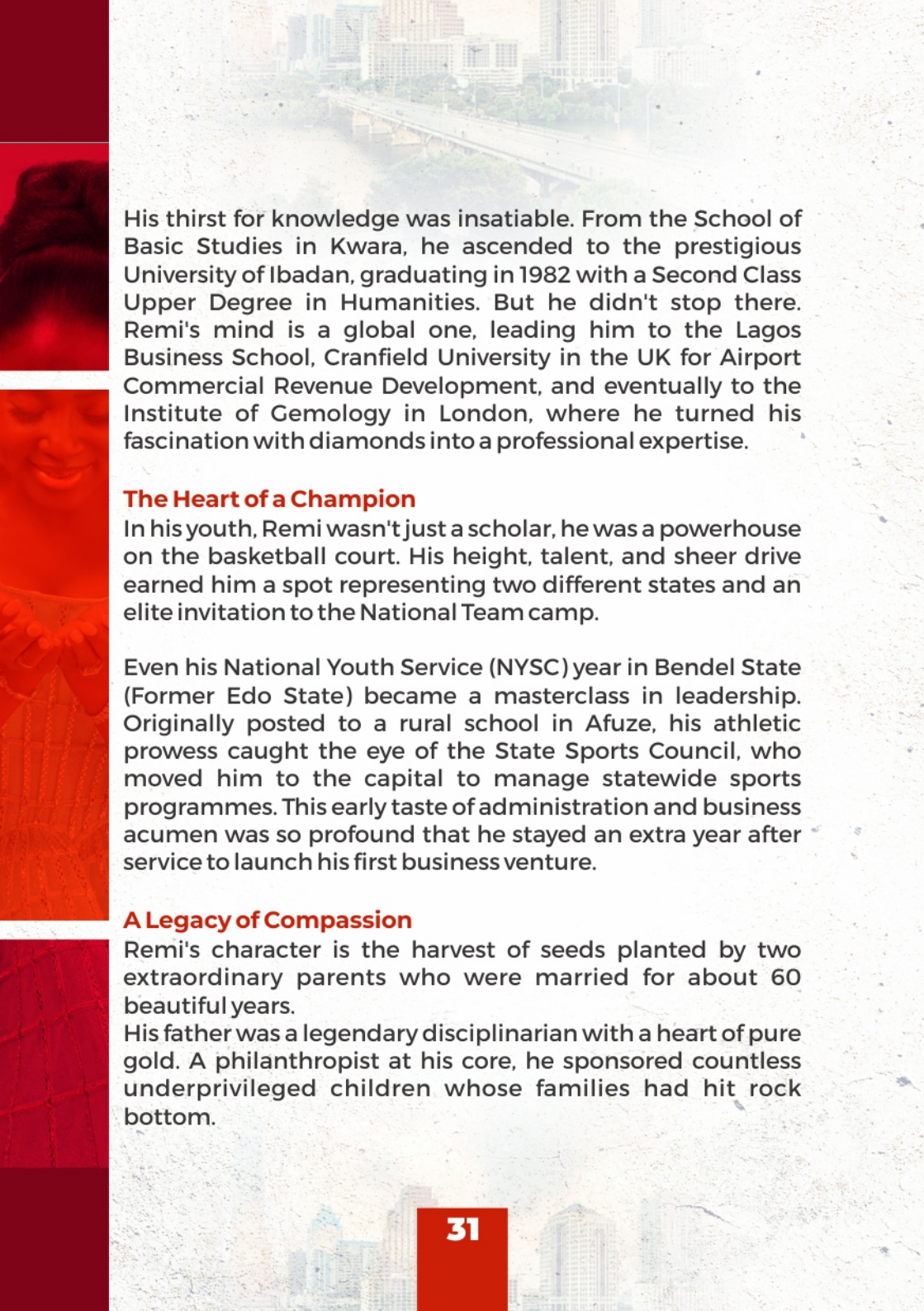



*The Making
of a
Visionary:*
**THE REMI
OLUMUYIWA
STORY**

A Foundation of Excellence

On November 4th, 1960, in the historic city of Zaria, a star was born. Remi, the youngest of four children, entered the world into the home of Mr. Emmanuel and

Chief (Mrs.) Olaitan Ogunmuyiwa. His journey began with the discipline of a pioneer household; his father, a trailblazer at the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation, soon moved the family to Ilorin, where Remi's academic foundation was laid at St. Barnabas and Government Secondary School, Kwara State, Nigeria, West Africa.



His thirst for knowledge was insatiable. From the School of Basic Studies in Kwara, he ascended to the prestigious University of Ibadan, graduating in 1982 with a Second Class Upper Degree in Humanities. But he didn't stop there. Remi's mind is a global one, leading him to the Lagos Business School, Cranfield University in the UK for Airport Commercial Revenue Development, and eventually to the Institute of Gemology in London, where he turned his fascination with diamonds into a professional expertise.

The Heart of a Champion

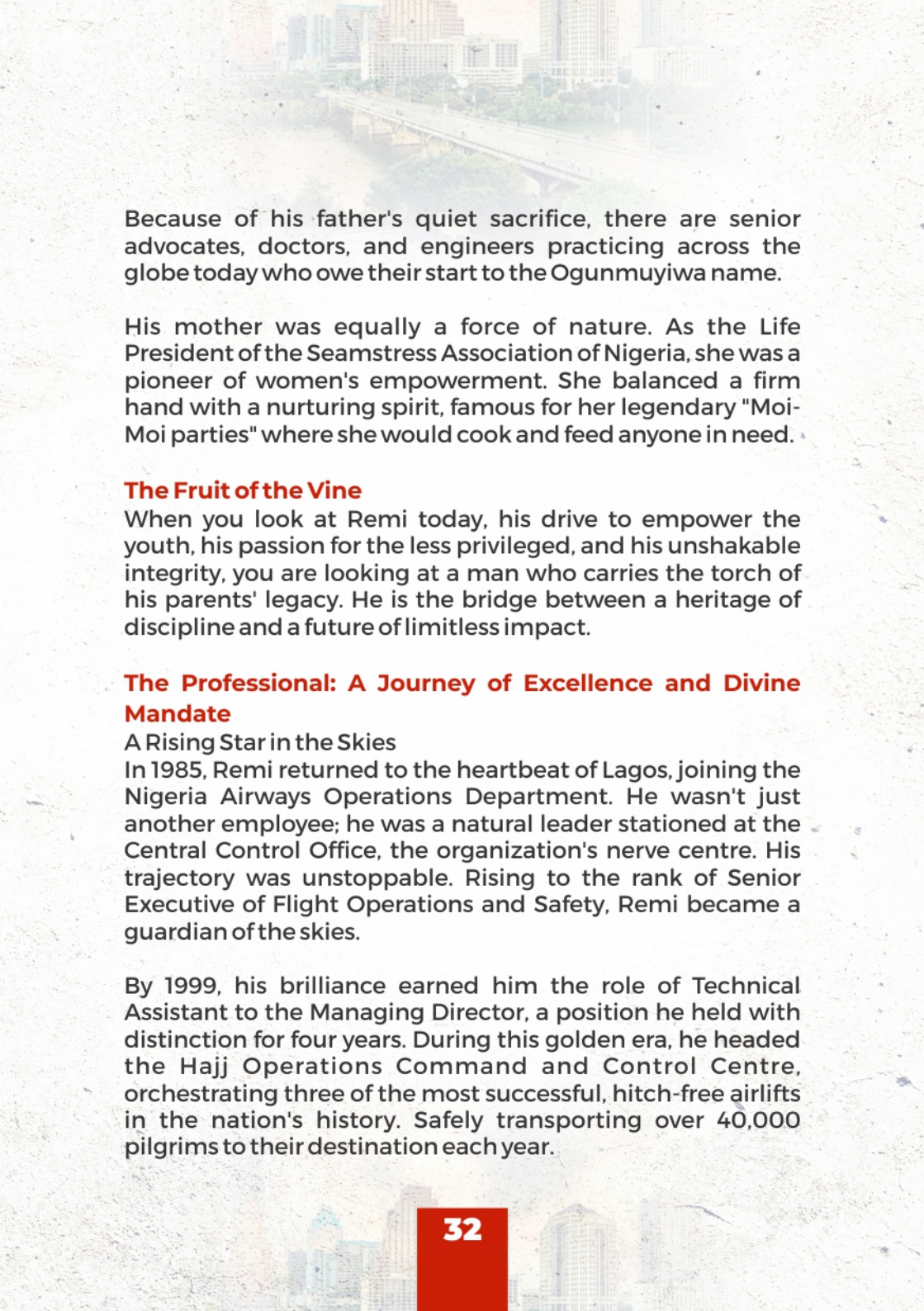
In his youth, Remi wasn't just a scholar, he was a powerhouse on the basketball court. His height, talent, and sheer drive earned him a spot representing two different states and an elite invitation to the National Team camp.

Even his National Youth Service (NYSC) year in Bendel State (Former Edo State) became a masterclass in leadership. Originally posted to a rural school in Afuze, his athletic prowess caught the eye of the State Sports Council, who moved him to the capital to manage statewide sports programmes. This early taste of administration and business acumen was so profound that he stayed an extra year after service to launch his first business venture.

A Legacy of Compassion

Remi's character is the harvest of seeds planted by two extraordinary parents who were married for about 60 beautiful years.

His father was a legendary disciplinarian with a heart of pure gold. A philanthropist at his core, he sponsored countless underprivileged children whose families had hit rock bottom.



Because of his father's quiet sacrifice, there are senior advocates, doctors, and engineers practicing across the globe today who owe their start to the Ogunmuyiwa name.

His mother was equally a force of nature. As the Life President of the Seamstress Association of Nigeria, she was a pioneer of women's empowerment. She balanced a firm hand with a nurturing spirit, famous for her legendary "Moi-Moi parties" where she would cook and feed anyone in need.

The Fruit of the Vine

When you look at Remi today, his drive to empower the youth, his passion for the less privileged, and his unshakable integrity, you are looking at a man who carries the torch of his parents' legacy. He is the bridge between a heritage of discipline and a future of limitless impact.

The Professional: A Journey of Excellence and Divine Mandate

A Rising Star in the Skies

In 1985, Remi returned to the heartbeat of Lagos, joining the Nigeria Airways Operations Department. He wasn't just another employee; he was a natural leader stationed at the Central Control Office, the organization's nerve centre. His trajectory was unstoppable. Rising to the rank of Senior Executive of Flight Operations and Safety, Remi became a guardian of the skies.

By 1999, his brilliance earned him the role of Technical Assistant to the Managing Director, a position he held with distinction for four years. During this golden era, he headed the Hajj Operations Command and Control Centre, orchestrating three of the most successful, hitch-free airlifts in the nation's history. Safely transporting over 40,000 pilgrims to their destination each year.

The Minister's Navigator

His reputation as a "conquering force" made him the undisputed first choice for the Federal Government. In 2006, he was appointed Technical Adviser to the Honourable Minister of Aviation. In the corridors of power, Remi wasn't just an adviser; he was a solution-finder, crafting policies that tackled the industry's most grueling challenges head-on.

The Chairman of Chairmen

Fondly known by his peers as the Chairman of all Chairmen, Remi was a pillar of the team that ushered Nigeria into a new era of aviation safety. He spearheaded the Safe Tower Project Implementation Team (STIT) and served as the primary bridge between Nigeria and global giants like the World Bank, the European Union, and the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Yet, amidst the accolades, Remi remains remarkably humble:

"I never make the mistake of thinking I grew by my own brilliance. It was God. He gave me a word from Isaiah, and suddenly, helpers appeared, doors opened, and ideas flowed like a river." -Remi Olumuyiwa

A Legacy Still in Flight

Today, while his vast business investments continue to flourish, Remi remains an Aviation Management Specialist at heart and serves as the Chairman/CEO of First Tricon Ltd., an organization with vast investment interests across Africa. He continues to bring his legendary expertise to the table, proving that when professional excellence meets divine grace, the sky is never the limit; it's just the beginning.



Remi's Turning Point: From Reckless Living To A Radical Faith

"I'm no saint, and I wasn't born one," Remi is quick to tell anyone. Before the grace of God found him, he was the definition of young and upwardly mobile, living a high-octane, reckless life fueled by heavy drinking and chain-smoking. But in 1994, the Heavens staged an intervention.

It started with a strange, magnetic pull toward the Word of God. Even while he was still clutching a drink in one hand and a cigarette in the other, he began to dig deep into the Bible. In 1993, a friend invited him to church. After just a few visits, the internal dam broke. Remi walked to the altar on his own, weeping profusely. That wasn't just a moment; it was his Turning Point.

Suddenly, the world looked different. "I'd pick up the Bible and have this supernatural understanding," he recalls. "I could look at people and discern their thoughts. Every time I read the Book of Jeremiah, it felt like scales were falling from my eyes."

The Whispering Palms Encounter

Desperate for clarity, Remi checked into Whispering Palms, a resort on the outskirts of Lagos, for a two-week retreat. One night, the atmosphere in his room shifted.

"I wasn't alone," he says. "I couldn't see anyone, but the Presence was undeniable. Instinctively, I knew it was God." He collapsed onto the floor, sobbing like a child, whispering, "Lord, have mercy on me." Then, a clear, commanding voice broke the silence: "Get up, pack your things, and go to Ilorin." He didn't hesitate. By morning, he was on the road.

The School of Faith, Pruning and Providence

That August, God's plan became clear. Remi enrolled in the Bible School established by Winners Chapel. It wasn't a coincidence; it was a divine appointment. This was where the pruning began. The process of stripping away the old man to reveal the new.

Today, when people see his success and call him lucky or "hardworking," Remi just laughs. While hard work matters, he knows the real secret: The Word. He practices the instructions of the Bible with a radical, almost terrifying level of obedience.

The Power of the Seed

If God tells Remi to sow, he gives without looking back. He has given away countless possessions including his cars to further the Gospel. I am never surprised when people line up to bless us; it is simply the harvest of his seeds. The Bible promises that if you give, it comes back in "good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over." That is our daily reality.

After his major encounter with God, Remi chose a fresh start. He gave away everything he owned, including his vehicle, and embraced a season of trekking long distances. During that time, God sent angels in the form of strangers who offered rides, paid his bus fare, or bought him meals. It was a season of Total Reliance. He knew he wasn't just "poor"; he was investing in a glorious future.


From "HQ Broh" to "SMOG" Today, the turnaround is radical. The man who once trekked the streets of Lagos is now an ordained Pastor, serving as the Head of the Prayer Department at the Redeem Christian Church of God, City of David Parish in Victoria Island.

Among his close circles, he is fondly called "Senior Man of God" (SMOG). It's a title that carries the weight of his journey, a testimony of how God can take a reckless boy from the ancient city of Zaria and turn him into a pillar of faith for his generation.

**THERE IS ALWAYS
A NEW
BEGINNING**



Allow me drop one out of my many favourite teachings by my Husband. Indeed, a man sold out to God is not without communication and by extension, messages, from God.



A Message of Hope by Pastor Remi Olumuyiwa

I have a deep, abiding love for the Book of Isaiah, specifically Chapter 43, verses 18-19. In it, God issues a startling command:

"Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing..."

Have you ever stopped to wonder why the Almighty explicitly tells us to "not keep in mind" the former things? Why does He warn us not to "dwell on the deeds of the past"?

The Stranglehold of Yesterday

Through years of walking with God, I have realized a sobering truth: the past has a way of strangulating the present. It is a thief that attempts to seize your future before you even arrive there. While it feels humanly impossible to simply "forget," the danger lies in our tendency to use our history as a yardstick for God's capacity.

When we obsess over what *was*, we inadvertently create a mould that restricts what *is* to come. If God, who is infinitely wiser than we will ever be tells us to let go, it is because He knows that your rearview mirror cannot show you the glory of the horizon.

Beyond Your Greatest Victory

This command isn't just for those who have failed; it is for those who have succeeded. No matter the heights you reached yesterday, God says "forget it." Why? Because your past success is nothing compared to the unimaginable thing He wants to do in your life today. Even your enemies can see that something massive is shifting in your favour, don't be the one to limit God with the restrictions of your old victories.

The Specialist in the New

Our God does not specialize in recycling the old; He specializes in birthing the new. It doesn't matter if you lost that contract bid. It doesn't matter if you've faced a string of disappointments in your personal life. It doesn't matter if you have lost everything you toiled for. If God says He will do a new thing, He will do a new thing. Your past is a closed chapter; your future is a blank page in the hands of a Master Author. Stop looking back, your miracle is straight ahead.

Missionaries, A Heart for the Harvest

"Our chief driving force in life is the desire to touch lives: especially the downtrodden. As God blesses us, we seek to be a lifeline to those in genuine need. We have realized that serving the 'least of these' is a priceless way to touch the very heart of God."

— Remi Olumuyiwa

Wealth with a Purpose

It all comes down to perspective. Let me ask you a honest question: Why do you want to be rich? Growing up, Remi's dream was to be a teacher. With his natural gift for communication, he would have made a world-class lecturer. But he quickly realized a sobering truth: to empower the less privileged on a massive scale, he needed significant resources. Could a lecturer's salary build schools for thousands? He thought not. That realization birthed his passion for business. Today, he is a man with a Kingdom eye for opportunities. As a couple, we believe that when God prospers you, it is always for a higher purpose.



Our Vision for West Africa

When Remi transitioned from Nigeria Airways, he went into a season of seeking God for his next steps. The answer was clear. God gave him a vision for West Africa. During the brutal civil war in Sierra Leone, Remi's path crossed with a refugee who had fled to Nigeria. The man was desperate, struggling just to keep his family alive. My husband stepped in, taking it upon himself to put the man's children through school.

Years later, after the war ended, the man returned home. In a beautiful act of gratitude, he reached out to Remi with business opportunities in Sierra Leone. While the business potential was great, our real attraction was the chance to be a blessing to a nation rising from the ashes of war.

The Vision in the Hotel Room

In 2004, Remi landed in Sierra Leone. He didn't have a clear plan yet; he just had a mandate to help. One afternoon, while praying in his hotel room, God gave him a vision so vivid it felt like reality: he saw school-aged children in uniforms, weeping. He knew instantly that God was calling him to the children of that nation.

His journey eventually took him to Kambaya, a village in the Kono District. He was shocked to find extreme poverty living side-by-side with diamond riches. After speaking with the High Chief, the weeping children from his vision made sense. There were no schools. For a child to learn, they had to trek an unbearable 10 kilometers or more every single day. Most children didn't even start primary school until they were ten years old because they weren't physically strong enough to survive the walk. There was no clean water and no healthcare within a 30-kilometre radius.

Remi's mission was clear: He promised the Chief he would build a school and provide clean water.

The King's Mission: A Miracle in the Jungle

In March 2007, the project began. Within just six months, a miracle rose from the ground. On October 15, 2007, THE KING'S MISSION PRIMARY SCHOOL officially opened its doors to 238 pupils.

It stands as a model institution, the first of its kind in Sierra Leone, offering completely free education to every student. Despite its remote location, the school shattered expectations by producing some of the best Common Entrance Examination results in the entire country in 2010. It went on to win several recognitions and break records in the country's education space.

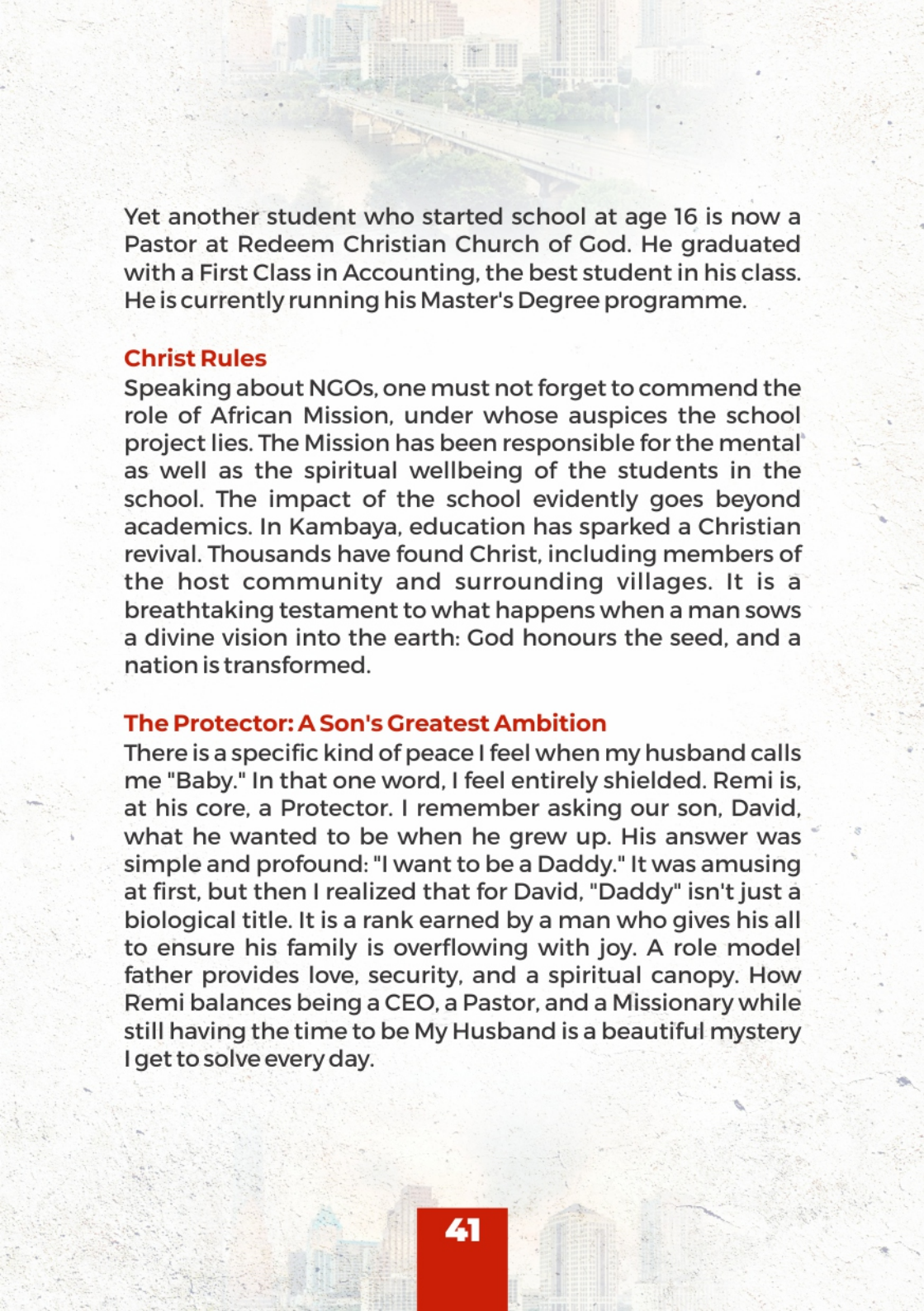
Where are the children almost two decades later?

Nineteen (19) years is a long time in the life of a child. It is almost two decades since the school opened its doors for students of the community and surrounding communities to come learn for free. Today, students who finished from the school are great success stories living and working all over Sierra Leone and indeed the globe. They are doing great things for themselves, their community and humanity.

While Some were sponsored to the university, a good number finished from the university and are working with the Government of Sierra Leone and some with NGOs.

One of many, works for the United States Army, after graduating with a Bachelors Degree in Information Technology.

Another student won a Visa Lottery, became a United States of America Citizen and presently works in the US as a Cyber Security Expert.



Yet another student who started school at age 16 is now a Pastor at Redeem Christian Church of God. He graduated with a First Class in Accounting, the best student in his class. He is currently running his Master's Degree programme.

Christ Rules

Speaking about NGOs, one must not forget to commend the role of African Mission, under whose auspices the school project lies. The Mission has been responsible for the mental as well as the spiritual wellbeing of the students in the school. The impact of the school evidently goes beyond academics. In Kambaya, education has sparked a Christian revival. Thousands have found Christ, including members of the host community and surrounding villages. It is a breathtaking testament to what happens when a man sows a divine vision into the earth: God honours the seed, and a nation is transformed.

The Protector: A Son's Greatest Ambition

There is a specific kind of peace I feel when my husband calls me "Baby." In that one word, I feel entirely shielded. Remi is, at his core, a Protector. I remember asking our son, David, what he wanted to be when he grew up. His answer was simple and profound: "I want to be a Daddy." It was amusing at first, but then I realized that for David, "Daddy" isn't just a biological title. It is a rank earned by a man who gives his all to ensure his family is overflowing with joy. A role model father provides love, security, and a spiritual canopy. How Remi balances being a CEO, a Pastor, and a Missionary while still having the time to be My Husband is a beautiful mystery I get to solve every day.

Love in High Definition

People ask me if the spark has faded over the years. My answer? It has only intensified. Remi didn't stop at flowers. To this day, he is my Romance Icon. How do you describe a man who surprises his wife with First Class tickets for "just because" holidays? Or a man who marks every birthday not just with a cake, but with a new car or a new home or other equally thoughtful gifts. I don't share this to boast; I share it to testify to the depth of love God can show an ordinary woman through an extraordinary man.

When people once asked him, "Remi, why do you spend so much to make her happy?" he gave a classic, God-centered answer:

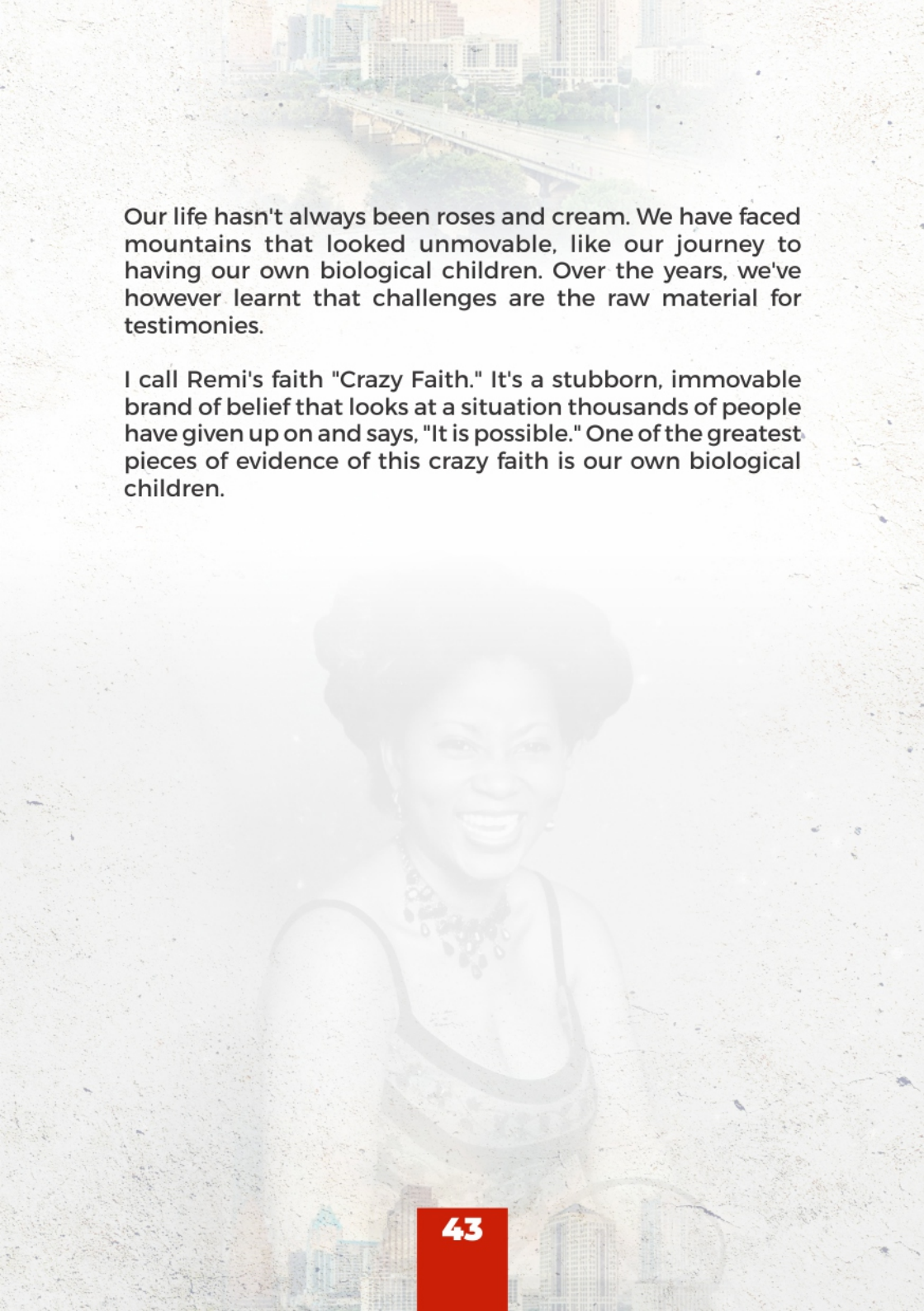
"I don't really have an option. The Bible commands me to love my wife. As for the money? The Word says where your treasure is, there your heart will be. I put my treasure into the woman I love, and it's working for me!"

A Note to the Ladies

I tell younger ladies today not to be blinded by money. Our money didn't arrive on day one. There were seasons when all he could afford was a single flower. Love isn't about the price tag; it's about the active expression. Whether it's 27 designer dresses or a cake with 27 candles, or even lunch at a mid-restaurant, it's the thought and the effort that count. Find your spouse's love language and speak it fluently.

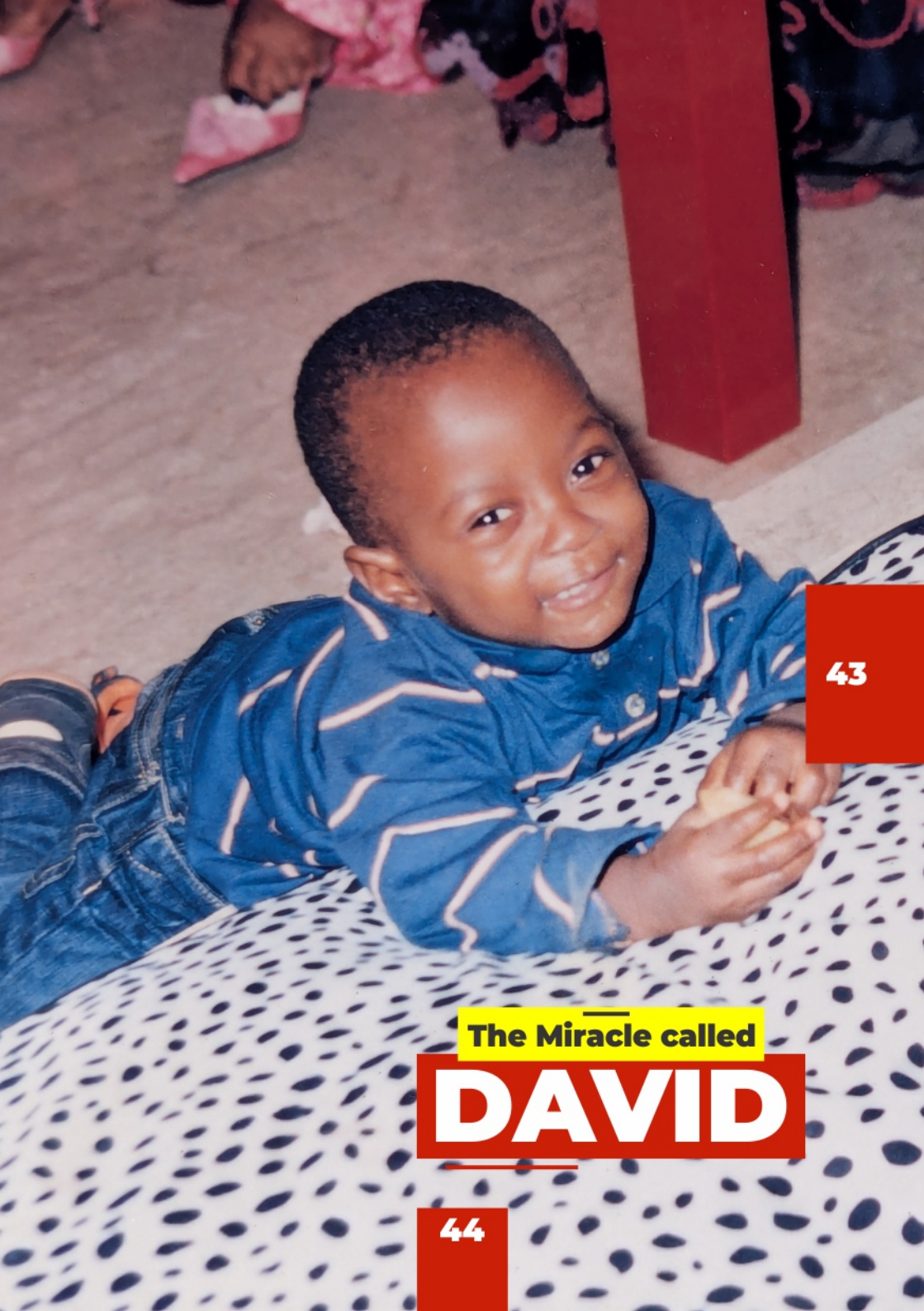
The Crazy Faith in the Dark

Faith is knowing that when you drop off into the unknown, you will either find something solid to stand on or you will be taught to fly." – Patrick Overton



Our life hasn't always been roses and cream. We have faced mountains that looked unmovable, like our journey to having our own biological children. Over the years, we've however learnt that challenges are the raw material for testimonies.

I call Remi's faith "Crazy Faith." It's a stubborn, immovable brand of belief that looks at a situation thousands of people have given up on and says, "It is possible." One of the greatest pieces of evidence of this crazy faith is our own biological children.



43

The Miracle called

DAVID

44

The Miracle of David

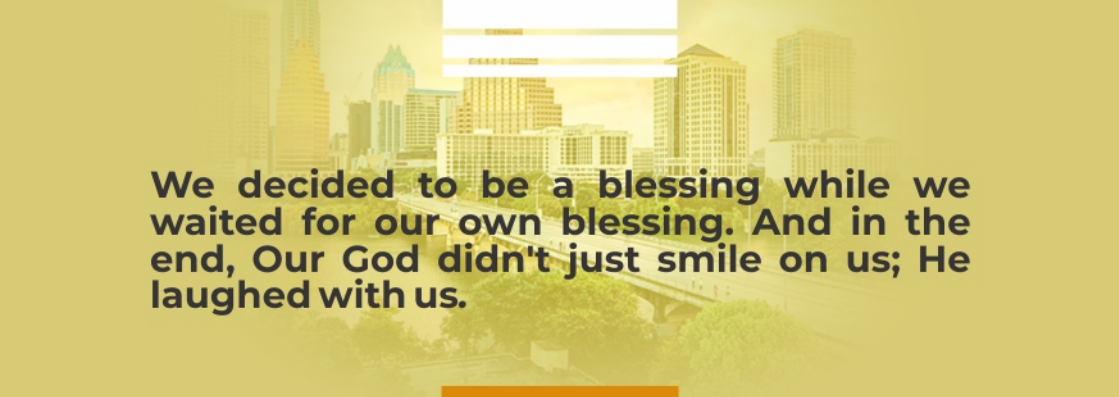
In my thirties, the whispers of doubt regarding my ability to conceive began to grow loud. I pondered our future regarding parenting. I would share my fears with my husband, Remi and he would just laugh, literally laugh, at the idea of barrenness. He'd look up from his newspaper and say:

"Why cry when you could be thanking God for the arrival of our children? They are on the way, Kemi. Faith isn't faith until it's the only thing you're holding onto."

Then he'd go back to reading as if the problem didn't exist.

God and time proved him right. At the perfect moment, David, our son was born. Eniabisola, our daughter, followed years later.

But our journey to parenthood wasn't just about waiting; it was about Acting. Remi's logic was: "Why wait to be parents when there are children right now who need a home?" So, in a bold step of faith, we legally adopted two wonderful children, Bolu and Tomi from our extended family.



We decided to be a blessing while we waited for our own blessing. And in the end, Our God didn't just smile on us; He laughed with us.



**BEAUTY FOR ASHES:
THE STORY CONTINUES**

God hasn't finished with me yet. You have traveled with me through these pages, you've seen the laughter, the "HQ Broh" jokes, the yellow jalopy, and the Tiffany rings. But more than that, you have seen a story overflowing with the relentless faithfulness of God.

At age 30, I hit what felt like a dead end. I suffered a setback so massive I thought the road to marital bliss had been permanently closed for me. I was looking at a pile of ashes where my dreams used to be. But our God is a Master Restorer, because He promised to give beauty for ashes, He didn't just give me a reason to smile again, He did something far greater. He brought a man He had been carefully grooming just for me. He sent a builder to help me reconstruct my broken walls, stone by stone, until they were stronger than ever before.

God is truly a God of infinite love, bottomless mercy, and scandalous grace. He is the only Author who could have written a plot twist this beautiful. He made this story possible. He made me possible. To Him alone, I give all the glory, all the honour, and all the adoration. Amen!

My story is a testimony of grace. Now, let me ask you... what will your story be?





I was interviewed by *MBEL* and I have been told by many who read the interview, that the interview became a turning point in their lives. I have reproduced the interview below. I pray a word, a phrase or a sentence will not only inspire but will birth a new direction in your life:

MY INTERVIEW

Forget everything you think you know about high achievers. Kemi Olumuyiwa isn't just driven by success; she is fueled by a passion for lifting others. In a milestone interview like this, you might expect a standard highlight reel of awards and family ties. While Kemi cherishes those deeply, her heart constantly returns to her true mission: empowerment. Alongside her husband, Remi Olumuyiwa, she has helped change the lives of hundreds of children through scholarship initiatives in the free education school they built. Step into the vibrant, purposeful world of Kemi Olumuyiwa as she celebrates 60 years of undeniable impact.

Looking back at your first 50 years, how would you describe the journey?

It's been a beautiful mix of everything; tough, fun, and deeply eventful. From the early days of school and job-hunting to the profound milestones of marriage, motherhood, and finding my faith, it hasn't always been easy. But it has been good. Having the unwavering support of God, my mum, my husband, and my siblings has made every challenge worth it. I am immensely grateful for the platform God has given me through my career and my church community.

Tell us about your early years. What shaped the woman you are today?

I grew up in a lively house full of brothers and cousins. Being one of the two daughters with five brothers made me a bit of a tomboy; I was always trying to prove I could do anything the boys could do. Because I wasn't the physically strongest, I developed a sharp mouth as my weapon of choice (laughs).

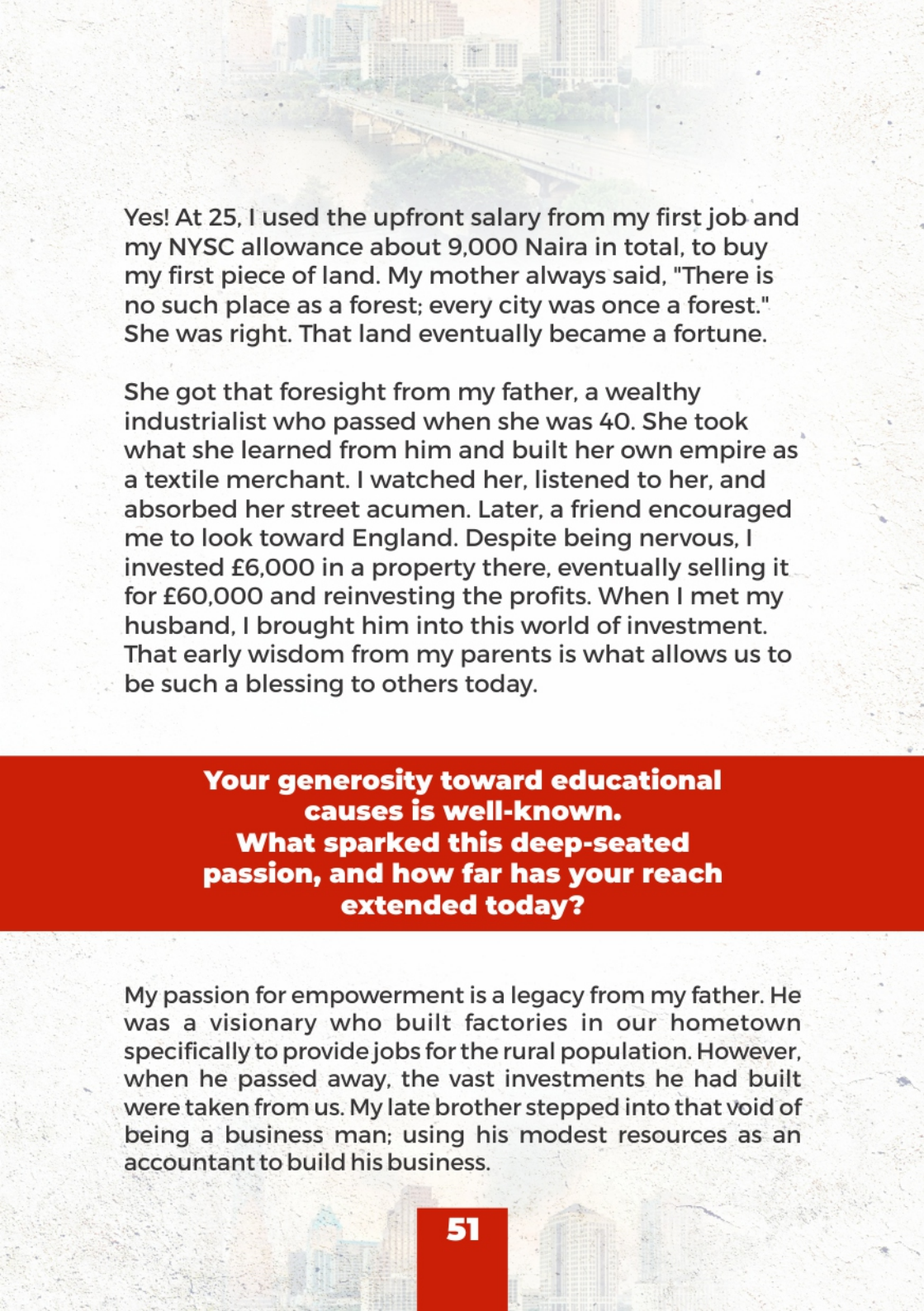
But the real hero of my life is my mother. She is a warrior who balanced a thriving business with raising seven children seamlessly. She taught me that work and family aren't separate worlds; they are interwoven. I've carried that into my own life; if I travel for a corporate assignment, my children come with me. I even breastfed both of my children for two years without letting work skip a beat. I just followed my mother's lead.





*Is it true you
were already a
property investor
in your twenties?*

How did that start?



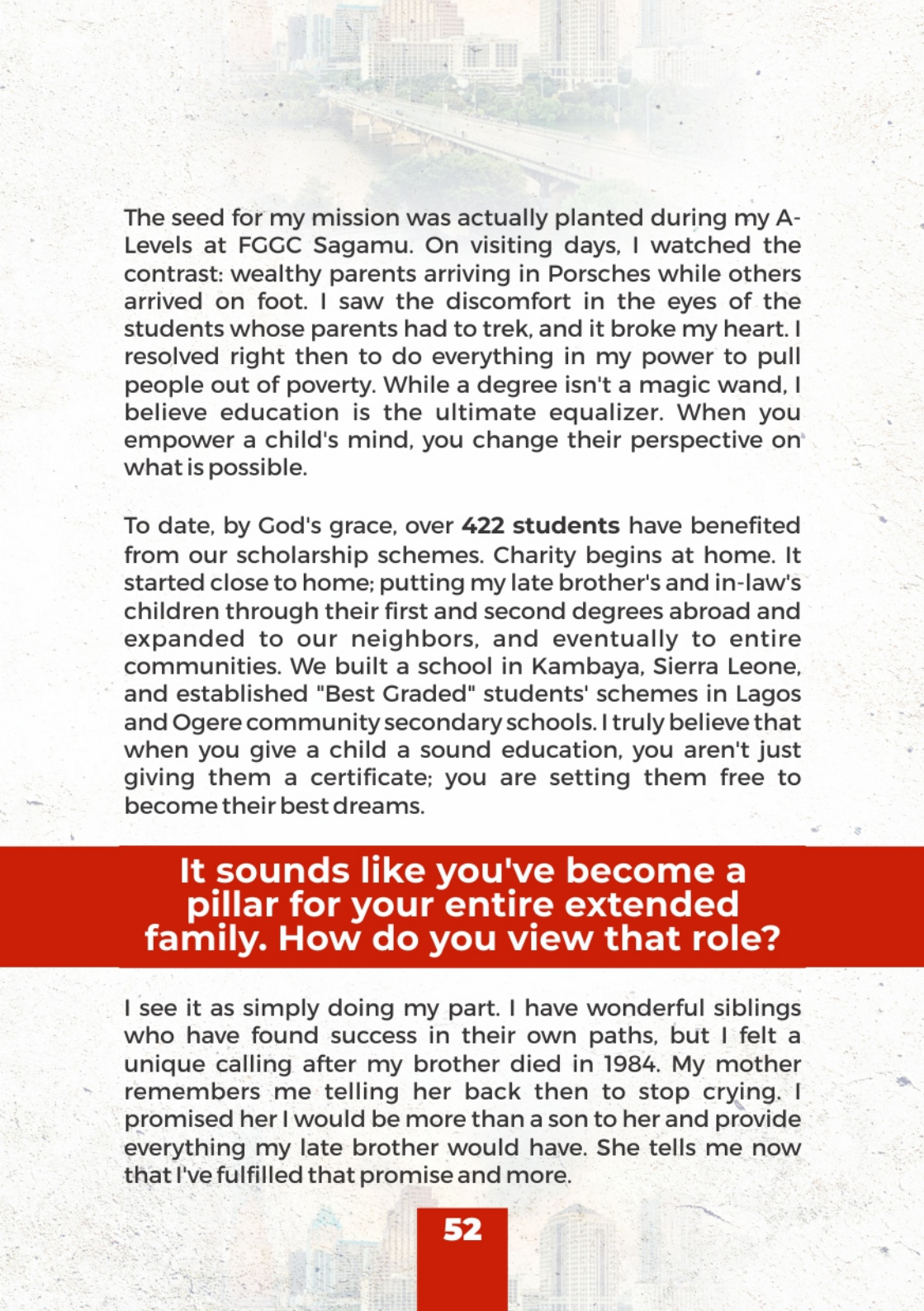
Yes! At 25, I used the upfront salary from my first job and my NYSC allowance about 9,000 Naira in total, to buy my first piece of land. My mother always said, "There is no such place as a forest; every city was once a forest." She was right. That land eventually became a fortune.

She got that foresight from my father, a wealthy industrialist who passed when she was 40. She took what she learned from him and built her own empire as a textile merchant. I watched her, listened to her, and absorbed her street acumen. Later, a friend encouraged me to look toward England. Despite being nervous, I invested £6,000 in a property there, eventually selling it for £60,000 and reinvesting the profits. When I met my husband, I brought him into this world of investment. That early wisdom from my parents is what allows us to be such a blessing to others today.

Your generosity toward educational causes is well-known.

What sparked this deep-seated passion, and how far has your reach extended today?

My passion for empowerment is a legacy from my father. He was a visionary who built factories in our hometown specifically to provide jobs for the rural population. However, when he passed away, the vast investments he had built were taken from us. My late brother stepped into that void of being a business man; using his modest resources as an accountant to build his business.

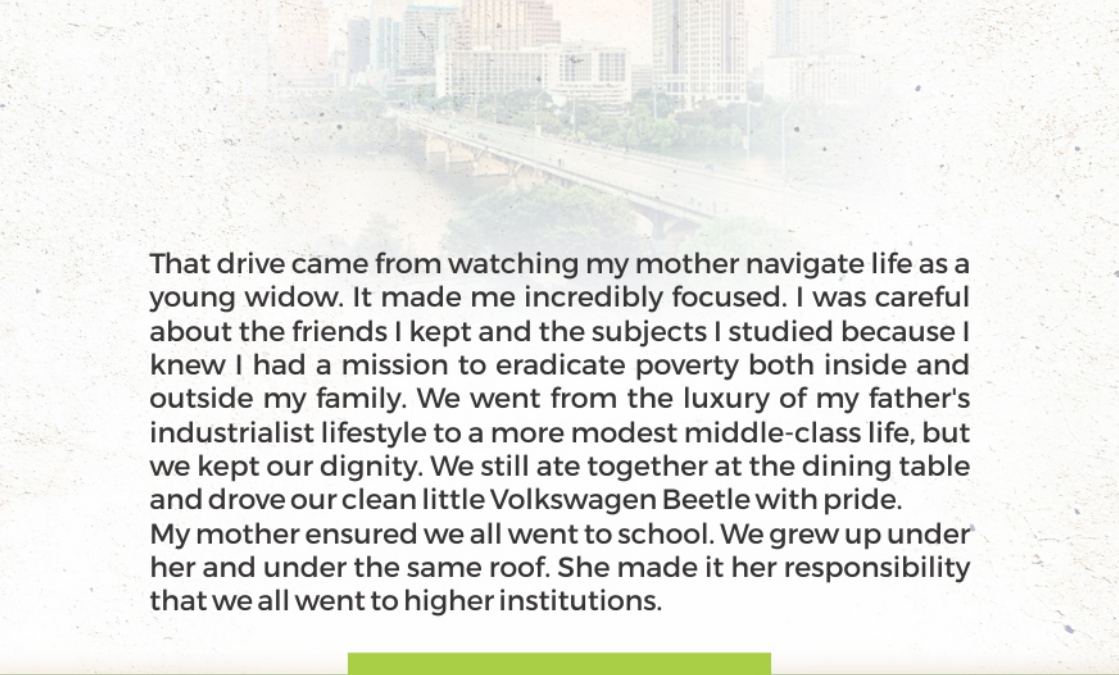


The seed for my mission was actually planted during my A-Levels at FGCG Sagamu. On visiting days, I watched the contrast: wealthy parents arriving in Porsches while others arrived on foot. I saw the discomfort in the eyes of the students whose parents had to trek, and it broke my heart. I resolved right then to do everything in my power to pull people out of poverty. While a degree isn't a magic wand, I believe education is the ultimate equalizer. When you empower a child's mind, you change their perspective on what is possible.

To date, by God's grace, over **422 students** have benefited from our scholarship schemes. Charity begins at home. It started close to home; putting my late brother's and in-law's children through their first and second degrees abroad and expanded to our neighbors, and eventually to entire communities. We built a school in Kambaya, Sierra Leone, and established "Best Graded" students' schemes in Lagos and Ogere community secondary schools. I truly believe that when you give a child a sound education, you aren't just giving them a certificate; you are setting them free to become their best dreams.

It sounds like you've become a pillar for your entire extended family. How do you view that role?

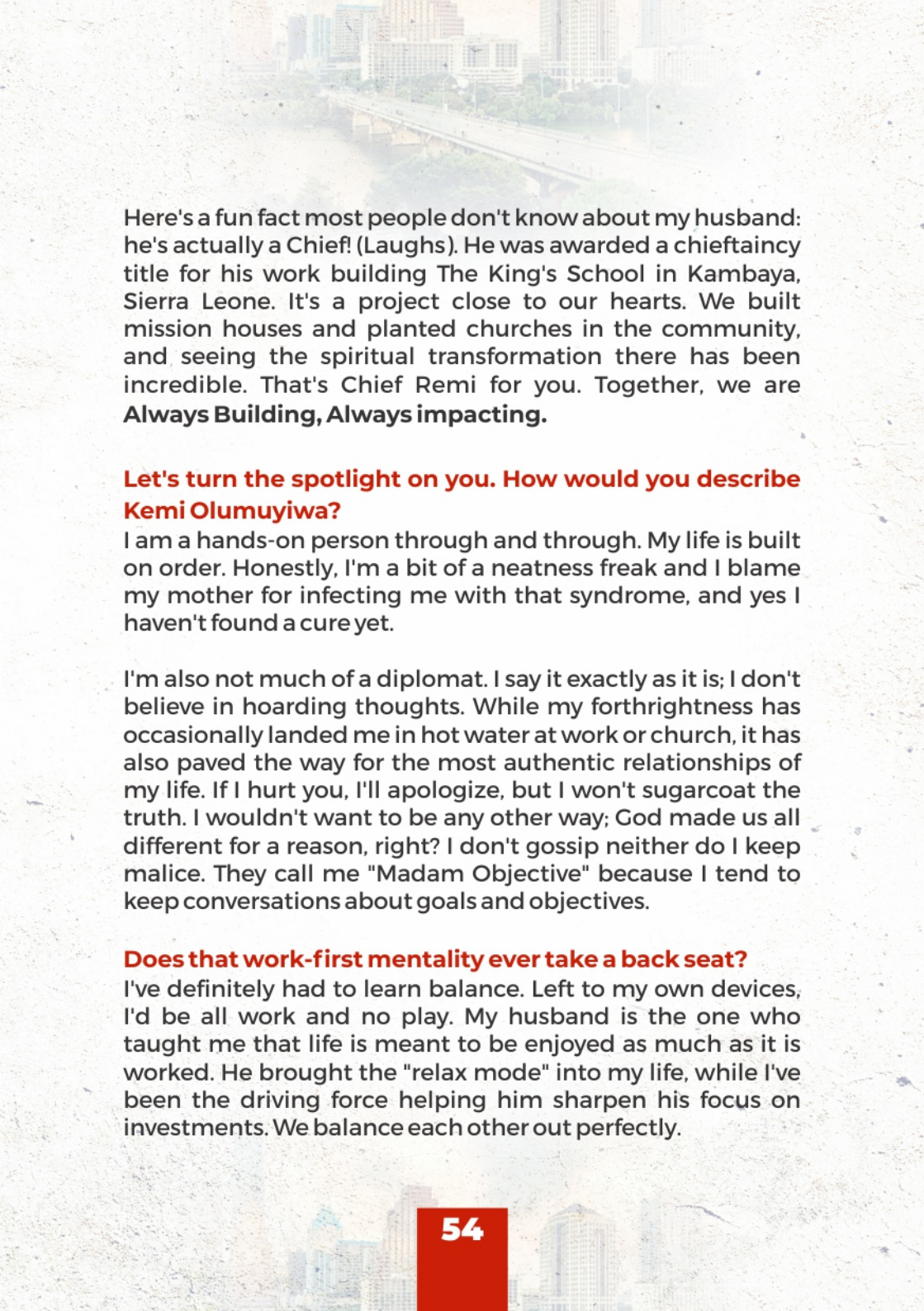
I see it as simply doing my part. I have wonderful siblings who have found success in their own paths, but I felt a unique calling after my brother died in 1984. My mother remembers me telling her back then to stop crying. I promised her I would be more than a son to her and provide everything my late brother would have. She tells me now that I've fulfilled that promise and more.



That drive came from watching my mother navigate life as a young widow. It made me incredibly focused. I was careful about the friends I kept and the subjects I studied because I knew I had a mission to eradicate poverty both inside and outside my family. We went from the luxury of my father's industrialist lifestyle to a more modest middle-class life, but we kept our dignity. We still ate together at the dining table and drove our clean little Volkswagen Beetle with pride. My mother ensured we all went to school. We grew up under her and under the same roof. She made it her responsibility that we all went to higher institutions.

You and your husband are often described as a power couple. We even heard you wrote a bestseller with him as the protagonist. Tell us about the man, the book, and the role he plays in your world.





Here's a fun fact most people don't know about my husband: he's actually a Chief! (Laughs). He was awarded a chieftaincy title for his work building The King's School in Kambaya, Sierra Leone. It's a project close to our hearts. We built mission houses and planted churches in the community, and seeing the spiritual transformation there has been incredible. That's Chief Remi for you. Together, we are **Always Building, Always impacting.**

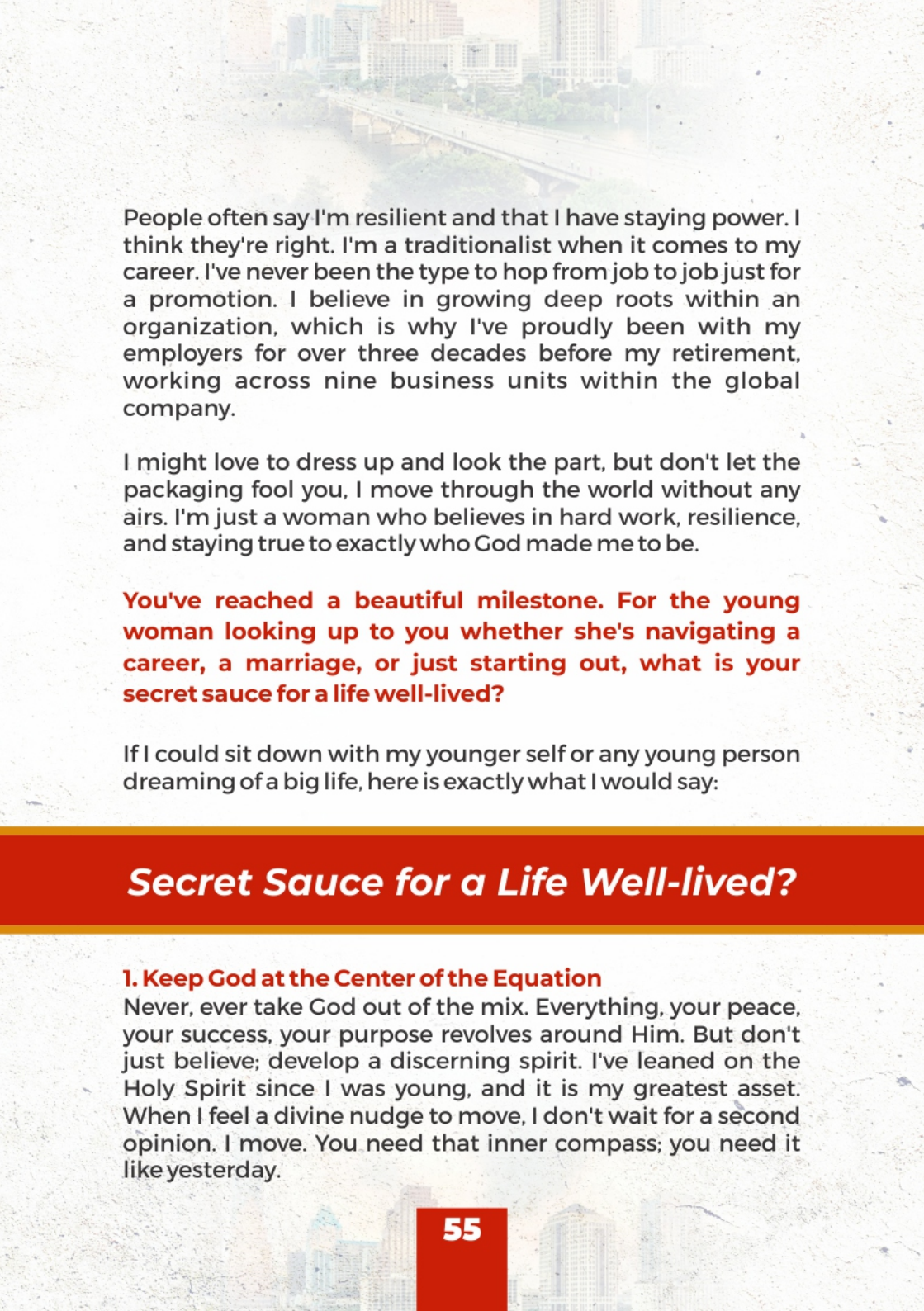
Let's turn the spotlight on you. How would you describe Kemi Olumuyiwa?

I am a hands-on person through and through. My life is built on order. Honestly, I'm a bit of a neatness freak and I blame my mother for infecting me with that syndrome, and yes I haven't found a cure yet.

I'm also not much of a diplomat. I say it exactly as it is; I don't believe in hoarding thoughts. While my forthrightness has occasionally landed me in hot water at work or church, it has also paved the way for the most authentic relationships of my life. If I hurt you, I'll apologize, but I won't sugarcoat the truth. I wouldn't want to be any other way; God made us all different for a reason, right? I don't gossip neither do I keep malice. They call me "Madam Objective" because I tend to keep conversations about goals and objectives.

Does that work-first mentality ever take a back seat?

I've definitely had to learn balance. Left to my own devices, I'd be all work and no play. My husband is the one who taught me that life is meant to be enjoyed as much as it is worked. He brought the "relax mode" into my life, while I've been the driving force helping him sharpen his focus on investments. We balance each other out perfectly.



People often say I'm resilient and that I have staying power. I think they're right. I'm a traditionalist when it comes to my career. I've never been the type to hop from job to job just for a promotion. I believe in growing deep roots within an organization, which is why I've proudly been with my employers for over three decades before my retirement, working across nine business units within the global company.

I might love to dress up and look the part, but don't let the packaging fool you, I move through the world without any airs. I'm just a woman who believes in hard work, resilience, and staying true to exactly who God made me to be.

You've reached a beautiful milestone. For the young woman looking up to you whether she's navigating a career, a marriage, or just starting out, what is your secret sauce for a life well-lived?

If I could sit down with my younger self or any young person dreaming of a big life, here is exactly what I would say:

Secret Sauce for a Life Well-lived?

1. Keep God at the Center of the Equation

Never, ever take God out of the mix. Everything, your peace, your success, your purpose revolves around Him. But don't just believe; develop a discerning spirit. I've leaned on the Holy Spirit since I was young, and it is my greatest asset. When I feel a divine nudge to move, I don't wait for a second opinion. I move. You need that inner compass; you need it like yesterday.

2. Master the Art of the Seed

Learn to sow into God's kingdom and into people. I have never been stingy with my resources, and my life is a walking testimony of that harvest. I always dreamed of buying my mother a car and building her houses as far back as the 90s. It didn't happen overnight, but I refused to give up on that dream. When I finally handed her those keys, the joy was incomparable. Since then, God has repaid me a thousandfold. Whatever your mind can conceive, you can achieve.


3. Reject the Poverty Gospel

Please understand this: You can be a devoted Christian and still have it all. In fact, it's scriptural. God wants you to prosper and be in good health just as your soul prospers. My brother was a huge influence on me in this regard. I'd call him a posh Christian. He was deeply spiritual but also incredibly driven. He had a great job, smart investments, and bought his first brand-new car in his twenties. I share this because I want to kill the myth that poverty is a sign of godliness. It isn't.

4. No Excuses in the Age of Opportunity

To the young man or woman who thinks they are too young to make an impact: stop waiting. We live in an era of unprecedented opportunity. Compared to when I was starting out, the world is at your fingertips. Age is not a barrier; your mindset is. Don't cut corners. Those who try to take shortcuts usually end up cutting their own progress short.

Keep your hope alive. What you couldn't achieve today, you will conquer tomorrow. Just keep going. Teach your children what is right, and when the time comes, don't be afraid to let them step out into the world on their own.



Even if they stumble or lose their way, they will eventually find their path back to the foundation you built for them. That foundation is their internal compass.

I learned the meaning of resilience long before I entered a boardroom. When I was in school, I spent time from 9:00 AM until I went to sleep supporting my mother in her textile. That experience didn't just teach me about business; it taught me how to stand my ground. It gave me the grit to keep going when things got tough.

A FINAL WORD OF WARNING

*Authentic success takes time,
and there is no substitute for integrity.*



TEENAGE

OCTOBER 1982

50 Kobo

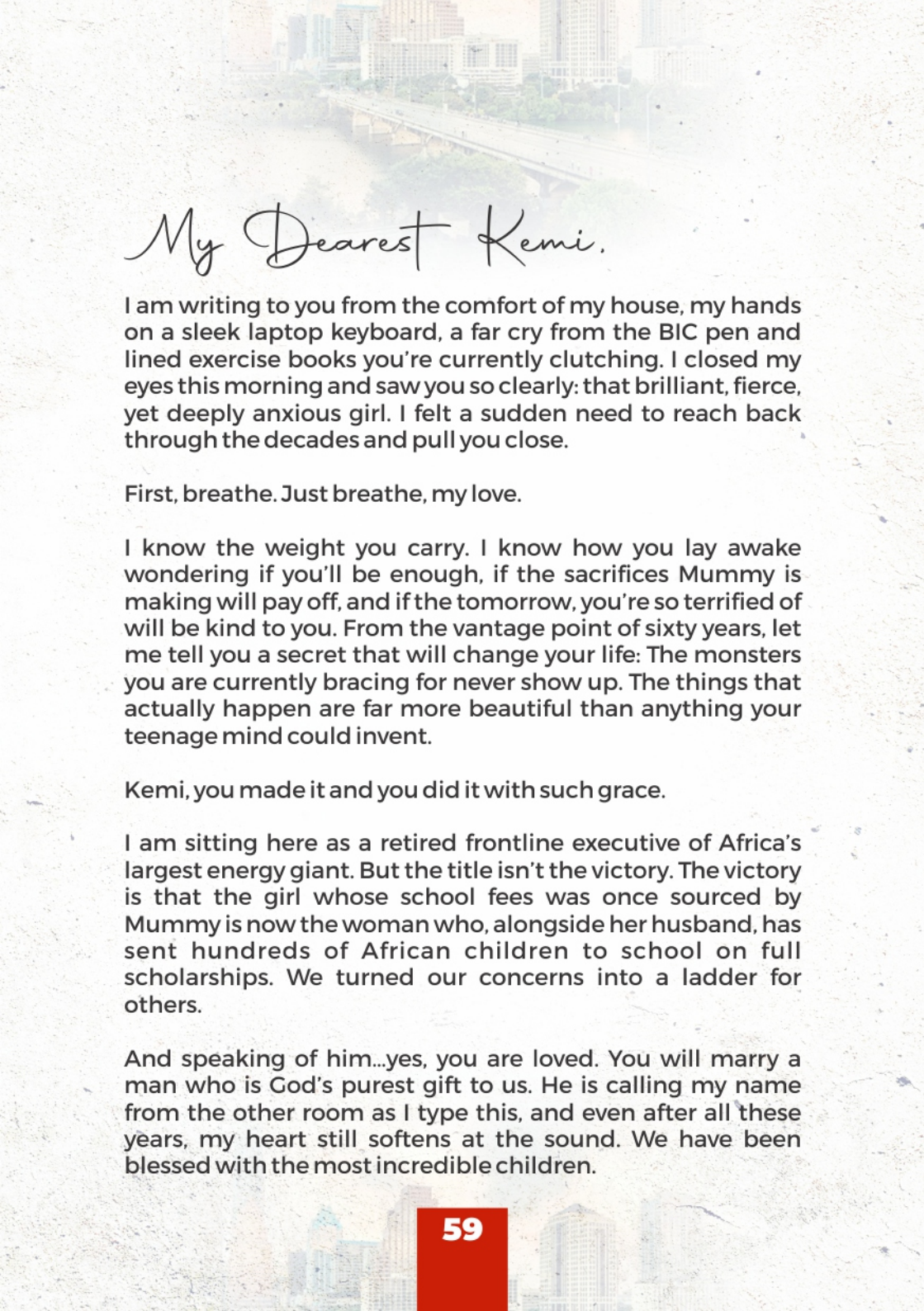
KEMI: A NIGERIAN TEENAGER LOOKS FORWARD TO THE FUTURE WITH HOPE

MEET A DARING and ENTERPRISING TEEN WITH BIG DREAMS

Keep up that believe, Kemi. Stay confident. Don't forget to be street-wise. Put God first. You'll get there.



LETTER TO MY YOUNGER SELF



My Dearest Kemi.

I am writing to you from the comfort of my house, my hands on a sleek laptop keyboard, a far cry from the BIC pen and lined exercise books you're currently clutching. I closed my eyes this morning and saw you so clearly: that brilliant, fierce, yet deeply anxious girl. I felt a sudden need to reach back through the decades and pull you close.

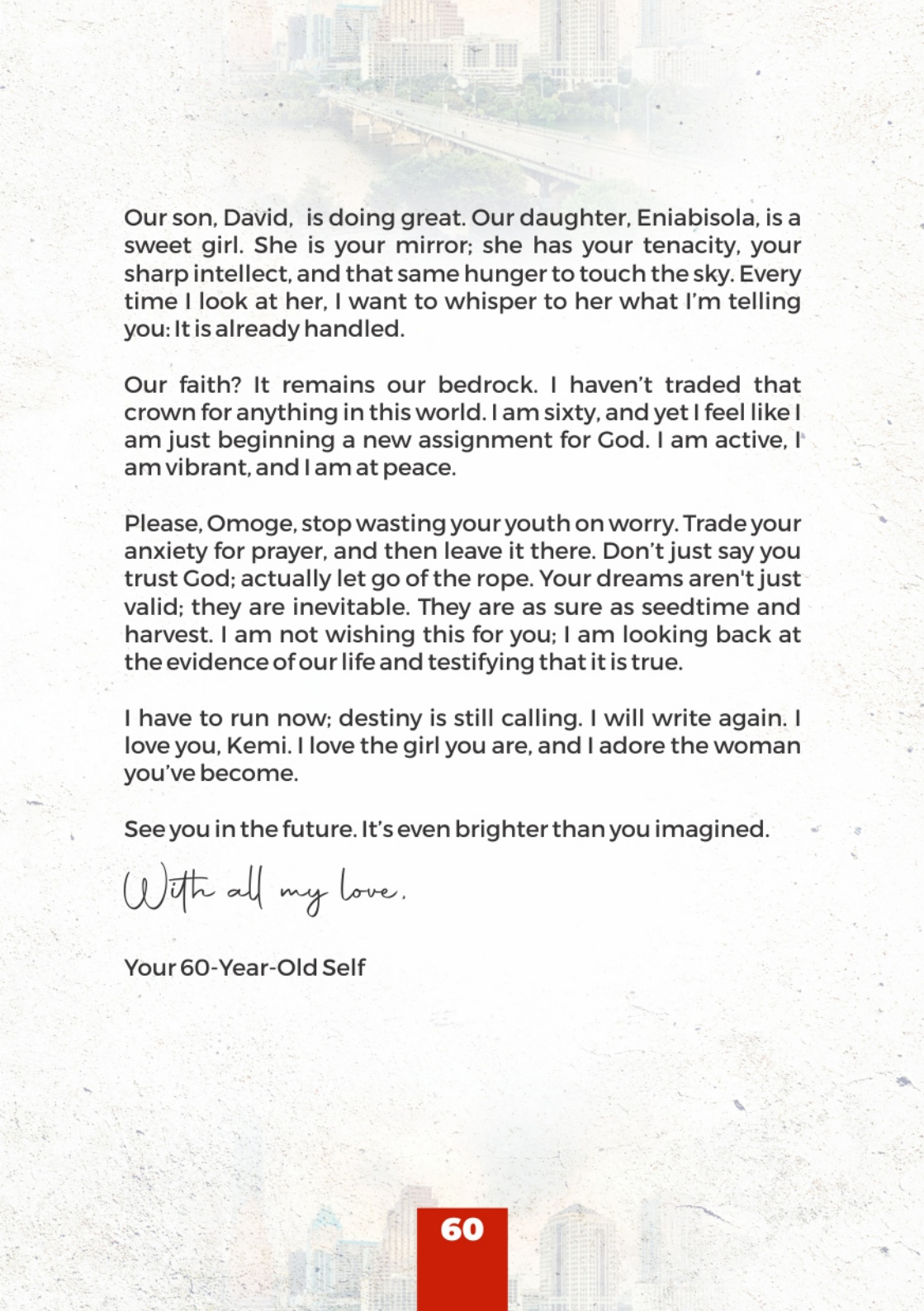
First, breathe. Just breathe, my love.

I know the weight you carry. I know how you lay awake wondering if you'll be enough, if the sacrifices Mummy is making will pay off, and if the tomorrow, you're so terrified of will be kind to you. From the vantage point of sixty years, let me tell you a secret that will change your life: The monsters you are currently bracing for never show up. The things that actually happen are far more beautiful than anything your teenage mind could invent.

Kemi, you made it and you did it with such grace.

I am sitting here as a retired frontline executive of Africa's largest energy giant. But the title isn't the victory. The victory is that the girl whose school fees was once sourced by Mummy is now the woman who, alongside her husband, has sent hundreds of African children to school on full scholarships. We turned our concerns into a ladder for others.

And speaking of him...yes, you are loved. You will marry a man who is God's purest gift to us. He is calling my name from the other room as I type this, and even after all these years, my heart still softens at the sound. We have been blessed with the most incredible children.



Our son, David, is doing great. Our daughter, Eniabisola, is a sweet girl. She is your mirror; she has your tenacity, your sharp intellect, and that same hunger to touch the sky. Every time I look at her, I want to whisper to her what I'm telling you: It is already handled.

Our faith? It remains our bedrock. I haven't traded that crown for anything in this world. I am sixty, and yet I feel like I am just beginning a new assignment for God. I am active, I am vibrant, and I am at peace.

Please, Omoge, stop wasting your youth on worry. Trade your anxiety for prayer, and then leave it there. Don't just say you trust God; actually let go of the rope. Your dreams aren't just valid; they are inevitable. They are as sure as seedtime and harvest. I am not wishing this for you; I am looking back at the evidence of our life and testifying that it is true.

I have to run now; destiny is still calling. I will write again. I love you, Kemi. I love the girl you are, and I adore the woman you've become.

See you in the future. It's even brighter than you imagined.

With all my love.

Your 60-Year-Old Self







Voices from the past







TY Bello







68

TY Bello

69





Voices from the present





TY Bello





PHOTO: TOLEVA DUNIA

CELEBRATING AN AMAZING EXTENDED FAMILY

VOICES ACROSS TIME: TRIBUTES THROUGH THE YEARS

The following pages bring together voices from the past and present. While the years may differ, the sentiment remains unchanged.

AA

ADERANTI ABOROWA (KNOWN HER FOR 30 YEARS)

Kemi is my beloved sister, she takes me as a senior sister, and I actually consider her as my blood sister because we share the same portion in the blood of Christ. She's someone I love so much. She is bold and confident. She is very open and her life has no room for grudges. Expect Kemi to say it the way it is; she's not fake. She's a very down-to-earth person. My dear sister I wish you luck in all aspects of your endeavours. May your innermost desires come true. I wish you good health and a very long fulfilling life.

AA

ADEDOYIN ARUEYINGHO (MET HER ABOUT 30 YEARS AGO)

I have known her like forever. We met at King's Court (Church). Kemi is a go-getter. She loves God. There's no doubt she loves God. You can tell. It shows in her daily conduct and approach to the issues of life. When it comes to advice, you can be sure to get loads of it from her. She's a good adviser - and I'm talking about Godly counsel. She won't walk in quietly. It is hard to ignore her entrance. Her entrance is always dramatic; it's either someone is carrying her bag or...(laughs). I pray for long life and prosperity for you. Your latter years will be better and more fulfilling than the earlier years.

KB

KOFO BABATUNDE (known her since 2007)

She is a woman of faith. She has encouraged me a lot in this regard. Her testimony is touching. Kemi is someone who obviously puts her faith into practice. She is a lover of excellence. She loves structures. There is a softness about her that doesn't show on the outside but trust me, she can be very soft. She obviously loves her husband and children and it translates in all she does. She is also a strong Christian minister. Her commitment to people and projects is outstanding. She can't be hidden. Kemi, your will continue to be fabulous. You will see your children's children and the manifestation of all the words God has spoken into your life. Your restoration will begin even now. God bless your family and all. Again, get ready for restoration.

NGOZI LARABA OTUM-MBA (KNOWN HER FOR 19 YEARS)

Her smile actually attracted me to her. She's always smiling. Her life story is also very inspiring; how she got her first child and other hurdles she has crossed in life. I see her as a woman of faith. It is obvious her husband's vibrant prayer life can be attributed to the quality of peace he enjoys at home. She's a star in her husband's life. Kemi is a go-getter, she's focused. I'll liken her to queen Esther in the Bible. She has always stood behind her husband. Speaking about her career, the fact that she has risen to her current position is enough proof that she is hardworking. Her confidence makes her stand out in any crowd. The way she walks (demonstrates it). She walks with a lot of confidence. Celebration will not cease from your home. You'll be richer and more prosperous. God will keep you alive to see your children and children's children.

MK KYARI (KNOWN HER FOR OVER 3 DECADES)

Kemi is an encyclopedia. She has vast amount of information stored inside her. She is knowledgeable, wonderful, dynamic and responsible. She has the gift and skill of organizing. Whether it's paperwork for business, bringing a team together or setting up an event at the shortest notice, you can call her from any part of the world and you'd be sure she will drop whatever she's doing and make it happen. As Head of the organization, whenever we have national assignments where the president is scheduled to attend, we don't stress much over event details, Kemi is always up and ready to go.

Kemi is an encyclopedia. She has vast amount of information stored inside her. She is knowledgeable, wonderful, dynamic and responsible.

Her future; career and life is bright by the grace of God. I wish her God's guidance and blessings.

MRS EE

MRS. EBELE EZENNE (KNOWN HER FOR 3 DECADES)

She is an embodiment of strength and dignity. She's been a source of strength. Sometimes I wonder how her experience predates her age but then again, I realize that it basically started with the close bond she shared with her mum. She's versed in investment. Her mum was an investor; little wonder it rubbed off on her. Rounded both at work and at home. The way she runs her family, she seems to have time for everything. She has little problem managing her career and family. I like the way she smiles. She has a way of finding the funny side of life. Her fashion sense is superb. It's easy to spot the fact that she is comfortable in her own skin. Her carriage and fashion sense is undeniable. I pray that she receives double of everything she wishes herself.

MRS TA

MRS. TOYIN ADESANYA (KNOWN HER FOR TWO DECADES)

Seems like I have known her all my life. We met when I was transferred to Lagos from Abuja. Ijogbon. (laughs). With Kemi there's no embellishment, she says it as it is. In Yoruba culture we are taught not to say it all. Kemi says it all (laughs) She's brutally honest, no filter. I call her my sister from another mother. She is a giver. When you have a problem, that problem becomes her problem. She's lovely, empathetic and has a generous heart. My sister from another mother, I wish you a very long, healthy and fulfilling life. The fact that your children came at the time they did only means you'll live longer.

AA

MR. ABUBAKAR ADAMU (KNOWN HER FOR 25 YEARS)

Having worked under her, I'll describe Madam Kemi as an honest woman. She carries everybody along in the department. If you offend her, she'll tell you straight away; and she easily forgives. We've worked on several events together, from tournaments to dinners. For her, the idea is always to make it a success. She is a giver. I respect the fact that she is always willing to help. If you have challenges, all you have to do is tell her. If for any reason she can't help at that moment, she'll look for someone who will assist you. This cuts across everyone. whether you are a security man or manager.

OAA

MR. OGBONNAYA A. KALU

Mrs. Olumuyiwa is very vibrant. She is a lovely wonderful fellow. There's something about her vibrancy. She fights for whatever she believes in. When she believes in your cause, she fights like a general; in front and beside you. She is detribalized. A no-nonsense type of person. Under her I obtained one of the highest ratings on the job. It was her guidance that drove me to attain such height. You can tell she has class, elegance and beauty. She's a great woman. Her insistence on getting things done the right way sometimes makes people misunderstand her but what you see is what you get. I wish you good health and continuous blessings from God.

AI

AGGEY IMOLOANE (KNOWN HER FOR 37 YEARS)

We actually met at the NYSC Camp. We served in Kaduna. Kemi is fun-loving. There is never a dull moment with her. Very vocal, down-to-earth. No hidden agenda. She was the life of the parties we attended back in the days. I'm impressed by how she is able to relate with everyone from all backgrounds. During NYSC she lived with about 5 other people in the same room. I was the choosy type and I kept wondering how she did it. She was more exposed than her roommates, yet she blended in. Call her Miss Elegance. She had it all and still has it all till date. I pray that she lives for as long God has ordained for her to live on earth. She'll be old enough to enjoy her children, marriage and peace that she deserves. My emphasis is on good health. She'll be strong and her eyes will never grow dim.

MRS OS

FOLASHADE OLAIDE SHITTU (KNOWN HER FOR 42 YEARS)

As a young girl, she was easy going and polite to a fault. She had and still has an open heart. Ask her anything and you'll get it. Apart from her life, she'll give you all she has. Kemi radiates happiness. She loves to gist. Very industrious. She's certainly not a lazy person. I particularly love the way she balances her career and family life. Her relationship with her husband is worth emulating. Very lovely couple. Her smile is one of the many things that distinguishes her. She can't get into a place without being liked. Her dressing is always on point. She's unique and fashionable. Always conscious of what she's putting on. I pray that she and her husband will live long to reap the fruits of their labour. She will see her children's children.



My Awe-mazing MUM

KEMI'S MUM

Let's meet you

I'm her mother. Among the many gifts God gave to me, she is one of my beloved. Kemi is the kind of girl that takes care of her parents.

Does any memorable event come to mind?

During her father's burial ceremony, there was a lot of music and food to go round. Kemi saw so many people gathered and thought it was some kind of birthday party. So while others were mourning, she was excited. Someone asked her why she was so happy and she replied: I'm happy because of the birthday that's going on. She's a very jovial person; the type of person that can interact with anybody and everybody.

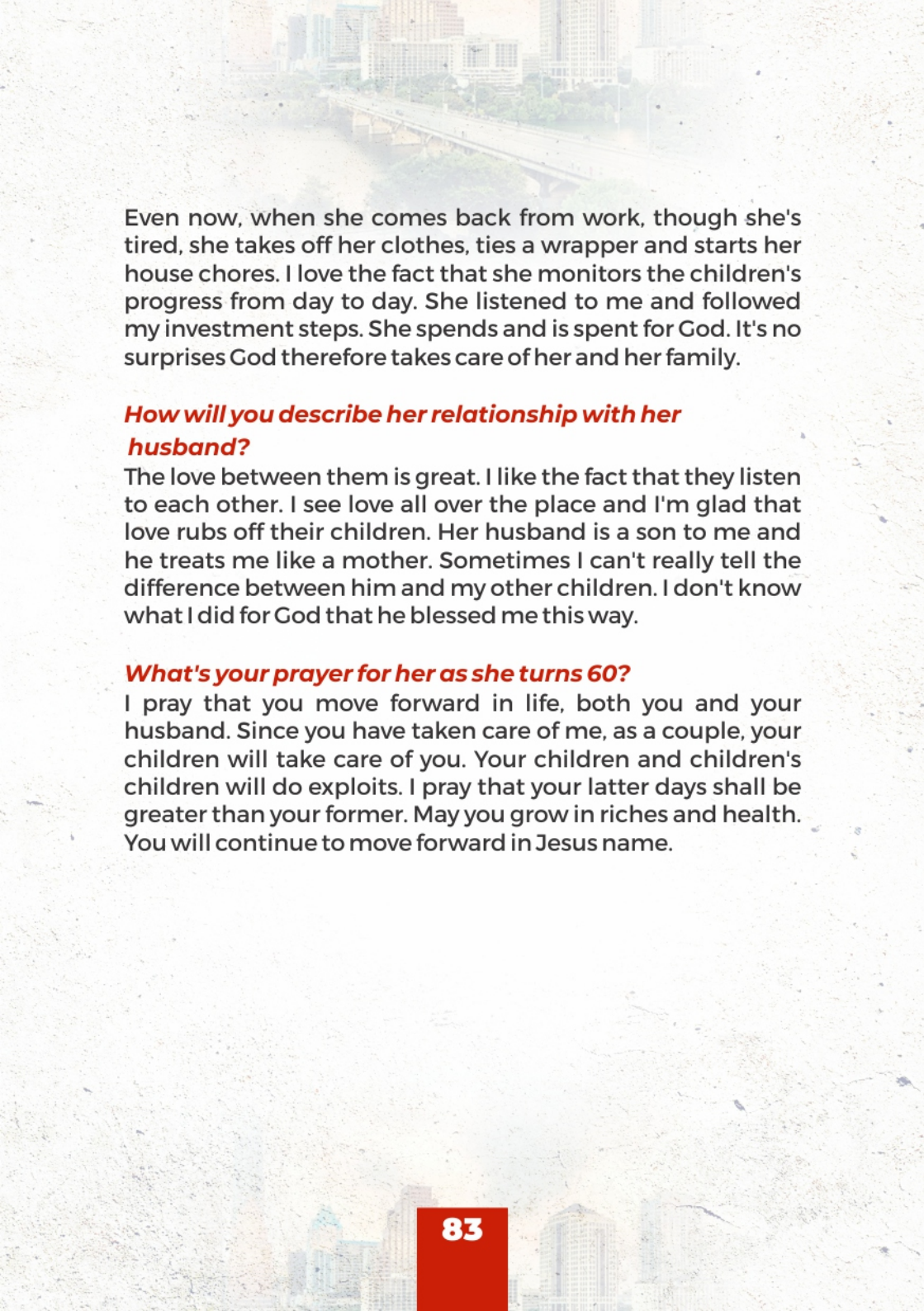
"She's the kind of daughter that listens to her parents and tries not to disobey. She takes a lot of advice. She loved to do business when she was young; she really helped me with my trade."

Tell us about her relationship with her siblings

Whether you are old or young, she treats you the same. There's no such thing as preferential treatment, she loves them equally. I thank God He did not only give me children, he gave me children who love each other.

Tell us more about her

She can be very active, very forward and determined. If she says no, it's a 'no'. She doesn't budge. She's the clean type; she hates dirt. She's the kind of daughter that listens to her parents and tries not to disobey. She takes a lot of advice. She loved to do business and support me in my business. Very industrious.



Even now, when she comes back from work, though she's tired, she takes off her clothes, ties a wrapper and starts her house chores. I love the fact that she monitors the children's progress from day to day. She listened to me and followed my investment steps. She spends and is spent for God. It's no surprises God therefore takes care of her and her family.

How will you describe her relationship with her husband?

The love between them is great. I like the fact that they listen to each other. I see love all over the place and I'm glad that love rubs off their children. Her husband is a son to me and he treats me like a mother. Sometimes I can't really tell the difference between him and my other children. I don't know what I did for God that he blessed me this way.

What's your prayer for her as she turns 60?

I pray that you move forward in life, both you and your husband. Since you have taken care of me, as a couple, your children will take care of you. Your children and children's children will do exploits. I pray that your latter days shall be greater than your former. May you grow in riches and health. You will continue to move forward in Jesus name.

DAVID OLUMUYIWA

You're looking at the best mum in the world. It's difficult to write the story of my life without my mum. She can be too active and she's always worried about me, even as an adult but yeah, that's what mothers are known for, right? (laughs) Like many people must have said, my mum is a beautiful, no-nonsense yet very caring woman. I call her my best friend.

I love the fact that even when she's on a high level delegation tour or foreign work-related assignments, she still creates time to stop by and see me, whether I'm in the United Kingdom or the United States.

In many ways, she's a role model to me. When I see her on TV, I'm like "That's my mum, mehnenn!" I like her spiritual side too. She doesn't just have a relationship with God; she's also a kingdom investor, one who gives to the work of God.

I could spend the whole day talking about her work in the corporate world. From the earlier days of her career till when she retired as an Executive Director.



ENIABISOLA OLUMIYAWA

Tell us about your mum

Where do I start? My mum is beautiful, smart, and incredibly kind. Everywhere we go, people stop to thank her for her help, which tells you everything you need to know. Plus, I have to admit, she has an amazing sense of style.

What is her most standout quality?

I love how she handles her relationship with my dad. She gives him his space, yet they are completely inseparable and best friends. Watching how they communicate is a lesson in itself.

Why do you call her a 'Proverbs 31 Woman'?

It's the truth. She is virtuous and worth more than rubies. My dad trusts her completely because she adds so much value to his life. She is the heart of our home and always brings us good, never harm.

A final word for her?

Mum, stay young at heart and keep glowing. I want you to grow old gracefully so you can be there to enjoy your grandchildren someday. I love you!"



REMI OLUMUYIWA

You know her more than we do.

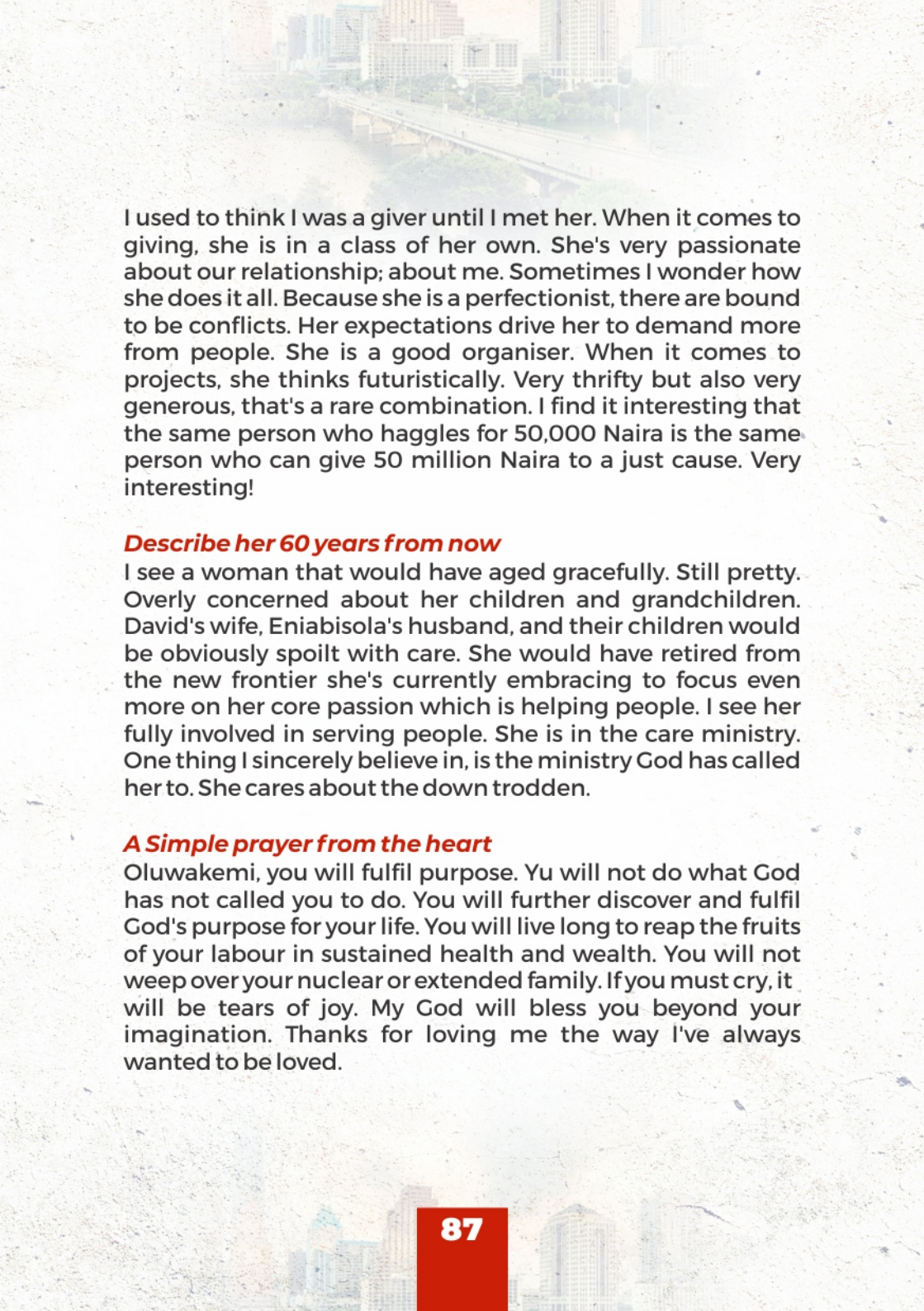
Tell us about your wife

She's real. No pretensions; she tells you how she feels. She doesn't gloss over issues or hide her feelings. She's not the sugar-coating type. She bears no grudges; if she sees or experiences anything she doesn't like, she says it as it is and gets over it. That is one of the qualities that endeared me to her beside her beauty and love for God. She reminds me of the scripture; don't let the sun go down on your anger. Malice is definitely not her thing.

My wife is loving, I have grown to love her and love her passionately. She can give everything and anything for her family. With her, my welfare and that of the children is secured. She extends this same care to her mum, brothers and sisters. She worries so much about the people around her, her friends inclusive. Sometimes I'm tempted to think that such worries is a woman thing because my mum was always like that too.

But then again, maybe it's just an expression of who she is - someone who genuinely cares.





I used to think I was a giver until I met her. When it comes to giving, she is in a class of her own. She's very passionate about our relationship; about me. Sometimes I wonder how she does it all. Because she is a perfectionist, there are bound to be conflicts. Her expectations drive her to demand more from people. She is a good organiser. When it comes to projects, she thinks futuristically. Very thrifty but also very generous, that's a rare combination. I find it interesting that the same person who haggles for 50,000 Naira is the same person who can give 50 million Naira to a just cause. Very interesting!

Describe her 60 years from now

I see a woman that would have aged gracefully. Still pretty. Overly concerned about her children and grandchildren. David's wife, Eniabisola's husband, and their children would be obviously spoilt with care. She would have retired from the new frontier she's currently embracing to focus even more on her core passion which is helping people. I see her fully involved in serving people. She is in the care ministry. One thing I sincerely believe in, is the ministry God has called her to. She cares about the down trodden.

A Simple prayer from the heart

Oluwakemi, you will fulfil purpose. You will not do what God has not called you to do. You will further discover and fulfil God's purpose for your life. You will live long to reap the fruits of your labour in sustained health and wealth. You will not weep over your nuclear or extended family. If you must cry, it will be tears of joy. My God will bless you beyond your imagination. Thanks for loving me the way I've always wanted to be loved.

PASTORS JIDE & TOMI SOMEFUN (KNOWN HER FOR 30 YEARS)

She's really beautiful inside and out. She says it the way she feels; she's herself. She doesn't behave like anyone else. We have a lot in common in our walk through life. I first knew her when providence brought us together and I had to encourage her concerning the issue of child bearing. She eventually had her first baby, a boy. I still remember the day I was teasing her that her first son, David, was going to have a sibling and I thank God a few months later, it became a reality. We've talked together, we've laughed together and we've cried together. Kemi, you'll live to be more. You will redeem the time lost as a result of your having to wait for children. God has not even started with you yet. You'll live in prosperity, peace, divine health and walk in the purpose God has ordained for you. You will not walk others' path no matter how attractive it is. You and Yours will not miss heaven which is our ultimate goal in Jesus Name! God bless you.

FUNLOLA JEJE (CHILDHOOD FRIEND)

We've been childhood friends. I've known her for like forever. Over four decades or even more. Kemi is a non-succumbing boardroom senior executive. Focused and unbent. She bubbles, you can see from her demeanour that she's different. Kemi is a very straightforward and passionate person. When she loves, she loves. When she doesn't, she doesn't. She's deep, God-fearing, kind and very compassionate. She's a friend I share absolutely everything with and vice versa. We laugh together and cry together. There's never a dull moment with Kemi. Her son is my godson and that shows the depth of the relationship.

She's a wonderful and blessed woman. She's had challenges which she has triumphantly overcome and I believe the best is yet to come. She will see the manifestation of all the things she's believed God for. Kemi and her hubby will live to see her children's children in wealth and health. I reconfirm it to you, my friend, that I truly love you. I know we don't see much of each other like we used to but I love and celebrate you!

KKA

KUNLE AND KOFO AKINGUGBE (KNOWN HER FOR 3 DECADES)

MY earliest memory of Kemi (Kunle laughs). She had this fancy car, an Audi Convertible. We were living in Apapa then. She was very meticulous with the way she looked after it. The car was always looking smart. Back then, small smart cars were not readily available to our own peer group. She has probably maintained that in her choice of acquisitions. Kemi is who she is, take it or leave it and I really like that about her. She is someone who loves and takes care of her family; from the husband, Remi, to David and Eniabisola, her daughter. Her extended family is not left out. She is a go-getter. She goes after her dreams. Interestingly, I knew her before she met her hubby. I actually engineered the meeting between her and her hubby (laughs). She makes me laugh anytime I see her. Kemi and her husband both hold a special place in my heart. I'm glad after so many years their marriage still remains an inspiration to many. Theirs is a good example of how couples can complement each other. I pray that her light will never go dim. I pray that the glory of the Lord will continue to be her beauty. I pray that her husband and children will continue to enjoy her.



HB

HETTY BAKARE (KNOWN HER FOR 30 YEARS)

We've been together since our days at RCCG Kings Court. Kemi is bubbly, loving, affectionate, open, easy going, dependable, and a good friend. Initially, I wasn't close to her. We became close when she was about to get married. We met through a younger mutual friend. She is a mother and a woman of God. Over the years, she has grown spiritually, career-wise and has become more confident. I think the confidence is borne out of her relationship with God. As she grows older, she has become even more beautiful. Her personality and her smile are two of her many visual differentiators. May God continue to strengthen and keep you and your husband as one. You'll always be there for your family. You will flourish in God's house.

AO

AYOTUNDE OLOWOFOYEKU (KNOWN HER FOR 30 YEARS)

We were together at RCCG Kings Court. She's also my wife's childhood friend. I've never thought of describing her because she's someone I've always known from way back. She's easy to get along with. Her taste is not too peculiar. She's easy to read and understand. If you know her boundaries, you can always say the right thing to get into her good books. Like her husband fondly says, she is cut like a diamond; always elegant. My prayer is what I've always prayed; may God grant your heart desire. All that you do will prosper. You will see your children's children to the fourth generation. And any day I come to your house, may I always see Moi Moi and Jollof Rice. You know my food is Moi Moi. (Laughs)

FUNMI AREMU (KNOWN HER FOR 13 YEARS)

She's an amazing woman. Friendly, warm, wonderful Christian. She is someone who knows the scripture. Ever peaceful, she is always well dressed. I like the way she carries herself. Very classy, she effortlessly stands out in the midst of thousands. She's always very happy. You can tell she's passionate about the things of God. Very humble too. I remember the first day I spoke to her, I didn't know she was approachable. She authored a very inspiring book - **Married to My Role Model**. The day I started reading it, I couldn't put it down. She's been through a lot and her experience has inspired a lot of people. You can't overlook her contented and happy spirit. I pray that she'll continue to grow from strength to strength. I pray that her passion for God will remain. Lines will fall for her in pleasant places.

When she calls, thousands will answer. She'll continue to be a pride to Christendom, a faithful mother and wife.

PASTOR AND PASTOR MRS FUNMI AGUSTO (KNOWN HER FOR 20+ YEARS)

She's a woman of God inside and outside. She's a very wonderful person with a sweet spirit. With Kemi, what you see is actually what you get. She is not pretentious. She cares for people genuinely. The love of Christ radiates through her easily. She is easy to relate with. Very lively and bubbly. Always smiling and rejoicing. Whatever God has laid in your heart, do it quick. I know you have a lot of ideas and diverse projects and God may have spoken to you about ministry, rise up and do it quick. It's about the rapture that is coming soon. God will give you long life, wealth and strength in Him. You will enjoy your husband, children and entire family. You will continue to enjoy each other. You will see your children's children and no family member of yours will be found wanting in Jesus name.

PASTOR CHICHI NWACHUKWU (KNOWN HER FOR 20 YEARS +)

She has the carriage and demeanour of the Prov. 31 woman. She is an honourable woman. If you look at the challenges she and her husband had to go through in birthing the next generation, it is a testimony to character and commitment. She has brought so much to her husband's life. She laughs from her heart. Keep your focus, don't be distracted. That way you will not experience any form of division, which by the way is derived from two words 'di' and 'vision meaning two visions. I can't pray for her without praying for her husband. I've known him all my life. He could have made billions while he worked for Nigerian Airways but he chose not to. Today he is a testimony. God will cover you in his mighty arms. His face will shine on you and yours. Before you call, he will answer. Peace will continually be your portion in Jesus name.

DOJA ALLEN (KNOWN HER FOR 15 YEARS)

She's a lovely person. I always call her 'Chikito' because as I often say to her she doesn't look her age. She looks like a chick. She dresses very well. I adore her. She's lovely, spiritual and you can tell she is a supporting wife to her husband. Her elegance, her glory, is something to behold. I think she has some unusual glory radiating around her. She's just a pleasant person. She's lovely. I like her. I always play with her and tease her often "chikito, chikito, chikito!" She looks trendy, nice, and looks young. Keep being your awesome person. Don't change, so we can keep seeing what we see in you that make us adore you. Keep being that person. I wish her well. I wish her abundance of God's grace to continue to be a good wife, mother and a great servant in the house of the Lord. I wish her God's blessing. I pray that God Almighty will enlarge her coast, enlarge her borders, shine His face upon her, be gracious unto her and her children. She will know no sorrow, no evil, in the name of Jesus. Her joy shall continually be full. She will know God even more, and her husband will continue to enjoy her.

TA***TREVOR AKINDELE (KNOWN HER FOR 32 YEARS)***

She's straight forward. Good heart, diligent, hardworking. She loves God. She is compassionate and at the same time tough. Definitely committed. What I find unique about Kemi is the fact that she is a very interesting mix of compassion, but this may not be obvious. God sees it and I sense it. I see it from time to time. She gives the impression that she is a no-nonsense person, but beneath that, she is a very compassionate person with a tender heart. She always seeks to be a blessing to people. She is truly concerned about other people's needs and evidently wants to help as much as she can. That, I think, sets her apart. My prayer for her is that she will be satisfied in everything that God has blessed her with.

TA***TOLU AKINRELE (KNOWN HER FOR 30 YEARS)***

Kemi is an absolutely wonderful woman and has been an inspiration to me. If she's tough on you, it's because she wants to get you to where you should be. If you take time to share whatever is a burden to you with her, then you better be ready because she is going to keep pushing you and pushing you till you get to where you need to be. I love her dark beauty. She's the black diamond of my pastor. For her, I'll say it's her heart most importantly. She is a very kind person, outspoken as I said; she will tell you as it is, but she's very, very kind. Just keep being you, because is what has brought us this far.

KN***KEHINDE NWANI (KNOWN HER FOR ABOUT 30 YEARS)***

There's so much to say about Kemi, words aren't enough. Let me summarize her in 3 Fs: She is FUN-There's no dull moment around her. She is very down to earth and a good company. She is FABULOUS - She is such a good dresser: she knows what suits her body. She's full of FAITH - She may not be the type that memorizes countless scriptures, but her faith is practical.

For me, that's the most important thing, really. You've helped a lot of people, sponsored many through school, and your support for missions are all worthy of note and commendable. I pray that you would fulfil every purpose for which you were created. You will not fail to leave a legacy when you are old enough to go back to your maker. You will be a legacy your children, children's children and mankind will benefit from. I thank God for your life, Kemi. Indeed, you are a testimony of God's faithfulness. God bless you!

AM

ASHIRU KABIRI MATAZU (KNOWN HER FOR 35 YEARS)

She is hardworking and detailed. She's very thorough when it comes to doing her job. I have learnt so much from her. I actually learnt the habit of double-checking documents from her. Kemi is also very enterprising. One time, the Group Managing Director was coming to Lagos to receive an award from the Council for Nigerian Engineers. We had just one hour for the logistics and it seemed really impossible until Kemi showed up. From venue to all other logistics, like magic, she sorted them out. It was so amazing I even mentioned it in her appraisal. She is a testimony of hard work and smart work. I pray God will guide her in everything she does. As she grows older, I wish her more capacity for the tasks ahead. More importantly, I wish her long life and prosperity.

AF

ADJOA FADOJUTIMI (KNOWN HER FOR 30 YEARS)

She's kind, she's loving: she loves people. She is humble and simple. She's a good Christian and I can call her my friend anywhere. She has this smile and her warmth. She will always warm up to you. She is friendly. I would ask her to continue being who she has been. I wish her well: health, joy, happiness and I pray that in the mighty name of Jesus she will not be sick. The Lord will renew your strength in the mighty name of Jesus.

PASTOR IDOWU & SIJU ILUYOMADE (KNOWN HER FOR OVER 3 DECADES)

She's very forthright. No hang-ups. With Kemi what you see is what you get. She is passionate about the things of God. A giver with a large heart, a pillar in God's house. She is someone that loves her family passionately. Put her in a position and her passion will shine through her tasks. She is articulate and very blunt and this is very good. You can count on her friendship; she's a great friend, loyal to her friends and loyal to God. She literarily is the type that sticks closer than a brother. Her giving is sacrificial; always giving and always loving. She will go out of her way to satisfy your needs whether it's convenient for her or not. She is the sharing type. She's awesome! God will fulfil the desire of your heart. God will use you for the right assignment he has predestined for your life. You will not be taken away in the midst of your blessing. You will live to enjoy the fruit of your labour in Jesus' name





14

Things You Didn't Know About KEMI OLUMUYIWA

Here are 14 fascinating things you probably didn't know about the woman of the hour, Mrs. Kemi Olumuyiwa:

1. A Family Treasure: She is the precious sixth child in a lively family of seven and holds the special place of being the second daughter.

2. The 20-Something Mogul: While others were just starting out, she was already building her empire, purchasing her first two landed properties in her twenties.

3. A Legacy of Learning: Alongside her husband, she has transformed nearly **hundreds of lives** and counting through their extensive scholarship programmes.

4. The Excellence Standard: "Good enough" isn't in her vocabulary. She is a dedicated perfectionist who is unapologetically obsessed with excellence.

5. The Queen of Order: If it's not spotless, it's not Kemi! She is a self-confessed neatness freak who thrives in clean, orderly environments.

6. A Global Leader: She once commanded the helm as the Head of Public Affairs and Administration for the NNPC London office.

7. Style Icon Since Day One: Her flair for sharp, elegant dressing isn't a new trend; it's a passion that stretches all the way back to her childhood.

8. The Secret Comedienne: Underneath the corporate exterior is a woman so hilarious she could have easily conquered the world of stand-up comedy or acting.

9. The 120-Second Laugh: She doesn't just chuckle; she celebrates! According to her son, she holds the family record for an incredible **two minutes** of non-stop laughter.

10. A Bestselling Author: She has over 5 publications to her name.

11. Gifted and Skilled Event Organizer: She has organized numerous successful and commendable state/high level events.

12. A Boardroom Champion: She was Head (Executive Director), Relationship & Stakeholder Management in Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited.

13. World-Class Speaker: She has been invited to speak at several high-level seminars and events across the globe, sharing her knowledge and expertise across a variety of audiences

14. A Women and Children Empowerment Advocate:

Kemi has a number of self-started initiatives aimed at economically disadvantaged women and the youths. Strategically located modern shops on a convenient loan to women, payable within 25 years and a computer learning and coding centre, free of fees/cost to focus youth communities, are just some of her empowerment initiatives.

A MODEST COLLECTION OF TRIBUTES

Tributes from all over...

FS

FLORENCE SANNI

Aunty Kemi, my favourite aunty.

You have always been there, putting smiles on everyone's face with your strong spirit and warm heart. Anyone who knows you would know how much your family means to you. You always put us first and make time for everyone.

You say what is on your mind, and challenge me to be my best self. As a woman, I admire the career path you have built for yourself and your desire to have the best. You have always been, and will continue to be, one of my fiercest role models.

I loved our trip to Dubai and Malta. I remember talking about love and partners. The story of how you and Uncle Remi met made me laugh and it was nice just relaxing and talking with you. I loved how you trusted me to do your make up. It looked amazing.

You are beautiful, funny, and firm and I absolutely love that about you. Cannot wait until I have a baby girl that you can say "Excuse me young lady" to.

I love you always and pray that you always feel valued.

FS

TAYO KOLA-DAISI

Kemi aka "Kemshow". Happy Birthday! It's been a long eventful journey but God has definitely been good to you. He has favoured you specially. How can I forget Unilorin days; you were a "character" but it's the sincerity of your character that endeared me to you and made me so fond of you. You're so real! Though we don't see and talk often, you usually make time to share my joys once you get to know about them (and vice versa); a reflection of the sincerity of your heart and true friendship. I wish you an enjoyable Jubilee celebration in Malta. I would have loved to be there but unfortunately, I can't - we will have our dinner in Lagos (lol). My friend and sister, your best years are ahead of you...enjoy the blessings.

BA

BOLANLE ADEGBENRO

Congratulations to you Kemi! I wish you long life and prosperity in Jesus name. The Lord Almighty will continually give you perfect peace of mind, grace, favour and mercy. This great Landmark will be a new beginning full of miraculous testimonies. Enjoy your day ore mi bi omo iya. Love you lots.

CSL

GBOYEGA S.L.

Ma, on this special day as you celebrate your birthday which is the gift of life given by God, may God grant you more strength, joy and happiness. Amen. The only rock behind First Tricon Ltd, once again happy birthday Ma!

OA

LOLOADE ADEYEMI

My Aunty Kemi.
The first day I met you at my Uncle's office, I was hooked. Your perfume, your fashion sense, your beauty, your presence, was remarkable.. You exuded sophistication, even the way you squeezed your tea bag from the cup had sophistication written all over it. I thought "Na wa o. Uncle Remi finally checked his blind spot!" You were TUSH! Hahahaha! And boy were you blunt! No holds barred! Even your 'Honey' wasn't spared.

I remember the first weekend I spent with you at your apartment in Ikoyi. You teased me about how skinny I looked and about my lack of hips. Hahahaha! So, I asked you how I could get my hips to be like yours and you said "My dear there's no solution to that. You taught me a lot that weekend: How to be an independent successful woman; how to have class and beauty. You also taught me how to command the respect of peers and even men. You shared some of your past mistakes with me so I could learn from them. You were an open book and I was intrigued. I didn't want to go back home so I extended my stay and we all know how much trouble I got into with Col. Juwape for that. But with lessons learned and my hand-me-down designer outfits in tow, it was well worth it!

You are a rock to all of us and even though we sometimes go through the little hiccups that come with being a family. I know it's because you want the best for me and I want you to know that you can depend on me to be a tower of strength for David and EniB as you have been for me.

Happy Birthday my Gorgeous Aunty!

Your Tushness' has not faded with time.

Love you forever. Your Rival:)

- Ololade Adeyemi (Nee: Juwape)

YVONNE SANNI

I am so blessed to have three inspirational women in my life. The zenith being Grandma, her unswervable faith, bravery and grace is aspirational: she is truly an incredible woman. My mother (your older and only sister), moulded with a pure gold heart; her kind spirit has been a blessing to so many people. And you, my lovely Aunty, what a force of nature!

Your tenacious nature motivates me and your forthright manner strengthens me. You warm my heart because you are so generous and loving. You make me smile because you are bubbly and fun (smiles)

I have so many happy memories with you. One of the most poignant was when we sat down on your sofa in Nigeria and just talked about life. You were so real with me and I loved that. The pearl of wisdom you imparted on me that day has stayed with me.

On behalf of my siblings: Nene, Zainab and Junior, my cousins: Naomi, Sade, Juju, we just wanted to let you know that we are thankful to have you in our life and for bringing us together to celebrate your birthday, we pray that God will richly bless you and your family, as you have blessed others.

We know we drive you crazy and there is nothing you can do about it! Hahahaha!

Enjoy your birthday! We love you lots! Xxx

YVONNE SANNI.

TK

TAIWO & KEHINDE

Our beautiful Aunty Kemi!

We pray that you continue to age gracefully and that God will continue to prosper your ways. We love you so much and we appreciate you and your Family, a lot! We pray that as you increase in age, you will increase in strength and in God's wisdom. Enjoy every bit of this milestone year, we pray that it will be filled with glorious blessings.

We love you and can't wait to celebrate with you.

TO

TOLU OYEKAN

Aunty Kemi O,

I was just thinking today that Teniola must mean tenacity in a foreign language. When I think about our time together, you and I, the biggest lesson I have learnt is to always be tenacious. You are always pushing to never settle at a current state, you believe there is always an opportunity to be better, to improve yourself, to push yourself towards improvement. At any point in time you always have a vision, often something that is bigger than you, and you were so stubborn about not letting that vision overwhelm you. You also often go against the grain, refusing to conform to standard rules, especially the ones that didn't make sense. And you taught us to do the same. Thank you for teaching us to dare for more. Thank you for teaching us to always challenge rules. Thank you for being a constant source of inspiration.

Your Tolu loves you to pieces!

PASTOR OLAMIDE BALOGUN

She doesn't prevaricate. She does what she says she will do. She doesn't 'change face,' as they say; she is who she is. When she decides to do something, she goes all out. I love the way she dresses; she dazzles. She is a gift to God's kingdom. She looks 40, but we know she is 36 (laughs). Even though she is now retired, we are watching this space because we know she's just going to spread her wings and fly.

PASTOR TREVOR SEYI AKINDELE

I've not shared this with her before, but back in the days, I had gone to meet with one of my colleagues and, interestingly, they were talking about her. They said, 'There is a woman in that office; the woman is super-efficient.' It's equally interesting to know that you've remained consistently the same over the years. She became a very 'big' woman in NNPC, and a lot of people in NNPC are proud of her. Some people came out stained, but no one can say anything negative about her in the whole industry. She's super active. God, who has helped this generous woman to age beautifully, will give her more years.

PASTOR TOKUNBOH ADESANYA

She has constantly exhibited her love for God. Decades later, she is serving Christ with the same fervor. It gives me great joy to see her and her husband, people who genuinely love God, not for what He has done for them, but just for the love of God. Keep it up. May the Lord, who has blessed you with youthfulness, grant you grace to seek Him more, even in decades to come."

Dr. Oke Onuzo

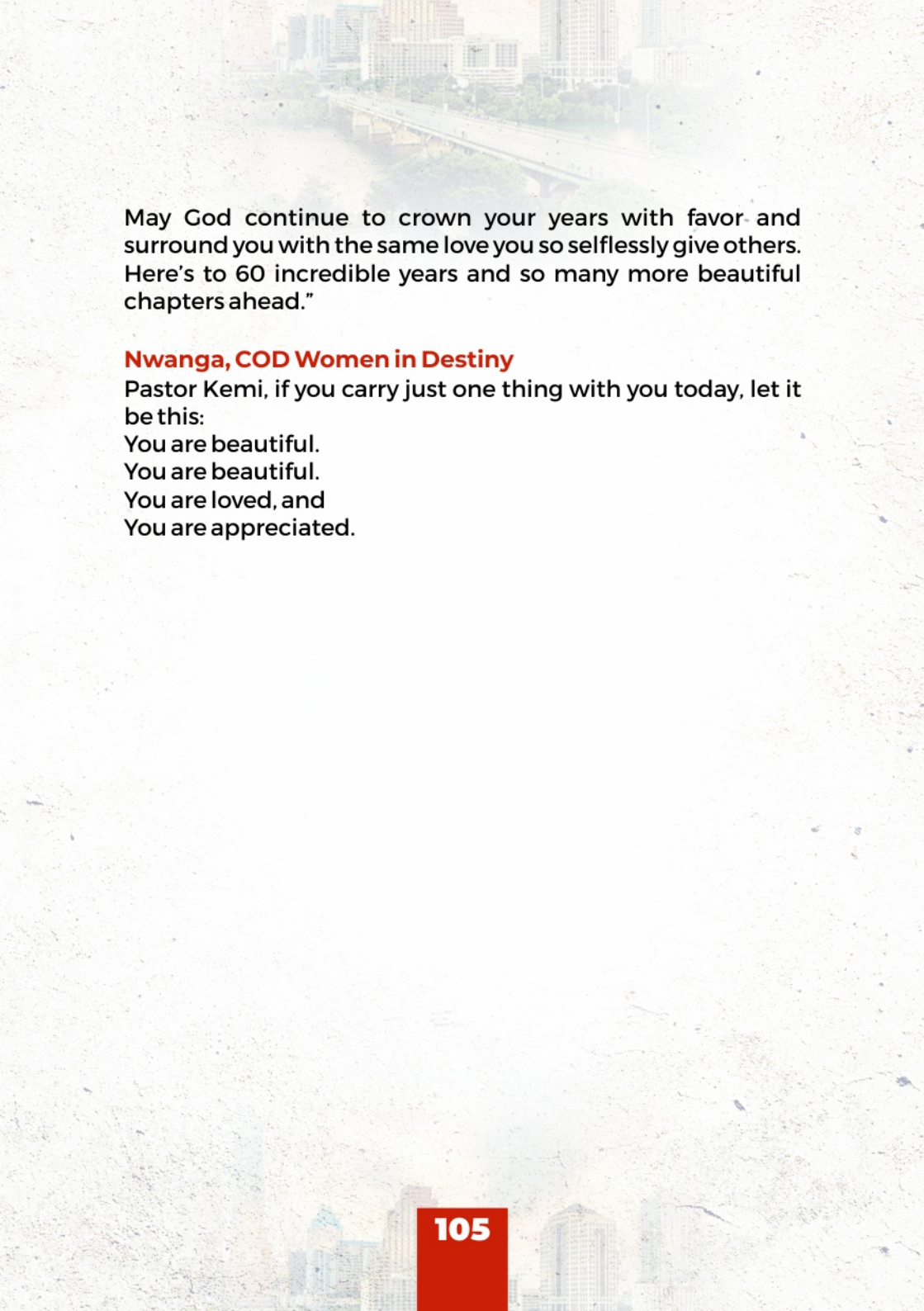
We met outside the country; we were in transit. I was in the airport just strolling, and we connected. I listened to her story, and her story struck me. Then, God began to help her navigate her life. Then her husband, Remi, came into the picture. There was a time they used to follow me to preach. Years after, they still support us in ministry. The relationship is a father daughter and son relationship. May God keep her for many more years to come.

BIG MUMMY IYABO JUWAPE

I'm her sister-cum-mother-in-law. Kemi has been an amazing person. Her relationship with money and giving still baffles me. If you save money with Kemi and someone in dire need comes to her for a financial request that is beyond her current budget, it will take the grace of God and her trained mind not to give that person the money. She's that generous; to a fault. Kemi is real family. She has been so good to our family; it's not surprising that everyone in the family loves her. I don't even know what adjective I can use to qualify her. Thank you for accepting God. Thank you for accepting us. May the will of God be ever exalted in your life, in Jesus' name!

Toluwa (Formerly Sumbo)

Sixty years of grace, strength, wisdom, and so much love poured into everyone around you. You are truly one of life's rare gifts: beautiful inside-out, steady in storms, generous in heart, and full of warmth that makes everyone feel seen and valued. Thank you for being more than a friend, for being a sister in every sense that matters. At 60, you're not slowing down; you're shining even brighter. May this new decade bring you divine health, overflowing joy, renewed strength, and everything your heart quietly desires.



May God continue to crown your years with favor and surround you with the same love you so selflessly give others. Here's to 60 incredible years and so many more beautiful chapters ahead."

Nwanga, COD Women in Destiny

Pastor Kemi, if you carry just one thing with you today, let it be this:

You are beautiful.

You are beautiful.

You are loved, and

You are appreciated.

The Anatomy of Excellence: Legacy in Motion

I have always believed that it is essential to understand the force behind a vision. The profile that follows captures the milestones of my journey, a journey fueled by purpose. Over the years I have committed myself to the craft of constant evolution. They say success leaves clues. Those clues form a roadmap. This isn't just a record of titles and tenures; it is a testament to a career defined by relentless execution and a refusal to settle for the status quo. Someone called it the blueprint of a leader who doesn't just inhabit a role but defines it.



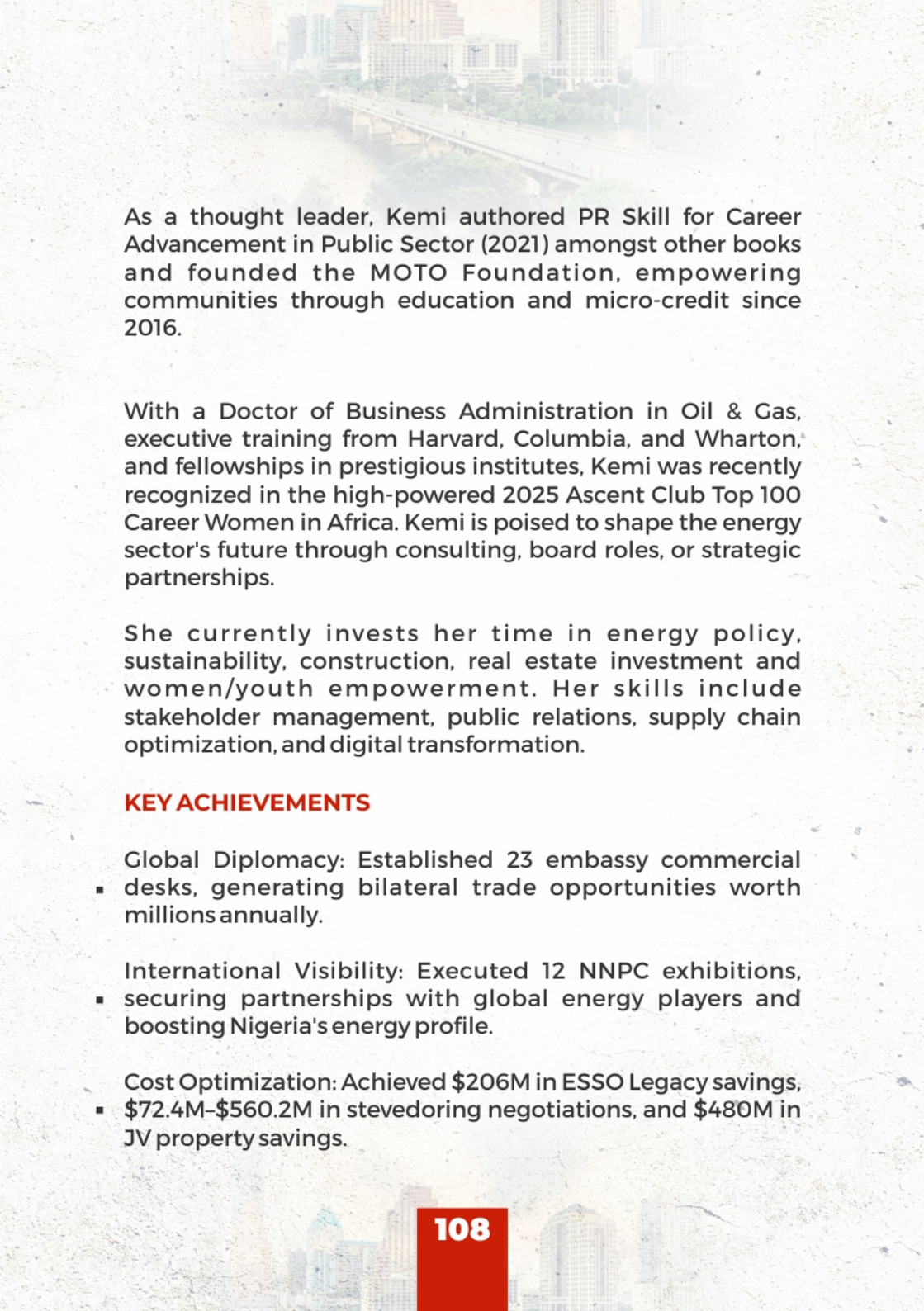
ADVOCACY AND LOYALTY:

**Leadership is
service.
Protect your
subordinates and
defend your
superiors in
rooms where they
are not present.
Professional
loyalty
is a rare and
valuable
commodity.**

DR. (MRS.) OLUWAKEMI OLUMUYIWA, FNIPR, FIMC, FCIPSAN

Dr. (Mrs.) Oluwakemi Olumuyiwa (Kemi), FNIPR, FIMC, FCIPSAN, is a transformative leader with over 35 years of demonstrated impact and meritorious service in the African energy sector, that cuts across the entire value chain of NNPC Ltd., acclaimed to be Africa's Largest Energy Company, from Upstream, Midstream and Downstream sectors where she recently concluded a national assignment as the Head (Executive Director), Relationship & Stakeholder Management in NNPC Ltd. Kemi's career is a testament to strategic vision and operational excellence. She is a Distinguished Doctoral Fellow of the Institute of Entrepreneurship and Executive Development, Ghana. Kemi recently got appointed as the Executive Vice Chairman, First Tricon Limited where she works to provide executive level leadership that aligns with the company's journey which has been marked by strategic milestones, including key projects in Sierra Leone, Nigeria, and Guinea. Kemi has recently gone into large-scale textile manufacturing across various markets in Africa and beyond.

Her legacy includes leading over 12 high-profile international exhibitions across North America, Asia, Africa and the Middle East, establishing commercial desks in 23 embassies, and securing over \$278M in cost savings through innovative negotiations notably saving over \$72.4 million in Stevedoring Rates Reviews between Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) and International Oil Companies (IOCs). She reduced Production Sharing Contract (PSC) tender cycles from 45 to 13 months, saved \$480M in JV property costs, and revamped NNPC's digital communications, enhancing global brand equity.



As a thought leader, Kemi authored PR Skill for Career Advancement in Public Sector (2021) amongst other books and founded the MOTO Foundation, empowering communities through education and micro-credit since 2016.

With a Doctor of Business Administration in Oil & Gas, executive training from Harvard, Columbia, and Wharton, and fellowships in prestigious institutes, Kemi was recently recognized in the high-powered 2025 Ascent Club Top 100 Career Women in Africa. Kemi is poised to shape the energy sector's future through consulting, board roles, or strategic partnerships.

She currently invests her time in energy policy, sustainability, construction, real estate investment and women/youth empowerment. Her skills include stakeholder management, public relations, supply chain optimization, and digital transformation.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Global Diplomacy:** Established 23 embassy commercial desks, generating bilateral trade opportunities worth millions annually.
- **International Visibility:** Executed 12 NNPC exhibitions, securing partnerships with global energy players and boosting Nigeria's energy profile.
- **Cost Optimization:** Achieved \$206M in ESSO Legacy savings, \$72.4M-\$560.2M in stevedoring negotiations, and \$480M in JV property savings.

- **Operational Efficiency:** Slashed Production Sharing Contract (PSC) tendering cycle from 45 to 13 months, saving millions in operational costs.
- **Digital Transformation:** Implemented NNPC's digital signage system, reaching 15,000+ employees with real-time updates.
- **Social Impact:** Empowered 500+ market women via MOTO Foundation's micro-credit and education programs.
- **Global Recognition:** Awarded with the 2025 Ascent Club Top 100 Career Women in Africa Leadership Award.

EXPERIENCE

Executive Vice Chairman

First Tricon Limited | June 2025 – To Present | Lagos, Nigeria

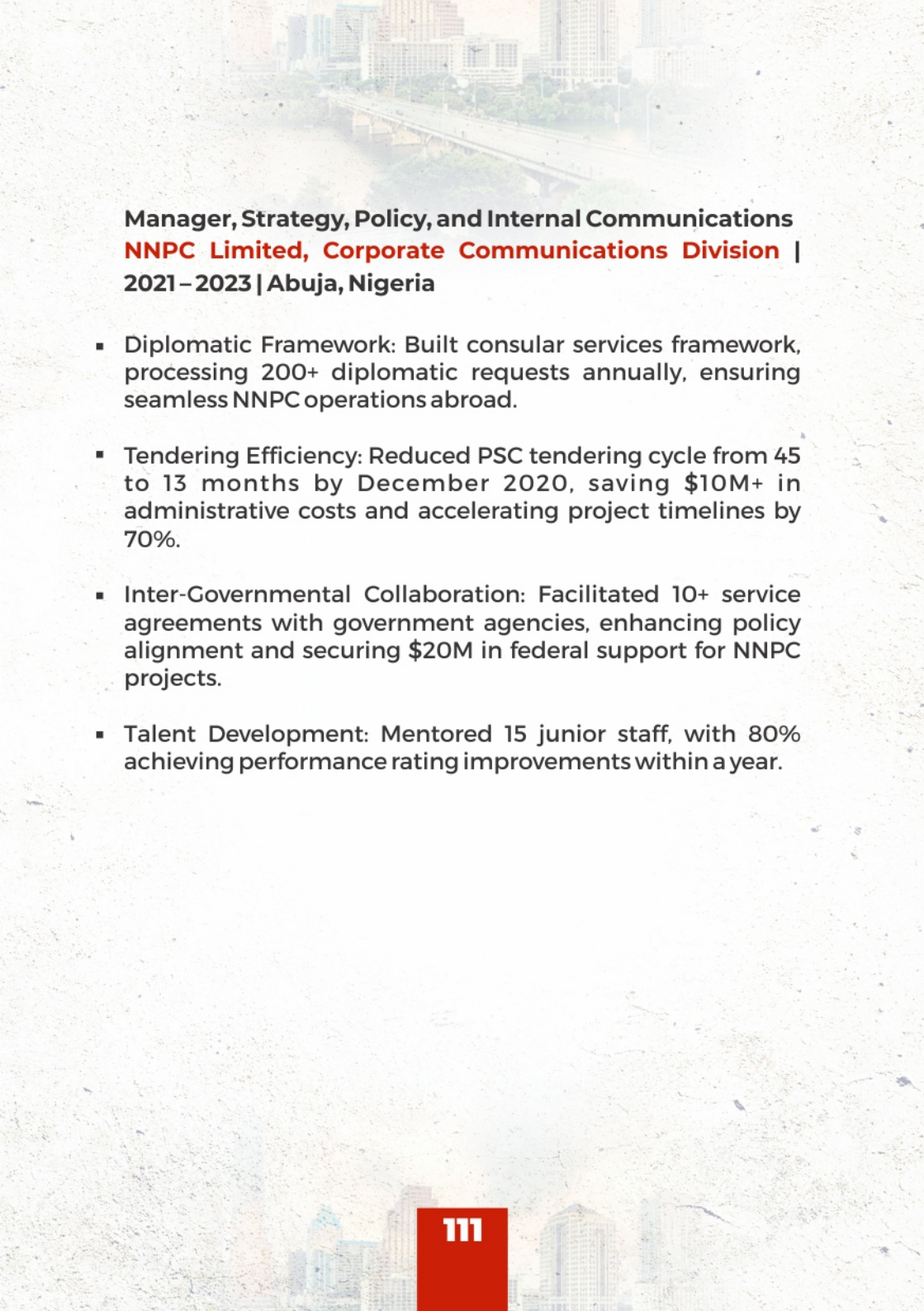
- Founded in 2011, First Tricon Ltd. has rapidly grown into a leading force in the construction industry. We have successfully expanded into key markets in West Africa, undertaking projects that have not only transformed landscapes but also improved lives.

- Works to provide executive level leadership that aligns with First Tricon's journey which has been marked by strategic milestones, including key projects in Sierra Leone, Nigeria, and Guinea.

Head (Executive Director), Relationship & Stakeholder Management

NNPC Limited | 2023 – May 2025 | Abuja, Nigeria

- **Strategic Stakeholder Engagement:** Managed relationships with global energy bodies (OPEC, IPPG, GCEF) and Nigeria's National Assembly, securing endorsements for NNPC Ltd.'s strategic initiatives, resulting in 15+ high-level partnerships.
 - **Global Exhibitions:** Led teams at SAIPEC, NIES, ARDA, OTC, and NOG Energy Week (2024), generating \$50M+ in investment leads and showcasing NNPC Ltd.'s capabilities to 100,000+ global delegates.
 - **GasTech 2023 Success:** Orchestrated NNPC's standout participation at GasTech Singapore, securing 3 MOUs with international gas firms and enhancing Nigeria's gas export profile.
 - **Embassy Commercial Desks:** Established 23 embassy/high commission desks, facilitating \$100M+ in annual trade opportunities and strengthening Nigeria's energy diplomacy.
 - **Digital Transformation:** Partnered with the Information Technology Team to deploy digital media signages across 50+ NNPC Ltd. locations, reaching 15,000+ employees with real-time updates, improving internal communication efficiency by 40%.
- Mentorship: Mentored 20+ junior professionals, with 5
- advancing to middle management roles within NNPC Ltd.



Manager, Strategy, Policy, and Internal Communications
NNPC Limited, Corporate Communications Division |
2021 – 2023 | Abuja, Nigeria

- **Diplomatic Framework:** Built consular services framework, processing 200+ diplomatic requests annually, ensuring seamless NNPC operations abroad.
- **Tendering Efficiency:** Reduced PSC tendering cycle from 45 to 13 months by December 2020, saving \$10M+ in administrative costs and accelerating project timelines by 70%.
- **Inter-Governmental Collaboration:** Facilitated 10+ service agreements with government agencies, enhancing policy alignment and securing \$20M in federal support for NNPC projects.
- **Talent Development:** Mentored 15 junior staff, with 80% achieving performance rating improvements within a year.

Deputy Manager, Common Services, Production Sharing Contracts (PSC), Materials/Supply Chain Management
NAPIMS, NNPC | 2019 – 2020 | Lagos, Nigeria

- **Contract Optimization:** Led review and negotiation of 50+ PSC contracts, achieving \$206M in savings through ESSO Legacy Reviews across 5 blocks.
- **Stevedoring Rate Negotiation:** Concluded NPA-IOC rate reviews, saving \$72.4M and averting a potential \$500M operational shutdown.
- **Logistics Efficiency:** Streamlined PSC logistics, reducing delivery times by 20% and cutting costs by \$5M annually.
- **Stakeholder Coordination:** Engaged 30+ IOCs, ensuring 95% compliance with contract terms, enhancing operational reliability.

Lead, Supply Chain Management- Production Sharing Contracts (PSC) NAPIMS Contracts Negotiations Team
NAPIMS, NNPC | 2019 – 2020 | Lagos, Nigeria

Contract Negotiation Leadership: Negotiated 40+ high-value contracts, saving \$15M in procurement costs and improving vendor performance by 30%.

Process Improvement: Implemented standardized negotiation protocols, reducing contract disputes by 50% and accelerating approvals by 25%.

Cost Benchmarking: Introduced cost analysis tools, identifying \$10M in overcharges across PSC contracts.

Coordinator, NAPIMS MEXCOM Secretariat
NAPIMS, NNPC | 2017 – 2018 | Lagos, Nigeria

- **Executive Coordination:** Managed 20+ MEXCOM meetings annually, achieving 100% action item follow-through, enhancing NAPIMS' decision-making efficiency.
- **Stakeholder Communication:** Produced 50+ executive reports, improving transparency and stakeholder alignment by 35%.
- **Budget Oversight:** Streamlined secretariat budget, saving \$500,000 through optimized resource allocation.

Coordinator, Materials Management/Cash-Call Team & MEXCOM
NAPIMS, NNPC | 2016 – 2018 | Lagos, Nigeria

- **JV Cash Call Management:** Processed \$2B+ in JV cash calls, ensuring 98% accuracy and timeliness, supporting 10+ joint ventures.
- **Property Cost Savings:** Led scrutiny of JV leased properties, saving \$480M through benchmarking against industry standards.
- **Estate Valuation:** Evaluated 50+ estate acquisition proposals, ensuring 100% compliance with financial regulations and saving \$5M in overvaluations.
- **Team Leadership:** Supervised 15 team members, achieving 90% performance target attainment.

Supervisor, Media & Protocol, Public Affairs Department
NAPIMS, NNPC | 2006 – 2015 | Lagos, Nigeria

- **Media Production:** Produced 100+ issues of NAPIMS News Bulletin, reaching 5,000+ stakeholders and increasing brand awareness by 40%.
- **Website Content:** Developed 200+ content pieces for NAPIMS website, driving 10,000+ monthly visits and improving stakeholder engagement.
- **Cost Negotiation:** Saved 30% (\$2M) on hotel and flight bookings for 500+ staff through strategic vendor negotiations (2015).
- **Protocol Services:** Managed 300+ consular and protocol assignments, ensuring 100% satisfaction for NAPIMS executives.
- **Editorial Leadership:** As Deputy Editor-In-Chief (2012-2015), increased NAPIMS News circulation by 25% and served on NNPC News Editorial Board, shaping group-wide media strategy.
- **Corporate Sponsorships:** Secured \$1M+ in sponsorships/donations, enhancing NAPIMS' CSR initiatives.

Officer in Charge, Administration & Protocols

NNPC London Office | 2004 – 2005 | London, United Kingdom

- **Protocol Management:** Coordinated 100+ protocol services for NNPC executives, achieving 95% satisfaction ratings from top management.
- **Consular Efficiency:** Processed 50+ consular requests, reducing processing time by 30% and ensuring compliance with UK regulations.
- **Administrative Oversight:** Managed office operations, cutting administrative costs by 15% (\$50,000) through streamlined processes.

Supervisor, Protocol, Public Affairs Department

National Engineering & Technical Company (NETCO), NNPC | 2003 | Nigeria

- **Business Development:** Secured 5 new business contracts worth \$2M through targeted stakeholder engagement.
- **Protocol Services:** Managed meet-and-greet for 200+ clients, achieving 100% client satisfaction and enhancing NETCO's reputation.
- **Information Distribution:** Distributed 1,000+ NETCO information organs, increasing brand visibility by 20% at industry events.

Supervisor, Community Relations & Exhibitions

Nigerian Gas Company (NGC), NNPC | 2002 – 2003 | Nigeria

- **Exhibition Representation:** Represented NGC at 10+ trade fairs, generating \$5M in business leads and 15+ partnerships.
- **Community Engagement:** Liaised with 20+ host communities, reducing conflicts by 40% and ensuring uninterrupted operations.
- **CSR Initiatives:** Implemented 5 community projects, impacting 1,000+ residents and improving NGC's community approval rating by 30%.

Public Affairs Officer to the Group Managing Director (GMD)

NNPC Corporate Headquarters | 1998 – 2001 | Nigeria

- **Charity Programs:** Pioneered 10+ community assistance programs for GMD's wife, impacting 2,000+ beneficiaries and enhancing NNPC's CSR profile.
- **Presidential Committee:** Contributed to downstream deregulation policy across 36 states, influencing \$1B+ in sector reforms (2000–2001).
- **Stakeholder Liaison:** Managed 50+ high-level stakeholder interactions, ensuring 100% alignment with GMD's strategic priorities.

Senior Government Relations Officer

NNPC Corporate Headquarters | 1995 – 1998 | Nigeria

- **Legislative Engagement:** Attended 30+ National Assembly sessions, providing insights that shaped 5+ energy policies.
- **Government Liaison:** Facilitated 100+ interactions between NNPC and National Assembly, reducing policy conflicts by 50%.
- **Issue Anticipation:** Delivered 20+ reports on upcoming legislative issues, enabling proactive NNPC responses.

Protocol/Management Welfare Officer, Public Affairs Division

NNPC Corporate Headquarters | 1992 – 1995 | Nigeria

- **Protocol Services:** Managed 200+ protocol assignments for NNPC executives, achieving 98% satisfaction ratings.
- **Event Management:** Organized 50+ corporate events, impacting 5,000+ stakeholders and enhancing NNPC's brand.
- **Welfare Programs:** Implemented 10+ welfare initiatives, improving employee satisfaction by 25%.

NYSC/Contract Staff, KRPC News Reporter

**Kaduna Refining & Petrochemical Company (KRPC),
NNPC | 1989 – 1991 | Kaduna, Nigeria**

- News Reporting: Produced 50+ news stories for KRPC News Bulletin, reaching 2,000+ readers monthly.
- Event Support: Supported 20+ special events, engaging 1,000+ attendees and enhancing KRPC's community relations.
- Facility Tours: Guided 100+ educational visitors, increasing public understanding of KRPC operations by 30%.

EDUCATION

- Distinguished Doctoral Fellow | Institute of Entrepreneurship and Executive Development, Ghana | 2025
- Doctor of Public Administration and Corporate Governance (Honoris Causa) | International Entrepreneurship University (IEU), United States | 2024
- Doctor of Business Administration (DBA), Oil & Gas (Honoris Causa) | Commonwealth University | 2021
- Mini Masters in Business Administration (MBA) | Metropolitan School of Business, United Kingdom | 2011
- Bachelor of Arts (Combined Honors), English & Christian Studies | University of Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria | 1989

EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

- Wharton Business School: Executive Program (2025)
- Harvard University: Leadership Communications (2012, 2016)
- Columbia Business School: Real Estate Investment Training Certification (2021)

CERTIFICATIONS AND OTHER TRAININGS

- Stakeholder Management: Negotiating, Communicating & Influencing, Glomacs UK (2024)
- Public Relations & Media Skills/Protocol & Event Management, MUSG Consult, Lagos (2023)
- Developing Oil & Gas Business: Upstream and Downstream, Albus Synergy Services Ltd (2022)
- Certified Management Specialist (CMS) with Distinction in Time Management, London Graduate School, UK (2020)
- AI - Artificial Intelligence & IoT - Internet of Things Conference, IEEEA, Vancouver, Canada (2019)
- Logistics and Supply Chain Management Program, Glomacs, Miami, USA (2019)
- Project Management Masterclass, Glomacs, Toronto, Canada (2019)
- Emotional Intelligence for Effective Leadership, Cradle Solution, Houston (2018)
- Mastering Portfolios, Programs and Projects, Abuja, Nigeria (2018)
- Managing Contractual Liabilities, Abuja, Nigeria (2018)
- Managing Tenders, Specifications and Contracts, CPS, Houston, USA (2017)
- Coaching and Mentoring Programme, NNPC-GHR, Abuja, Nigeria (2017)
- Intercommunity, Intergovernmental Relationships and Diplomacy, CPS, London, UK (2017)
- Masterful Communication: Advanced Communication, Persuasion and Influencing, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (2017)

- Dynamic and Competitive Strategies for Sustainability, ZPT, London, UK (2016)
- Masterful Communication: The Art of Advanced Communication, Persuasion & Influence, Glomacs, USA (2016)
- Decision Analysis and Priority Management, Dubai, UAE (2015)
- Creating Strategic Business Process and Sustainability, ZPT, London, UK (2015)
- Managing Upwards and Making Yourself Promotable, Dubai, UAE (2014)
- Chief Officers' Management Development Programme (COMDP 074), Mosimi, Ogun State, Nigeria (2014)
- Managing Public Relations for Strategic Edge, Houston, USA (2013)
- Corporate Image and Reputation Management for Bottom Line Result, AXXAL, UK (2013)
- Overview of Renewable Energy Technologies, AXXAL, UK (2013)
- Inspirational Leadership and Team Building, ZPT, UK (2013)
- Leadership and Management Masterclass, Glomacs, California, USA (2011)
- Strategic Management - Leadership and Corporate Reputation, UK (2011)
- Senior Officers Transition Programme (SOTPO49), Ikeja, Lagos (2009)
- Financial Modelling and Project Economics, Units One & Two, IHRDC, Boston, USA (2009)
- Performance Management and Business Intelligence, Hastings, Dubai (Year not specified)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Fellow, Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (FNIPR)| 2021
- Fellow, Institute of Management Consultants, Nigeria (FIMC) | 2020
- Fellow, Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply Administrator, Nigeria (FCIPSAN)| 2020
- Member, American Association of Supply Chain Management (ASCM), USA | 2020
- Member, International Association for Energy Economics (IAEE)| 2010
- Member, International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) | 2010
- Member, International Public Relations Association (MIPRA) | 2004
- Member, Nigerian Institute of Management (MNIM)| 1997
- Senior Member, African Public Relations Association (APRA)

PUBLICATIONS

- PR Skill for Career Advancement in Public Sector – My NNPC Experience (2021)
- Lifted (2016)
- Media Strategy and Joint Ventures/Host Community Relations in NAPIMS (2014)
- Married to My Role Model (2010)
- The Aesthetics Beauty of Eyo Egungun Festival in Lagos (1989)

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Founder, **MOTO Foundation (Not-For-Profit Education Empowerment Initiative)** | 2016 – Present

- Empowered 500+ market women through micro-credit schemes, disbursing \$100,000+ in loans and boosting income by 20% on average.
- Provided formal education to 200+ women, reducing poverty rates by 15% in target communities.

Speaker, Handmaidens RCCG City of David's Women's Ministry | Ongoing

- Delivered 30+ talks to 1,000+ women, inspiring leadership and empowerment, with 50% reporting career advancements.

President, Parent Teacher Organization

American International School of Lagos | 2011 – 2013

- Raised \$50,000+ for educational programs, impacting 300+ students and improving school facilities by 10%.

Convenor, Community Assistance/Charity Programs

NNPC Group Managing Director's Office | 1998 – 2001

- Implemented 10+ charity initiatives, supporting 2,000+ beneficiaries and enhancing NNPC's community goodwill by 25%.

RELEVANT SKILLS

- Stakeholder Management
- Corporate Communications
- Diplomatic & Inter-Governmental Relations
- Public Relations & Media Strategy
- Supply Chain Management
- Project Management
- Cost Optimization & Negotiation
- Leadership & Mentorship
- Strategic Planning & Policy Development
- Public Speaking & Media Engagement
- Digital Transformation
- Community Engagement
- MS Office Suites
- Emotional Intelligence
- Artificial Intelligence & IoT Applications

LANGUAGES

- English (Native)
- Yoruba (Native)

INTERESTS

- Energy Policy & Sustainability
- Community Development & Social Impact
- Real Estate Investment
- Public Speaking & Thought Leadership
- Women's Empowerment & Education
- Organizing & Project Execution
- Investing & Strategic Business Development

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Country of Origin: Nigeria
- Family: Married to Remi Olumuyiwa; blessed with children David Tireni and Deborah Eniabisola
- Faith: Christian

Strategic Wisdom for the Global Career Woman

Drawing from over 35 years of leadership within Africa's energy sector, I have observed that the ascent to global excellence is rarely accidental. It is an intentional architecture of character, competence, and foresight. To the next generation of women leaders, I offer these executive pillars for navigating a memorable career:

- **Global Readiness:** Maintain your travel credentials and diplomatic visas at all times. In a globalized economy, the window between an opportunity and its deadline is often slim; your response time can be destiny-shaping.
- **The Power of Tenure:** Resist the impulse for premature resignation. "Job jumping" fragments your professional narrative. True mastery and organizational influence are harvested through consistency, not constant exits. If you have to move, move however your movement should be strategic and well thought out.
- **The Power of Reliability:** Distance yourself from the culture of excuses. Position yourself as the definitive closer; the person whose name is synonymous with execution. High-performance is gender-neutral.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** If marriage is part of your journey, select a partner who views your ambition as an asset, not a threat. A supportive home front is your most critical infrastructure.
- **Self-Funded Growth:** Do not outsource your development to your employer's HR budget. Create a personal growth fund. When you invest in yourself first, you signal to the market that you are a high-value asset.

- **Professional Fortitude:** The corporate landscape is not always hospitable. Success requires the resilience to endure not-so-glamorous seasons. There will be days that demand you dry your tears and return to the table with renewed focus.
- **Emotional Anchors:** Leadership can be draining. Cultivate a circle of confidants; family, friends and mentors who serve as your emotional buffers. No one reaches the summit in a vacuum.
- **Ethical Integrity:** Avoid the shortcut culture. Corruption and deals may offer temporary gain, but they carry a long-term cost that your reputation and your family cannot afford.
- **Advocacy and Loyalty:** Leadership is service. Protect your subordinates and defend your superiors in rooms where they are not present. Professional loyalty is a rare and valuable commodity.
- **Technical Agility:** In an era of unprecedented speed, leverage technology to amplify your output. Stay intellectually sharp and learn to think and act on your toes.
- **The Spiritual Anchor:** In the pursuit of worldly success, do not neglect your spiritual foundation. Grace is often the silent partner in a distinguished career. Put God over everything.

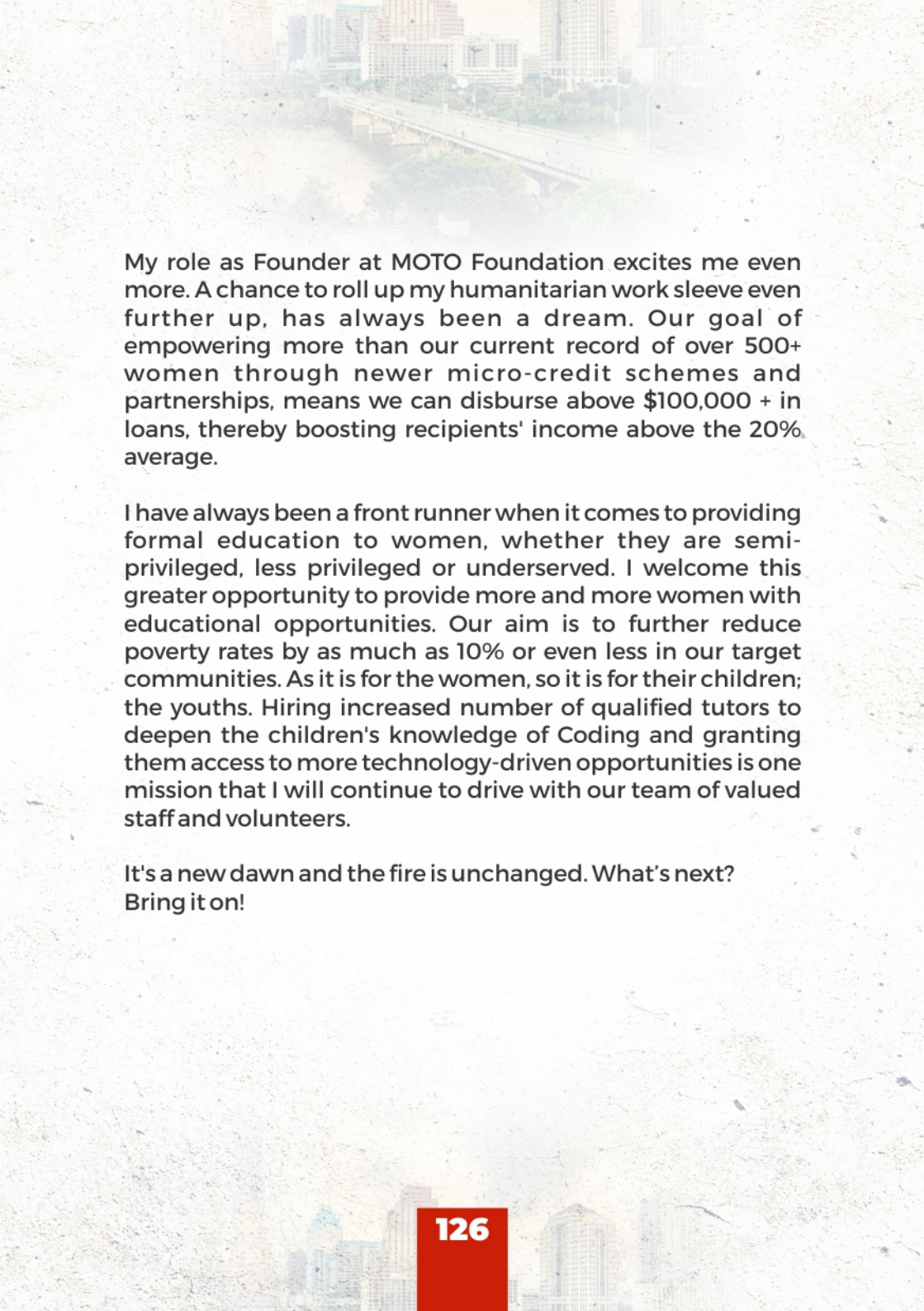
True leadership is not merely about reaching the top; it is about staying there with your integrity, your sanity, and your legacy intact. -Kemi Olumuyiwa

NEW DAWN, SAME FIRE

Retirement is often framed as a conclusion; a final bowing out from the fast-paced machinery of industry. For me, it is merely the clearing of a desk to make room for a much larger blueprint. Transitioning from the predictability of paid employment to the multifaceted role of Executive Vice Chairman of First Tricon Limited is a refusal of the quiet of the sidelines. Instead, I've chosen to lean into the noise of the factory floor and the heartbeat of the community.

This new chapter was not built from scratch; it was woven from the threads of long-held passions and inspiration. By venturing into textile manufacturing, I have intentionally stepped into a world first introduced to me by my mother's business. For me, it's basically turning a childhood experience into a scaled industrial reality. But even as the looms began to turn, my focus has not shifted from the human element. For me, returning to my core mission of Women Empowerment and youth development is proof that true leadership isn't just about the positions one holds in a company, but the platforms one builds for others to stand on.

When I first stepped into my role as Executive Vice Chairman at First Tricon Limited, I knew the role called on the resources and abilities I have garnered over decades to help structure and maximize opportunities. It's been a great time out here, I must say. The journey has been marked by strategic milestones. Key projects executed and managed by the company across Africa, translates to days and days of strategic work. The experience has been enlightening as it has been exciting.



My role as Founder at MOTO Foundation excites me even more. A chance to roll up my humanitarian work sleeve even further up, has always been a dream. Our goal of empowering more than our current record of over 500+ women through newer micro-credit schemes and partnerships, means we can disburse above \$100,000 + in loans, thereby boosting recipients' income above the 20% average.

I have always been a front runner when it comes to providing formal education to women, whether they are semi-privileged, less privileged or underserved. I welcome this greater opportunity to provide more and more women with educational opportunities. Our aim is to further reduce poverty rates by as much as 10% or even less in our target communities. As it is for the women, so it is for their children; the youths. Hiring increased number of qualified tutors to deepen the children's knowledge of Coding and granting them access to more technology-driven opportunities is one mission that I will continue to drive with our team of valued staff and volunteers.

It's a new dawn and the fire is unchanged. What's next?
Bring it on!

Micro-credit scheme for women







WHAT



NEXT







**ACTION BREEDS
ITS OWN REWARD**

HARD WORK PAYS OFF



A woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a bright yellow, puffed-sleeve, floor-length dress, is seated on a white rectangular pedestal. She is smiling and looking towards the right. The background is a soft-focus garden scene with various flowers, including pink and white blooms, and green foliage. The overall lighting is warm and natural.

About the Author Dr. (Mrs.) Kemi Olumuyiwa

Dr. (Mrs.) Kemi Olumuyiwa is a veteran of the African energy landscape with over 35 years of high-stakes leadership. Recently she retired as the Head(Executive Director), Relationship & Stakeholder Management in **NNPC Ltd.**, –Africa's largest energy company. She currently serves as the Executive Vice Chairman of First Tricon Limited, driving strategic growth across Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Guinea.

A strategist of global caliber, Kemi's career is defined by massive scale: she influenced over \$1B in sector reforms, secured \$750M+ in cost savings, and established 23 embassy commercial desks facilitating \$100M+ in annual trade. Her expertise spans supply chain optimization, digital transformation, and diplomatic relations.

Beyond the boardroom, Kemi is a prolific author and a committed mentor who has guided dozens of oil and gas professionals into senior management. In 2016, she founded the **MOTO Foundation**, which has empowered over 500 women through micro-credit and education, reducing poverty in target communities by 15%.

Dr. Olumuyiwa holds a Doctorate in Oil & Gas and has completed executive programs at **Harvard**, **Columbia**, and **Wharton**. A Fellow of the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (FNIPR) and the Institute of Management Consultants (FIMC), she was honored as one of the **2025 Ascent Club Top 100 Career Women in Africa**. She is a devoted family woman, married to Pastor Remi Olumuyiwa, with whom she shares children.

