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**PROACTIVE MARKETING INFORMATION**

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**REMEMBER me**

**THE DEVIL IN THE DETAILS**

*By Larry Bussey*

**A Historical Account of the Black Men and  
Women Who Courageously Changed America**

*Chapter 1. Who was Earl Carter?  
Chapter 2. Civil Rights Movement  
Chapter 3. Civil Rights Leaders*

*Chapter 4. Civil Rights Heroes  
Chapter 5. Great Migration (African American)  
Chapter 6. Political Path to the (White House)*

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**Overview:**

Insight into the Struggle and Dreams of great black men and women who's legacy gives us Inspiration from the past and optimism for the Future, in a time that we might prefer to emphasize cultural diversity over anti-racism. Was the election of the nation's First Black President a victory for black people in the long struggle against racism and empire? Some will tell us the answer is easy to see, but that maybe hard to swallow by others.

## Introduction:

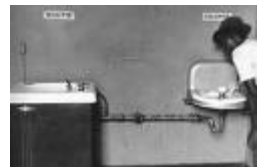
My story begins in the deep segregated South. The red dirt confederate state of Alabama where [1] “the black slaves have been replaced by John Deere tractors, cotton gins on wheels, but the blood in the red dirt remains.” A place where *Nat “King” Cole*, *Helen Keller* and *Sam Phillips* were born. [2] “The Civil War brought a sense of defeat and resignation, the essence of the blues, to a population of whites who found expression in the musical forms of those blacks they had oppressed.”

Where an obscure speech writer named **Asa Carter** put pen to words that would change the *consciousness and the face of our nation*. **Governor George Wallace** spoke forcefully those infamous words in his inaugural speech, he used the line for which he is best known:

“ In the name of the greatest people that have ever trod this earth, I draw the line in the dust and toss the gauntlet before the feet of tyranny, and I say segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever.

*We will give account for every careless word and by our words we will be condemned.*

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*Jim Crow* segregation laws between 1865 and 1965 as the gains of Reconstruction were stripped away, southern states *Alabama*, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Tennessee and Kentucky began enacting Jim Crow laws that enforced separate facilities for blacks and whites.

Jeff Jacoby of the *Boston Globe* notes [3] that separate public facilities for white and black citizens were not the norm in the South until early in the 20th century, after laws began to mandate such segregation. He also points out that the rise of Jim Crow was met in some quarters with mockery and indignation, as shown by this 1898 editorial in the *Charleston News and Courier*, which argued against the proposed segregation of railroad cars in terms which foresaw the future only too well:

*If we must have Jim Crow cars on the railroads, there should be Jim Crow . . . passenger boats. Moreover, there should be Jim Crow waiting saloons at all stations, and Jim Crow eating houses . . . There should be Jim Crow sections of the jury box, and a separate Jim Crow dock and witness stand in every court - and a Jim Crow Bible for colored witnesses to kiss.*

The important historical lesson, of course, is that racial prejudice and segregationist practices do not arise naturally or immediately, even in the aftermath of slavery and racial tension between whites and freed blacks. The long, dark history of Jim Crow came about slowly, required careful coordination, and provoked resistance or ridicule from at least some upstanding citizens before the public was uniformly convinced (or willing to remain silent).

Follow me with my firsthand accounts of the experiences of heroic black Southerners, men and woman living under segregation, racism, through civil rights struggles. [4]What factors contributed to making the two most pivotal moments in the history of the civil rights movement?

The answer to this question reveals the dynamic relationship between individual actions and historical context and highlights the power of courageous acts to transform society. The journey uncovers the historical perspective of a road much traveled by those who believed in that “old time religion” having the knowledge of good and bad, where the word proved to be the lamp to their feet and a light for their path.

The “*Great Light*” was the Sun and the Moon which guided them through the deep segregated South of Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, Arizona, Tennessee (birthplace of the Ku Klux Klan), Kentucky, Chicago, Detroit and on to 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington D.C. in the wake of Barack Obama's installation as president caring on a tradition dating back to slavery that includes the likes of Frederick Douglass, WEB Du Bois and Martin Luther King – deeply cerebral, dignified and charismatic men, who advanced their cause by proving that a black man can be the intellectual and moral equal of anyone. My story was inspired by a man who tried to reinvent himself (to do something again, from the beginning.)

## Chapter 1. (highlights)



### Who was Asa Earl Carter?

He was born September 4, 1925 and died on June 7, 1979. **Asa** Carter was born in Anniston, Alabama in 1925, the eldest of four children.

Despite his claims (as author "**Forrest**" Carter) that he was orphaned, he was in fact raised by his parents, Ralph and Hermione Carter, both of whom lived into Carter's adulthood, in nearby Oxford, Alabama. Carter served in the United States Navy during World War II and studied journalism at the University of Colorado. After the war, he married India Thelma Walker. The couple had four children and settled in Birmingham, Alabama. He was an American speechwriter, author.

Most notable for publishing novels and a best-selling, award winning memoir under the name **Forrest** Carter who claimed to be a Native American Cherokee. As **Forrest** Carter, he wrote a memoir, *The Education of Little Tree*, in which he said he had been orphaned into the care of Cherokee grandparents.

In 1976, following the publication success of his western *The Rebel Outlaw: Josey Wales*, the *New York Times* revealed **Forrest** Carter to be Southerner **Asa Earl** Carter.

*“One of the remarkable things about **Forrest** Carter's self-reinvention is how few reminders of his Asa existence still remain. Indeed, aside from a couple of slim pieces of physical evidence, it might be difficult to prove now that Asa and **Forrest** Carter were the same man.”*

Carter a man born to trouble, can be likened to the “*Serpent*” the great deceiver clothed himself as a serpent, one of God’s good creatures. He insinuated a falsehood and portrayed rebellion as clever, but essentially innocent, self interest. The craftiness and cunning of the serpent lead to sin.

His background became national news again in 1991 after *Little Tree* topped the *New York Times* paperback best-seller lists (both non-fiction and fiction) and won the American Booksellers Book of the Year (ABBY) award.



**Oprah Gail Winfrey (born January 29, 1954) Kosciusko, Mississippi**, is an American media personality, Academy Award nominated actress, producer, literary critic and magazine publisher, best known for her self-titled, multi-award winning talk show, which has become the highest-rated program of its kind in history.

*Queen Oprah* has been ranked the richest African American of the 20th century, the most philanthropic African American of all time, and was once the world's only black billionaire. She is also, according to some assessments, the most influential woman in the world who in 1994 endorsed *Little Tree*, subsequently removed it from her list of recommended book titles: Winfrey said in 1994. "I no longer--even though I had been moved by the story--felt the same about this book. There's a part of me that said, well OK, if a person has two sides of them and can write this wonderful story and also write the segregation forever speech, maybe that's OK.

But I couldn't--I couldn't live with that." The book has also come in for criticism on literary grounds: "I am surprised, of course, that Winfrey would recommend it," says Lorene Roy, president of the American Library Association. "Besides the questions about the author's identity, the book is known for a simplistic plot that used a lot of stereotypical imagery" said Roy. *I like to think that the more we learn about the writer, the more significant and important his / her story becomes.*



I can remember reading **Edgar Allan Poe (January 19, 1809 – October 7, 1849)** in high school, one of the earliest American practitioners of the short story. He was the first well-known American writer to try to earn a living through writing alone, resulting in a financially difficult life and career. Poe and his works influenced literature in the United States and around the world. In “The Philosophy of Composition”, an essay in which Poe describes his method in writing "The Raven", he claims to have strictly followed this method. It has been questioned, however, if he really followed this system.

*T. S. Eliot* said: "It is difficult for us to read that essay without reflecting that if Poe plotted out his poem with such calculation, he might have taken a little more pains over it: the result hardly does credit to the method." Biographer Joseph Wood Krutch described the essay as "a rather highly ingenious exercise in the art of rationalization". To this end I found Poe as a man, to be as intriguing as his literaterary works, in part because readers are thrilled at the thought of reading works by an "evil" man.

## Chapter 2. (highlights)



In a relatively stable political system, after a status had been reached in which every citizen has the same rights by law, practical issues of discrimination remain. Even if every person is treated equally by the state; there may not be equality due to discrimination within society, such as in the workplace, which may hinder civil liberties in everyday life. During the second half of the 20th century, Western societies introduced legislation that tried to remove discrimination on the basis of race, gender or disability. What would the Civil Rights Movement be without the brave men and women who fought for equal rights?

*These leaders dedicated their lives to ending slavery, segregation and unfair treatment. I want to thank these great people included in my story, leaders with amazing accomplishments which you will never forget!*

The Civil Rights Movement in the United States refers in part to a set of noted events and reform movements in that country aimed at abolishing public and private acts of racial discrimination and racism against African Americans between 1948 to 2008, particularly in the southern United States between 1948 and 1990. It is sometimes referred to as the

**Second Reconstruction era.**

Later, groups like the Black Panther Party, the Young Lords, the Weathermen and the Brown Berets turned to more harsh tactics to make a revolution that would establish, in particular, self-determination for U.S. minorities — bids that ultimately failed due in part to a coordinated effort by the United States Government's COINTELPRO efforts to subvert such groups and their activities.

**Conclusion:**

“I believe that one defines oneself by reinvention. To not be like your parents, to not be like your friends, to be yourself, to cut yourself out of stone.” Henry Rollins quote.

There is a huge misconception about what reinventing oneself is all about. “Personal reinvention is not about change. It is about living life from the place of who you truly are – your most authentic inner self. Not what the world expects you to be. Not what you think you should be, but whom you know you are inside of you.

For many, the ability to know who we truly are has been lost.” Reinventing your life will involve some goal setting on your part. Setting goals and achieving them are two different things. If you truly seek success in your life, especially personal success, you must learn from those who have come before you.

Success leaves clues, so be willing to spend a few minutes each day reading articles. Read books written by successful men or women. Listen to audio recordings and interviews from those who are living and /or lived the lifestyle you want to live.

*“Use these principles to self-define and direct your thinking, actions and life. Power and might are in your hands.”*

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**If, by chance, you wish to *remember me*, do it with a kind deed or word to someone who needs you.**



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