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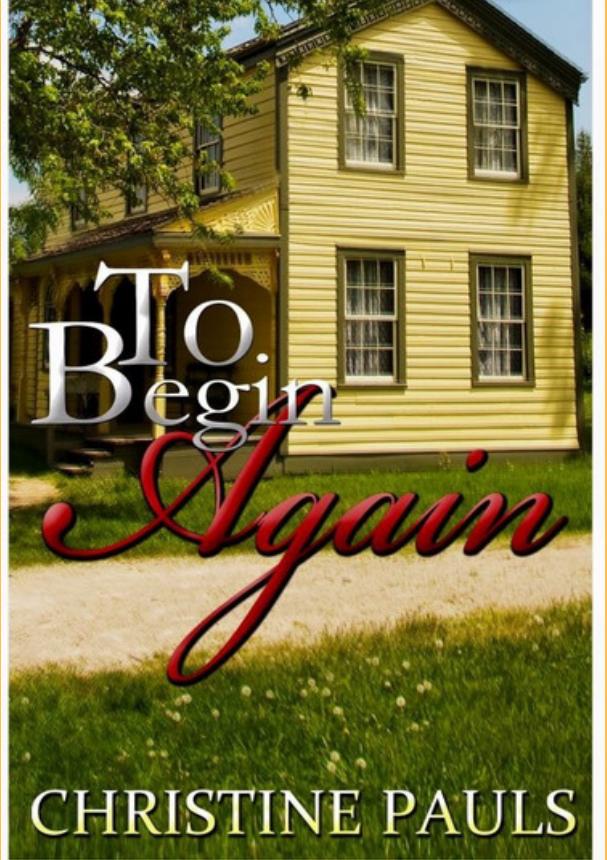
Christine Pauls, a Delawarean, born and raised in the city of Wilmington is the author of To Begin Again, based on her life experiences, Belinda's Song, and One Good Thing, her latest release. She penned her first novel April of 2012. An accountant by day, she is also the mother of two and grandmother of three.
You can find her books on Amazon, Barnes & Noble. They are also in two branch locations of her hometown's public libraries, Mejah Bookstore in Claymont, DE and recently carried at Harambee Books and Artworks in Alexandria, Virginia.

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CHRISTINE PAULS

Review (5-Stars)

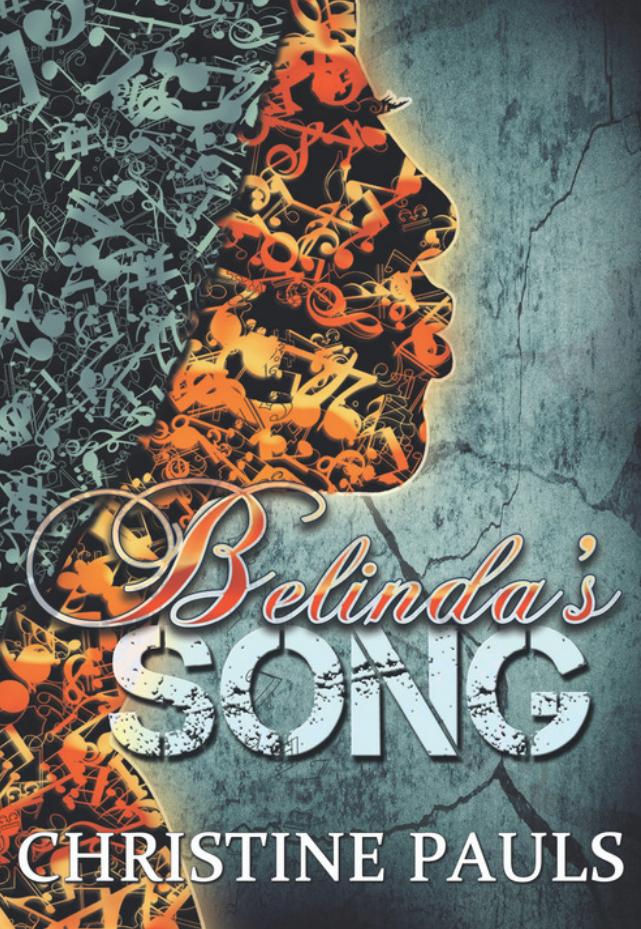
Sometimes our mistakes are what make our fate. Without them, what would shape our lives? Like Carrie on Sex in the City said; if we never veered off course, we wouldn't be who we are or something like that. What I'm trying to say is that mistakes are just a mis-take an opportunity to do it over with God's grace. We cannot have beginnings without endings; how exciting to begin again. Pauls story which reads very much like a memoir and a coming of age story could very well be my story or yours. Celeste Stanton's journey is one filled with ups, downs and many twist. Just when you think you know what Celeste, Jordan or Aunt Ruby will do next you might want to think again.

Celeste journey from her teen's years to adulthood will break the readers' heart, but also have you wanting to hit her in the head to the white meat. I loved this story and I especially enjoyed the theme of second chances from our Sovereign God.

It's nearly a perfect story, and unimaginable that it was the only published work by Pauls, an outstanding debut. ~Readers Paradise~

Birmingham, Alabama, fifteen year old Celeste Stanton's life revolves around the strict religious upbringing of her aunt Ruby Stanton who has raised her since birth after her mother's death. Her world consists of church and more church. But when the pastor's son, Jordon Jackson, confesses his love for her, they become more than just friends. Her first sexual encounter, changes her life forever. Shelby is born. Becoming a mother at 17 would bring challenges not once but twice; Claudia is born eighteen months later; causing her to grow up faster than she could blink, but where there's a will, there's a way and she manages to survive with the support of her family, and best friend Joy. She experiences heartbreak, love and tragedy and learns that life is a constant; it never stays the same.

To Begin Again is the story of life's lessons; it's a story of the sheer will to persevere in spite of what obstacles may be in your way. It's a story of learning that what we have been taught, no matter how much we felt we were being lectured and hovered over, it was for our good and it was all because of love. Celeste will find out all of those lessons and more.



Review (5-stars)

Belinda's Song is my second read by Christine Pauls and I enjoyed it more than the first. I usually shy away from reads where children are abused or victimized; however, these stories are real and represent unheard voices. I'm so glad I took the journey with Belinda.

Readers are introduced to a sweet, innocent Belinda. Her mother does the best she can by her child, but the streets and bad choices have a stronger pull. Belinda is placed with a "stable" family, and this is where her melody goes awry.

What I enjoyed most about the story is that Pauls gives readers a true depiction of how generational choices affect our decisions; she didn't sugarcoat the journey. She also made me reconsider how I see someone who may appear rude, short, or mean. We never know what a person has endured or why they respond with snarkiness. Kudos to Pauls for delivering a heartfelt story. ~Stacy Campbell~

Belinda lived a troubled life. A mother who sold her body and used heroin, was murdered at the youthful age of twenty-seven, leaving her six year old daughter a ward of the state of Louisiana. Being tossed to and fro from one foster home to the next, Belinda is placed with John and Victoria Brittingham. These people are who any child would be overjoyed to live with and have as parents. A beautiful home, a room of their own, new clothes and toys would be a dream come true. But what lies behind the walls of this house is hardly what little Belinda dreamed of, and she will find out in the worse way, the secrets it harbors.



Review (4-Stars)

A poignant, nostalgic journey to the past when families held on to their secrets and one another, this breakout work of new author, Christine Pauls boasts of skills many authors invest bankrolls to acquire. Her characterization and dialogue mimic the talents of seasoned authors and the story of this family, buried under the weight of both hope and regret makes for a satisfying tale. Underneath the drama churned up by the family dynamics of this old mid-20th century family lay the true gems of this story: it's recapture of a time long gone. Ms. Paul's makes you feel like you were there, returning only when you've turned the last page and closed the book. Bravo.

~Pen Princess~

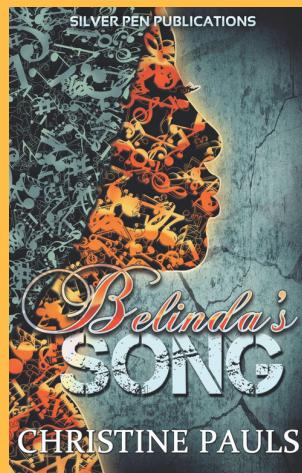
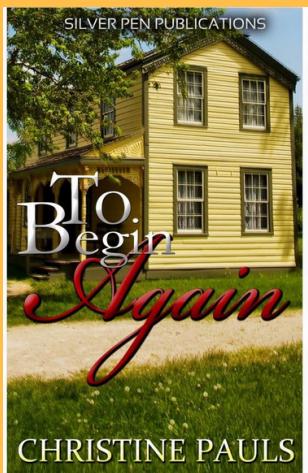
Madelyn, the youngest sibling of the Johnson trio has had it with the elder, Georgina and Nola who left Lula, Mississippi five years ago, moving up north to Harlem, New York with a vision of becoming a jazz singing duo. They're more than self-centered, leaving their sister with the huge responsibility of handling the affairs of their deceased grandmother, Estelle, as well as their mother Ophelia. This is causing much stress on the young woman and she feels that her life will be no more than it is. That is until the widower, Wilbert Truce comes along. An older man, fifteen years her senior, to be exact and Madelyn believes he is surely too old for her to love. But she'll soon find out that love has no boundaries and she and Wilbert will embark on a journey filled with one surprise after the next.

Georgina and Nola return to Lula with a secret. Mother, Ophelia has one too. And then we have Savannah Moses, the daughter of Pastor Hezekiah and First Lady Justine Moses who is going to turn this small town upside down.

One Good Thing is an emotional rollercoaster of two families whose need to keep things "private" even within their own households, stirs the pot and it overflows.

CONTACT THE AUTHOR

Follow her on Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest @authorcp , Facebook, Christine.pauls.9, Facebook author page, authorcp , email, cpauls49@yahoo.com, and her website, <https://www.christinepauls.com>



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