

Biography – Patricia Haley

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Patricia Haley, an award winning national bestselling author, earned the title of 'trailblazer' after achieving remarkable success with her first faith-based novel. She self-published her debut novel, *Nobody's Perfect*, in 1998 and immediately sold nearly 20,000 copies in an industry where selling 5,000 copies at the time was highly regarded. The novel was the first of its kind to repeatedly make numerous national best sellers list, including #1 on the *Essence* (national African-American) list. Her next book, *No Regrets*, was popular among readers and followed *Nobody's Perfect* onto the best seller's list.



Originally from Rockford, IL, Patricia now lives in Pennsylvania with her husband, Jeffrey and their daughter. With an engineering degree from Stanford Univ. and an M.B.A. in marketing and finance from the Univ. of Chicago, readers are often surprised to hear that Patricia is writing novels, given her technical and business background.

When asked what led her to writing, her response is, "I was always good at creative writing in high school, but my interest was in math and science. I wasn't big on writing classes in college either. Engineering and graduating in four years was my primary focus. In the 90s, I went through a time of personal challenge. Writing became an unexpected tool of therapy. My first attempt at writing was a non-fiction (self-help) book. I got about halfway through it in 1994 and stopped. I set the book aside because a relationship storyline kept playing in my head. So I just sat down one day and wrote the first page. A few weeks later, another page and so on until nine months later I had completed my first novel, *Nobody's Perfect*. I questioned whether it could be any good, because the writing

came very easily. Everything flowed so well. Without consciously trying, I was basically writing what I wanted to read and wasn't able to find in the stores -- clean fiction (without the sex and profanity), set in modern day, addressing real issues, and filled with a spiritual twist that honors God and gives people hope that they can get through their tough times. Everybody is bound to have at least one challenge in their life. "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." – John 16:33 (NIV Holy Bible). My writing is intended to remind people of the hope and peace that come from personally knowing Christ Jesus. I knew God had called and equipped me to write from the beginning. However, I realized in 2007 that God called me to write not for the sake of becoming a career author, but for the explicit purpose of encouraging others through motivational speaking, one-on-one mentoring, writing workshops, and of course the messages in my books. So writing is my gift and encouraging others is my purpose. In case you're wondering what is the difference between the two, gifts, talents, and strengths are the tools you're given to help fulfill your purpose."

Patricia's literary mission is evident in her books: create entertaining, 'clean' stories that tackle real issues and the healing power of forgiveness while leaving readers with a message of hope and redemption, no matter what the circumstance.

Her published titles are *Destined* (2010), *Chosen* (nominated Best Christian and Best Inspirational Fiction of 2009), *Let Sleeping Dogs Lie* (nominated Best Inspirational Fiction of 2006), *Still Waters*, *No Regrets*, *Blind Faith*, short stories in *Blessed Assurance* and the *Midnight Clear* anthologies, and her trailblazing bestselling first novel, *Nobody's Perfect* (1998).

Beyond her literary endeavors, she is a born-again believer in Christ Jesus and has a great love for the Lord, her beloved husband, daughter, family, and membership in Delta Sigma Theta Public Service Sorority, Inc., where she previously served as Chaplain in the Valley Forge Alumnae Chapter as well as a past committee chairperson. She is honored to be a charter member of both the Omicron Chi Collegiate chapter at Stanford University and the Schaumburg-Hoffman Estates (IL) Alumnae Chapter. Patricia spends part of her time working in Corporate America as a project manager overseeing teams in North America, Europe, Australia, and Asia. Formerly a member of the gospel choir, building committee, and volunteer tax return leader, Patricia now directs her leadership energy towards stewardship programs, budgeting, and financial mentoring.

As she continues to work in various venues, her desire is that God will get the glory in all aspects of her life. Look for other works from this voice on the literary scene.

Upcoming Releases: **Destined** (2010), Book #3 in the *Chosen* series (2011). Series represents the modernized stories of Kings David, Solomon, submerged in a sea of family drama, wisdom, women, and wealth.