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Author: Shonette Charles  
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*GAME ON* ISBN: 978-0996456821  
Published: June 28, 2016



# Author Bio

Shonette Charles

Shonette Charles is the Amazon bestselling author of the novels, *GAME ON* and *NAIL IT: Breaking into the Black Elite* and the blog—*Pearls, Poise & Protocol*. Follow Shonette on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter @shonettecharles.

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Shonette Charles is the Amazon bestselling author of the novels, *GAME ON* and *NAIL IT: Breaking into the Black Elite*, and the blog—*Pearls, Poise & Protocol*. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Jack and Jill of America, Inc., and The Links, Incorporated. Connect with her on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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Shonette Charles is the Amazon bestselling author of the novels, *GAME ON* and *NAIL IT: Breaking into the Black Elite*, and online blog—*Pearls, Poise & Protocol*. An active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Jack and Jill of America, Inc., and The Links, Incorporated, Shonette holds degrees from Harvard University and the University of Michigan. She is a former freelance writer and editor and currently resides in Raleigh, North Carolina with her family. Shonette enjoys reading, dancing, and traveling in her spare time. Visit her online at [www.shonettecharles.com](http://www.shonettecharles.com), and connect with her on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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Shonette Charles is the Amazon bestselling author of the novels, *GAME ON* and *NAIL IT: Breaking into the Black Elite*. The series explores the world of exclusive social clubs and black fraternities and sororities. “Shonette Charles does a fantastic job of bringing this undocumented world to life,” said one Readers’ Favorite 5-stars reviewer. She also writes the online blog—*Pearls, Poise & Protocol*—which gives you the tools to be your best in any social situation.

Originally from Dallas, Texas, Shonette currently resides in Raleigh, North Carolina with her family. She received her B.A. degree from Harvard University and an MBA from the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan. Shonette is a former freelance writer and editor and also worked in finance and project management.

Before becoming an author, Shonette considered herself a “professional community volunteer” and enjoyed using her business expertise to help non-profit organizations achieve their goals. She has served as president and on the board of directors of many community and civic organizations. In addition, she is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Jack and Jill of America, Inc. and The Links, Incorporated.

When Shonette isn’t writing or spending time with her family, she enjoys reading, dancing, and traveling in her spare time. Visit her online at [www.shonettecharles.com](http://www.shonettecharles.com), and connect with her on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

# Book Bio

Consumed by growing tension at work, Noah Kyle has little time to pressure his beautiful wife, Sahara, to join Fairchester's powerful social circle--where ladies lunch, expensive toys are the norm, and it isn't about what you know but rather whom. However, her new friend, Teri, happily steps in where Noah left off and picks up the cause. The friends soon realize that the more things change, the more they stay the same, and Teri convinces Sahara and Zora that they should try to become members of one of Fairchester's most exclusive social clubs.

However, Sahara quickly learns that gaining membership in this tight-knit circle is not child's play, and the process may be stacked against her. Not only is half of Fairchester seeking the coveted membership--including her nemesis, Emery Edmonds, a sophisticated socialite on the rise--but Sahara will have to go head-to-head against her friends. The stakes couldn't be higher as alliances are made, loyalties are tested, and old secrets threaten to come to light. But, in this circle, if Sahara wants a seat at the table, she has to play to win, because it is GAME ON.

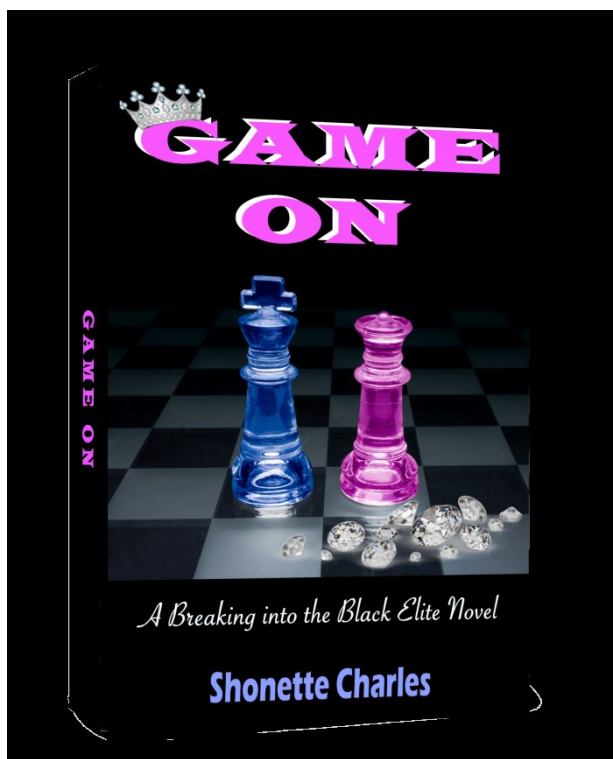


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In these circles, if you want a seat at the table, you have to remember that it is GAME ON.

\*\*\*\*

When Sahara Kyle seeks membership in one of Fairchester's most exclusive social clubs, the stakes couldn't be higher as alliances are made, loyalties are tested, and old secrets threaten to come to light. But, in this circle, if Sahara wants a seat at the table, she has to play to win, because it is GAME ON.



## Features and Themes

- African-American social clubs
- Black sororities and fraternities
- Father-Child Bond
- Mental Health Awareness and Mental Illness
- The Church
- Membership Intake Process

# Shonette Charles writes high and mighty with a twist of class, sass

*The Charlotte Post*

Published Thursday, August 18, 2016

by Ashley Mahoney

Charles presents a darker version of “The Great Gatsby,” where the rich and famous have kids, southern accents, faster cars and leading ladies with sass and class. Charles poignantly points out issues surrounding race, sex, sexual orientation, marriage, education and finances.

On the surface, ignoring these issues would be easier than dealing with them. Yet Charles does more than deal with them. She shows the depths that people go to protect their families, secrets, business ventures and just how messy life can get, because of the choices we make.

At some point, family ties will test our patience, love and loyalty. Charles demonstrates that family can extend beyond blood. For her characters, these family ties come in the form of sorority sisters and social club members.

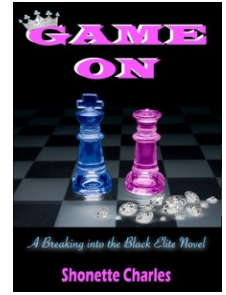
Through her direct diction, Charles illustrates what happens when people lie: they get caught. Those lies have a tendency to cause more problems than telling the truth in the first place would have, and Charles demonstrates those consequences with flair.

Additionally, she includes gay characters, and goes to extreme lengths to address the bias directed toward those of a different sexual orientation. Yet, she also uses this as a platform to address the theme of living one’s life from the closet. While she incorporates a great deal of hyperbole to convey this message, Charles depicts a world where race defines the way people treat preschoolers—it’s heinous and unfortunately true.

Her story shows that no matter how much money an individual has, regardless of what school he or she attended, without consideration of the individual, prejudice can cloud a person’s judgment. It’s a good choice for any last-minute beach trips before the weather turns.



# Review Excerpts



Numerous  
surprises for  
the reader

"The plot twists and turns on a fun roller coaster ride...and you can't help but get pulled into the drama (I mean, who doesn't love drama). When you pick up Game On, you will have a hard time putting it down. - **Elizabeth B.**

**for Readers Favorite**

Glad I  
read it

compelling  
characters



"If you like drama, suspense, and some great humor sprinkled in, then this book is for you." - **Sherri M. for Readers Favorite**

Beautiful  
writing

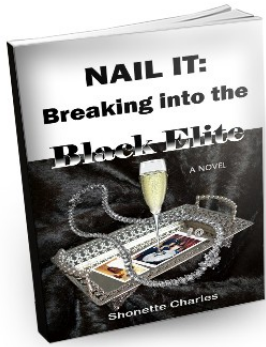
"The plot is well thought out with numerous surprises for readers. If you want to know what happens behind the glitz, the expensive lunches, cars, and gadgets, then you'll definitely be entertained...."- **Arya F. for Readers Favorite**

The plot  
is well  
thought  
out.

"We picked up right where we left off and I was happy to become re-acquainted with the characters and meet a few new at the same time. Game On delivered more darkly complicated character issues but still managed to maintain the fun light-hardheartedness of Nail It.." **Amazon Reviewer**

"Excellent Read...You won't be disappointed at all! " **Amazon Reviewer**

"Picking up where NAIL IT ended, the twists and turns of Sahara Kyle's tale make this book an absolute page turner!" **Amazon Reviewer**



# Book Excerpt

## Chapter 5: Sahara

As Sahara ate her food, she could hear a group of mothers at a table behind her talking.

"I can't believe that she came. Who invited her again?"

"I don't know. Maybe Yancy."

"And, there he is walking around without a care in the world. Shameful."

"You know her husband left her...after he caught them to-gether."

"I don't know her well. I thought that she was happy...at least she seemed like it."

"Well, he is *fine*. If I wasn't happily married...I would consider..."

Then, they broke into a chorus of laughter.

"Well, you know that we can't have that drama in the chapter. There's no way that *both* of them can be in the chapter."

"I know. We CANNOT have that mess around our children and families."

"But, they both have so much to offer..."

"Well, there's no question in my mind, whom we should take. Look at all the work she has done in the community and money she has raised for the women's shelter and domestic violence."

Were they talking about...? Sahara leaned back so she could hear better.

"Right."

“Agreed.”

“Agreed.”

“Ssshhh! Here she comes now....”

Sahara nonchalantly craned her neck so that she could see who was coming. She was right. It was Emery.



# Interview Questions

1

*What inspired you to write this book?*

*GAME ON* is the sequel to *NAIL IT: Breaking into the Black*. In my first book, I introduced this world, where ladies lunch and expensive toys are the norm, to the characters and the readers. The main character seeking membership in an exclusive social club was a natural progression.

2

*What was your favorite part of the book to write and why?*

There are so many, but I really enjoyed writing the chapter where Sahara's father is revealed. The impact and magnitude of the paternal bond is one of the themes explored in the book so to reveal her father's identity and the fallout was exciting.

3

*What is a theme that your book explores?*

One theme that is explored is social acceptance and the lengths that people will go to get it and hide secrets that threaten it. The overt manifestation of this theme is the process that Sahara and her friends go through trying to gain membership in one of Fairchester's exclusive social clubs. In addition, the readers will see many of the characters fight for inclusion surrounding issues like race, class, mental health, and sexual orientation.

4

*What was the hardest part of writing this book?*

*GAME ON* is my second book, but the first time that I had to write while I still marketed my first book. I'm still trying to find the right balance as I manage being an author and other aspects of my life.

# Interview Questions

5

*What do you love most about the writing process?*

I am creative but also like structure so I enjoy most aspects of the writing process. I love researching and developing character profiles and my book outlines. Most days, I enjoy bringing my outline to life. Some days, I just put my nose to the grindstone and get some words on paper.

6

*What made you decide to self publish?*

I wasn't someone that had a lifelong dream to write a book. One day, out of the blue, I just decided to write one. When I want to do something, I want to do it now. After doing my research, self publishing made sense given my writing goals and business development background.

7

*Do you try more to be original or to deliver to readers what they want?*

Both. I like shedding a light on aspects of the black experience and culture that are not seen often in mainstream media. When I'm writing, ultimately, my goal is to write a story that my friends and I will enjoy.

8

*Do you hide any secrets in your books that only a few people will find?*

Yes, I like to give "shout outs" to people and special moments in my life in my books.

9

*What is something memorable you have heard from your readers/fans?*

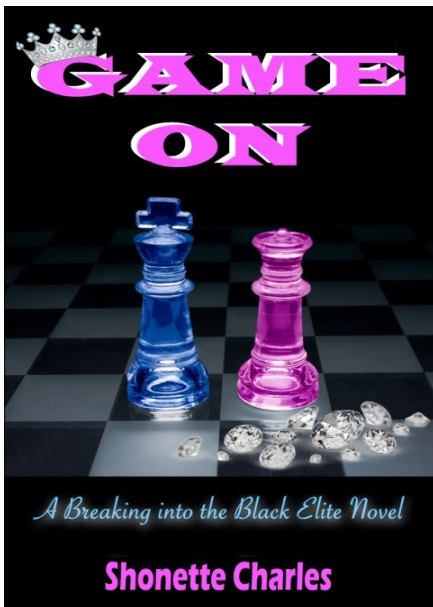
I love your books. Keep writing!

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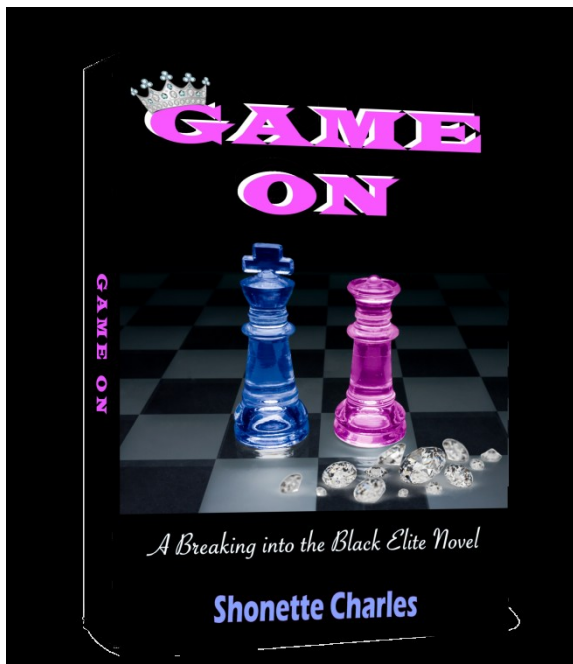
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