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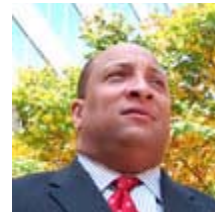
"Chic" Weaver, Author of *The Life of a Wannabe*

(BALTIMORE-Feb. 21) - Shareka "Chic" Weaver was born and raised in the South Baltimore neighborhood of Cherry Hill. She is a graduate of Coppin State University and currently, a Maryland State employee with the Division of Public Safety and Corrections. Chic, as most know her by, says she dares to live an extraordinary life because of the many creative and inventive people in her family. *The Life of a Wannabe* is the author's first novel and at the present time, she is working on her next ficitional piece, entitled "Daycare Diaries".

The *Life of a Wannabe* documents the journey of an African American high school female, who is struggling to cope with societal affirmations of self-worth and the courage to be the next "Brooklyn Hamil", instead of a carbon copy of someone else. The story opens in a metropolitan city on the east coast and as the tale progresses, Brooklyn finds herself enthralled by the glitz and glamour of the posh Hollywood lifestyle, during a holiday visit with friends. But before our leading lady becomes bi-coastal, she makes one last attempt at stardom and tries out for "Americas Favorit Singer", a nationally televised singing competition. Subsequent to her audition, not only does Brooklyn come face to face, or should I say, toe to toe with her arch nemesis, Riley Hayes, but she also begins to fear that reality TV will be the death of her, when in actuality, the fun is just beginning. What Brooklyn does with her fifteen minutes of fame will inspire the dreamer inside us all. In the end, she reminds us that no matter how far-fetched a dream may seem to be, we should remember a key wannabe rule-don't give up!

The *Life of a Wannabe* is currently available for purchase at Expressions Custom Framing, located at 222 N. Paca Street, Baltimore; Sepia, Sand, & Sable, located at the Reisterstown Road Plaza, Baltimore; Words by Wendell, 512 W. Franklin Street, Baltimore; and Sankofa Video and Books, located at 2714 Georgia Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

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