

MARY AIYETORO



**OF WHIRLWINDS  
AND OF HELPS**

## About the Book



*Of Whirlwinds and of Helps* is a fictional but realistic representation and chronicle of the life of the author right from childhood. The book documents the good, the bad, and the ugly experiences that the Central character had to navigate to achieve something tangible with her life. It is a testament that with God's help and the assistance of strategically placed people, the Journey of life violent forces of Life becomes less cumbersome and the power of the forces of darkness is neutralise and curtailed.

*Of whirlwinds and of Helps* foregrounds the value of faith and God's steadfastness in the lives of His children.

## About the Author



Pastor (Dr) Mary Bosede Aiyetoro, a product of Christ's amazing grace, was born and raised in Ogbomoso, Oyo State, Nigeria. She encountered Christ as a teenager and became an ardent and passionate lover of Christ. She is a seasoned preacher who is committed to both women and youth development and empowerment.

She started her teaching career after she completed her National Youth Service Programme. She has been a university teacher for several years.

She is currently a Senior Lecturer, Head of the English Programme, and Deputy Director, Directorate of Students' Support Services at Bowen University, Iwo, Osun State, Nigeria.

She has been married to the Reverend Rotimi Emmanuel Aiyetoro, the minister-in-charge, Covenant Ark of Grace Christian Centre International, for over two decades and together, they have been blessed with three wonderful children: Deborah, David and Daniel.

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Like a builder,  
You have laid one brick on the other,  
Allowed the structure to tower,  
Blended straw and mortar,  
Pleaded with rain to splatter,  
And cajoled the waves to banter  
To leave beautiful imprints on life platter  
Where you sailed turfs and mounted sea gallops  
Because a hand held you.

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## *Forward*

Dr. Mary Aiyetoro become my student in 1995, when she was admitted into the Department of English of the University of Ibadan. Immediately I got to know her, I saw in her, the virtues of a truly born again Christian, who loved God with all her strength. I recall that at different times, Mary, whose maiden name, at the time was Gbadegesin, would share her personal struggles with me, especially, her challenges as she struggled to survive in the midst of different seemingly overwhelming odds. She had come from a relatively affluent home and despite the unexpected downturn in the finances of her family and the transition to eternity of her parents, Mary never lost sight of God. She held on to Him, firmly, and I am happy that God has \*continued\* to be her beacon of hope since I came across her 28 years ago.

I have also had the singular privilege of serving as Mary's Ph.D supervisor. This role also put me in a position in the last several years, to serve as Mary's spiritual mentor. By God's Grace, I have had the opportunity of watching Mary play different roles, with remarkable success, serving as the closest and most dependable aide and confidant of her husband, operating as a mother-in-Israel for the flock of the church that her husband leads, functioning as a devoted wife and mother, and being a dependable ally for her friends, relatives and acquaintance.

One of Mary's outstanding personality traits, apart from her affability, is her humility. She is humble to a fault, a very positivist oriented quality, which has endeared her to all and sundry. Mary also possesses a keen sense of purpose and direction, which has made her to be resilient, focused and hardworking. I am therefore not surprised

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that at her place of work, Bowen University, Iwo, she has been saddled with numerous administrative duties, all of which attest to her selfless disposition to life. I can also assert, and very confidently too, that Mary's Christian life has been exemplary. She has so far, lived a highly commendable Christian life and I know that by God's Divine Benevolence, she will continue to be an example of the virtuous woman that all those who relate with her know her to be.

Mary's short novel, *Of Whirlwinds and of Helps*, is an autobiographical re-creation of some aspects of her journey through the Road of Life. There is no gainsaying the fact that part of the Mary's journey has been rocky and tumultuous, but the essence of the fictional representation of slices of her life's story is that absolute faith in God and some resilience and focus can help an individual surmount very great obstacles. *\_Of Whirlwinds and of Helps\_* is a gripping tale and a must-read for anyone who wants to have a vivid understanding of God's Awesomeness as He superintends over the affairs of humans and provides Divine Assistance for those who trust Him, wholeheartedly, among whom Mary occupies a very privileged position. For Mary, a very popular Bible verse, extracted from Proverbs 22 verse 29, is very opposite: 'Seest thou a man (or woman) diligent in his works, he would stand among Kings and not among mean men'. My prayer is that God's Hands of Peace will rest perpetually on Dr. Mary Gbadegesin Aiyetoro, my beloved spiritual daughter and the members of her lovely family.

## *Acknowledgments*

My ultimate appreciation, praises and thanks go to my God and father, the glory and the lifter of my head. He is the giver of life, the source of my strength, wisdom, knowledge and understanding. He inspired and enabled me to write this book and equally supplied grace through the help of the Holy Spirit to carry out the assignment successfully. Indeed to you alone be all the glory.

I thank my husband, who has been a great supporter of my visions and dreams. Thanks to my children for their cooperation, encouragement and support in writing this book. You are Indeed blessings from the Lord.

My sincere appreciation goes to Jesutomi who wholeheartedly embraced the vision of writing this book. Thank you for your great efforts, constant assistance, advice, typesetting and editing. You will not lack helpers at different stages of your life.

My deepest appreciation goes to my great mentor, Rev. Prof. Emmanuel Babatunde Omobowale for writing the forward. Special thanks to Dr Bimbola Idowu-Faith for editing and advice.

I thank my academic sons for reading the manuscript; Caleb Akintola and Damilola Fatorisa.

The Lord who sees in the secret will reward each one openly for the labour put into this book.

Thank you.

## *Dedication*

To all the Nations God allowed me to birth; Deborah, David, Daniel and the generations that will come through you.

All the persons who have received God's help, rescued and established to function correctly in a dysfunctional world.

Those who are still trying to navigate the gloomy paths to greatness.

Those waiting mothers in the waiting room and those that are patiently waiting for great desires and dreams.

My husband, the love of my life, friend, prayer partner, my coach, who has been a great strength, a pillar of support in the journey of life.

All those who God has strategically positioned to help me at different seasons of my life.

All my spiritual children and mentees. I thank God for giving you to me. You are such a great joy.



## *Prologue*

*“...Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God”*  
Luke 1: 30b

A group of little children in the yard were playing around the house while their mothers prepared each family's dinner, not too far away. Suddenly, a violently raging whirlwind from nowhere intruded the peace of the little children's innocence. Mothers, children, everyone ran helter-skelter for shelter before it would catch them. Unfortunately, it caught a little girl, the only child of her mother. It held her down. Hapless and helpless, other children shouted and cried for her to come out of the whirlwind. She could not. Her mother heard the noise and came running from the backyard. She defied the demonic invader and its whirling dust, summoned courage, snatched her from its devouring grip, pulled her up, and dusted her body and clothes.

Everything seemed to have returned to normalcy until the mother noticed that her little girl's left leg had been wounded in the whirlwind and she could not walk. The more she tried to stretch the leg, the worse it became. She tried many other things so she could walk but to no avail. She put her on her back and rocked her to sleep. She prayed the best she could till her husband returned at night and she recounted everything to him.

The following day, the mother took her baby girl to General Hospital, Ilorin, Kwara State. When the nurses asked her about what happened to the girl, the mother broke down in tears, barely able to express the strange event and its attending anguish. One doctor saw the girl said that the case was abnormal and referred her to a foreign doctor.

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The other doctor there remarked that there could be some supernatural undertones to the case. Now that it seemed confirmed that it was beyond the physical, the mother resorted to prayer and more prayer.

That little girl, me, went through the whirlwinds but got helps from God and humans ordained by Him! This is the testament.