My Life

By: Essence H.

Born December 10, 2001, under the star sign Sagittarius, I am a future entertainer. Yes, I know that there is a one in a million chance that I will become successful in this career, but one is better than no chance at all. Since kindergarten, I always knew that I wanted to be a triple threat; I wanted to be a singer, a songwriter and a dancer. My mom had always talked to me about how she had worked for many people and had worked many places while involved in the entertainment industry. She worked at the Trumpet Awards for Trina, Patti Labelle, and many other people. At one point in her life, she played in many dramas. In fact, she was pregnant with me at this time. As a result, she always believed that was why I ended up wanting to be a celebrity. My mother and father knew I was bound to be a musical artist when I was around eight months old and I started trying to sing to any song that came on the television or the radio. “You didn’t know many words, but that didn’t stop you from trying to hit the right notes,” my mom laughed as she spoke of the moment. My name is not a name you see many people having. I might just be the only girl in my state with this name. My mother knew that “Essence” would be my name way before she was even pregnant. She came up with this name was when she was watching the “25th Anniversary Show for The Essence Awards and Magazine.” “Oprah Winfrey had written a beautiful poem about the definition of the word “essence” which, she said, described beautiful African American women in our history, and she’d called it “I Know Who I Am”. My mother reminisced saying, “I immediately knew if I had a baby girl, her name would be Essence. I prayed everyday and put holy oil on my stomach to ensure that God would bless me with a beautiful, healthy girl, and I was blessed with my wish.” The rest was history. Currently, I’m in a dance class, writing my own lyrics and poems, learning music, and singing loudly and proudly.

Along the way, I have been told to shut my mouth because I don’t sing well, to quit what I’m doing because I don’t dance well, that the poems I write aren’t of good quality and that I haven’t gotten anywhere with what I’m doing. Well, I guess those people were right because I don’t sing well; I am a great singer! I don’t dance well; I am an awesome dancer. My writing is not of good quality; I am a wonderful writer, and I haven’t gotten anywhere with what I’m doing; I’ve gotten EVERYWHERE with what I’m doing! I perform with an Onstage dance group, and many people have come to watch our performances. I have sung on stage more times than I can count on my fingers and toes. I have performed in numerous plays. I have performed the halftime show for the Atlanta Dream at Phillips Arena. I’ve also choreographed dances and danced for my church and for other people. I have actually done a plethora of performances, so for someone to tell I’m not getting anywhere is ludicrous. I’m not completely sure how I’m going to get to where I want to be, but I do have a great family and wonderful amount of determination I will use to guide me along the way. Even if I don’t succeed, I will always continue with dance, continue writing music and poems, and continue singing, and choreographing. I don’t know what God has planned for me, but I do know that it's great!