

CHANDRA SPARKS SPLOND BLACK GIRL DREAMING

Poems about Love, Life and Loss

LESSONS IN LIFE

I opened my eyes
A long time ago
And viewed the things
You didn't show.
The truth wasn't pretty.
It bruised my pride,
But at least it taught me
To never close my eyes.

I opened my ears
Hoping to hear
Words of love
Whispered so dear.
The words never came.
I hurt inside,
But at least it taught me
To never close my eyes.

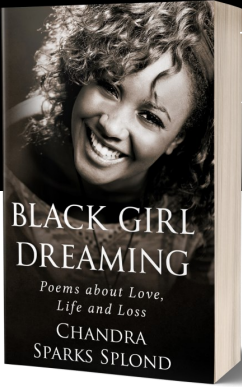
I opened my heart
And gave you the chance
To come inside
To seek romance,
But you never came,
My heart grew cold.
You left me empty,
Partly whole
You left me searching
For a place to hide,
But at least it taught me
To never close my eyes.

I opened my eyes,
But they didn't see
All the hurt and confusion
You caused me.
I stood here waiting
Never wanting good-byes
And you left me standing
With my arms opened wide,
But at least loving you taught me.

CHANDRA SPARKS SPLOND

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ABOUT THE BOOK

As a child growing up in Birmingham, Alabama, author and blogger Chandra Sparks Splond spent many days in her room dreaming of forever and writing about someday. In *Lessons in Life: Poems about Love, Laughter and Loss*, Splond shares some of her most cherished and personal work on her journey to learning to love herself and others.

Reading Level: Young Adult (Grades 6-12)

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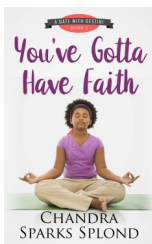
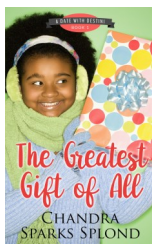
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ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Chandra Sparks Splond is an editor, speaker and award-winning author and blogger. She is the owner of West End Publishing, LLC., and was the consulting editor for *Arabesque* romance at Kensington Publishing. She has also edited for Random House, Moody Publishers, Kimani Press, and Hyperion, as well as several *New York Times*, *USA Today* and *Essence* bestselling authors. She was a copy editor for *Good Housekeeping*, *Newsday* and *The Morning Call*, and has written for *Black and Married with Kids*, *Brides Noir*, *Weddingpages*, and *Romantic Times*.

ALSO BY CHANDRA SPARKS SPLOND



Phone: 205-440-2934

Email: books@chandrasparkssplond.com

Website: www.chandrasparkssplond.com