

barriers that are presented to me on a daily basis. I attended a school that lacks the sufficient funds and space for me and my peers. I see on the news the lives lost to negligence, while hearing the stories of minorities falling wayside because they lack educational opportunities. These barriers cannot and will not deter me from my inevitable success. Embracing the premise that my life itself is predetermined based on my sex, race and religion does nothing but create more barriers, and ^{this is} something I cannot allow to occur.

My inspiration to overcome and rise above came later rather than sooner. What people fail to realize is a world with generic, carbon copies of each other lack originality, personality and individuality, ^{that is} a world I can't belong to. I dare not attempt to fill any of these negative molds crafted by society. Do other great women inspire me? Indeed but my future is not to be the next one of them, but rather, the first ever ^{of} me, Keeozel Saul. Am I wrong for wanting to be an individual? Of course not, ^{like} all human beings, I too am flawed. In a society that profits from your self-doubt, liking yourself is a rebellious act. You must take personal responsibility. You cannot change the circumstances, the seasons, or the wind, but you can change yourself. That is something you ^{are in} have charge of in life.

In my process of self-analysis I had to deal with ^{stereotypes,} barriers and the inspiration to overcome and rise above. Our uniqueness, our individuality, and our life experience molds us into fascinating beings. I hope we can embrace that. I pray we may all challenge ourselves to delve into the deepest resources of our hearts to cultivate an atmosphere of understanding, acceptance, tolerance, and compassion. We are all in this life.