



Jabez

Joy Ohagwu

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Will he Succeed or Fail?

“The only stock you’ll ever sell is chik’n stock.”

Jabez Patrickson heard those gut-wrenching words dripping with sarcasm from his father at a tender age and knew the odds were strongly stacked against him. Not only will his father not support his goal to become a NY Stockbroker, he would stand against any chance of his succeeding. JB set his heart on his goal. But several odds stood in his way—lack of money, insufficient education, and moral support. Will he make it to the NY Stock Exchange as a stockbroker or will his dream be squashed before it begins? Will Louisville construction worker be the only job ever on his resume? Or with divine intervention, can he surmount the impossible odds to reach his dream? Be a part of his audience as he tells Candace his story for the first time.

JABEZ is a follow-up to Book 1, **After**. Reading **After** would improve your understanding of this story, though it’s not required to enjoy it. Continue the story by reading **After 2**.

JABEZ is a new contemporary Christian Inspirational novella in the **AFTER** Series, by Bestselling Contemporary Christian Fiction Author Joy Ohagwu. Her stories are richly twined in hope, faith, and love. Get yours now on Amazon Kindle to learn more.

Jabez Details

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Beverly says

The book *Jabez* fits into the AFTER series written by Joy Ohagwu. Book 1 tells the story of Candace and JB Patrickson. That book is an inspirational romance. Once Candace and JB are married, he then feels confident enough to tell his life story to her. So this book is the story he tells Candace on the way to their honeymoon. That would make this book 2, although I think of it more as book 1.5. It could be easily incorporated into book 1 as part of JB's back story.

When Jabez was ten, he was well used to the drunken rages his father would get into. He had a hiding place, and his mother had a hiding place. It was not enough to keep them safe, however, and eventually Jabez was beaten senseless and woke up in the hospital. Things only got worse from there when his father returned to their home. No one else knew the situation they were in. His father owned a reputable construction company and seemed like a straight up guy to everyone else. But JB and his mother often went entire days without a meal. His father had to control everything. When JB was old enough to work for his father, he was expected to work in construction and live at home.

One day, he and his mother found a safe place across the street to hide. They slept in the pews at night in the church to avoid getting beaten. Then he met Pastor Yohanna who began to help them in subtle ways. He encouraged Jabez to find his own path and became a role model for him. For the first time in his life, Jabez saw a father figure the way it was supposed to be. He began to attend church and special meetings the pastor set up for a few other young people who had challenges in their lives that blocked their successful entry into the world. His transformation was not an overnight success. It was a huge struggle far into JB's adult life.

This author writes in an understanding manner about the impact of abuse this type of experience has on a growing child and on an emerging adult. When a person has heard their entire young life they will not amount to anything good, they tend to believe what they hear, even though their minds can tell them otherwise. Parents are the first authority figure a child experiences, and what they are told is often taken for the truth. It's extremely difficult to shake off that first voice in spite of good influences in their lives afterward. The author does a great job showing us what this type of struggle to overcome abusive programming is like.

It was the faith of the Pastor that leads him to step out of his comfortable place to lend an understanding ear and a shoulder to lean on for the young people in JB's group. And it was faith in Jesus Christ that finally brought JB over the edge from abusive thinking to victorious thinking. This could be so many peoples' stories. I pray that this short novella helps many people to understand how difficult it is to shake abusive influences, but that it is possible.

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received a complimentary review copy of this book from the author. I was not required to write a review, positive or otherwise. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255: Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising.

Kim Paulus says

This was a wonderful story that really captures the heart. Jabez tells his new bride how he became who he is and how, with the saving grace of God, he accomplished his dreams. The story is very inspiring! A must read if you have read After! But if you haven't no worries; read Jabez then read After; you will feel as if you have the inside scoop on Jabez.

Linda Rainey says

Jabez was caught in a cycle of abuse against him and his mother and he was determined to escape. Jabez was handpicked by God to achieve greatness and his minister was picked to serve and encourage him. Following the guidance and help of the minister Jabez, rises above the abuse. He studied, became a stockbroker, went to college and accepted the Lord.

This novella was Jabez's gift to his new bride as he tell her about his life.

It was very powerful and shows that with God you can conquer all.

A copy of this book was given in exchange for an honest review

Angie says

Tragedy Turned to Triumph

When life throws you lemons, you make lemonade... JB (Jabez) was not deserving of the life his parents provided. I was saddened reading JB's experiences as a youth growing up with an abusive parent. I myself and many others can relate to his pain and the need to protect. The pain is real. (Thank you God for giving Joy words to write about this hard topic.) I felt the events JB experienced when God wanted him to forgive, because it's not for the abuser but for the abused. For JB to follow God's request to forgive his dad before it was too late is what we all must do. If the forgiveness can't be given to the abuser then how can forgiveness from God, through Jesus, be given to the abused... JB's story is difficult, emotional, and freeing! I look forward to reading After 2, and continuing to read books written by Joy Ohagwu.

Katy says

A story of Jabez Patricksen, who overcomes numerous hurdles---abuse, isolation, and being told he'd never amount to anything. Yet a pastor saw the potential in jabez and 4 others and became their mentor through the hardships. Jabez had to come home eventually and confront his past and his biggest demon, his abusive father.

Kimberly Westrope says

I had high hopes for this story and was disappointed. It really isn't much of a story. There is a lot of redundant filler - how many glasses of water can/should one drink during a flight? I felt no emotional connection to the characters. Not sure if I would give the other books in the series a read.

P.S. Winn says

I think this is a good story and as it is part of a series, I think the story will grow. A short four hours after JB Patrickson and Candace get married, he finally decides to share his past with his new bride. If I was Candace, I may have gotten mad about the secret, but JB had his reasons. This is a faith based story that is well written. I think I would like a story also about JB when he was younger. I also feel the next book in the series is one worth grabbing to see where the author takes the characters in this inspirational story.

Randy Tramp says

This is the first book I've read in this series, and it won't be the last. Joy is quickly becoming one of my favorite authors. Her style of getting right into the story, then keeping the action going, is right on. I immediately liked the main character and was concerned for his, and his mother's safety.

Much of the book is written as memory. Great way to write a story. Perfect ending.

SJ Garrison says

A peek into JB's past. It was told as JB explained his past to Candace while heading to their honeymoon destination on a private plane. I highly recommend if you read After book 1, this book will be a great compliment.

Anne Rightler says

Jabez by Joy Ohagwu is a wonderful novella of God's redemption from a life of brokenness and fear. JB and Candace are newlywed, flying on a private plane to their honeymoon--beginning an exciting and yet unknown future together. Can that future be secure unless the past is revealed? JB shares his heartrending past with Candace, how God has given him strength to go on without a shred of doubt, despite discouraging, depressing situations. Strength to pursue a dream. Strength that came from a changed heart, from a pastor who invested in JB's life and through God's Word. With this novella, Ohagwu fills in a little more story from her After series and gives readers an inspirational look at what it means to become a new person in Christ. I received a complimentary copy of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review.

Rose says

God is good all the time.

This book has inspired me to get myself the help that I need. It was truly inspiring to see how God worked and how he moved in all of the people. When Candace fell to her knees, I was right there with her at the

point of her surrender. God really came through for her.
Never give up to fear, just surrender to GOD!!!

Bobirley Adams says

I received a free copy of JABEZ in exchange for my honest review.

This book answered a lot of questions that I had about Jabez from the book AFTER: BOOK ONE. Now that I have those questions answered, I am comfortable going on to read AFTER: BOOK TWO.

Carol Van says

Excellent

Another excellent book by Joy Ohagwu. Each of her books I have read have all tackled a difficult topic but presented in a wonderful story. The depth of her writing draws you into the story as if you were actually there in the midst.

Patricia says

This is a book about abuse which all of us encounter in different degrees in our lives although for Jabez it is major. Sometimes it is verbal & sometimes it is physical. Both can be damaging to us. None of us deserves to be abused & we hate to forgive our abuser but Christ loves everyone. He died for all of us when we were at our worst. So I was glad you gave him the ability in the book to forgive his abuser. This is the only way that healing can be had. We make ourselves miserable when we hold bitterness & anger. It is hard on our bodies & our psyche. It is such a relief when we can do it! It gives us freedom!

Debbie says

Kept me interested from the first page.

Jabez became a Christian and his world changed. Not the happily ever after change found in most books, but a forever change the kind only Christ can do. It's good to read a book which tells the story of a new Christian's journey. We walk by faith and not by sight. Our God calls to us and helps all who choose to do his will.
