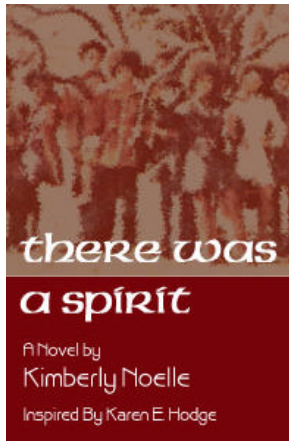


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Book Release: *There Was A Spirit*, author Kimberly Noelle
Chicago, IL: There Was A Spirit telling the untold story!
Publisher's Release Date: March 2005



“THERE WAS A SPIRIT”

Chicago, IL – When the non-violent Civil Rights movement came to a close and the Black Power movement emerged, a generation of leaders less tolerant and more aggressive took the stage. “They say there is a story behind every event in history and then there is the truth”. Chicago author Kimberly Noelle captures one of those many stories in her first fiction novel *There Was a Spirit*. The reader is taken on an unpredictable adventure of Najwa K. Jackson and Omega Pi Alpha Sorority. (Fictitious) This insightful look at the impact of events in time is a refreshing read that will assume a permanent place in every reader’s collection. You are pulled into every smell, sound and feel in atmosphere of the time era. Each character jumps from the page, grabs you and keeps you captivated. Get ready for a *journey in time!*

There Was a Spirit is Kimberly Noelle’s first fictional novel. “This story does more than scratch the surface. It digs deep into the history of our people and personal experiences within Black Greek Organizations.” Noelle received her Bachelor’s of Arts Degree from Columbia College in Chicago and a Master of Science Degree from Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and resides in the Chicago area. In her spare time, she enjoys writing music, traveling, reading, collecting historical memorabilia and volunteering in the community. Currently, Kimberly Noelle is working on the continuing story of Najwa Jackson and the women Omega Pi Alpha.

THERE WAS A SPIRIT**PAGE TWO**

Kimberly Noelle has been interviewed and featured by the media outlets of **Power 92.3FM, Soul 106.3FM, Rejoice 102.3FM, WKKC Radio 89.3FM** (Chicago, IL & Northwest Indiana). **Brown Skin Magazine, Daily Southtown, Chicago Reader, The Chatham Southeast, The Citizen South Suburban, Shades of Romance Magazine, The Chatham Chicago Weekend, The Books Blog, The Chatham Southend, and The Hyde Park Citizen** (Chicago, IL). **Ebony Authors.com, Book-Remarks.com, thesistahcirlce.com, EbonyBWAA Book Club. Cleveland Call & Post** (Cleveland, OH). For more information please feel free to visit www.knoellepublishing.com or call Safiya Edwards at 773.316.3748 or 773.416.1989.

“Noelle presents a true-to-life portrayal of Black college life on a predominantly white campus during a tumultuous time in American History. Exploring the power of sisterhood, the realization of self, and the victory of social justice *There Was A Spirit* is a poignant and stimulating debut novel.”

Trevy A. McDonald, author of *Time Will Tell*

***There Was a Spirit** is a wonderfully written debut novel by Kimberly Noelle. Her writing entices you. The language is colorful and the characters are vividly drawn. This book is a must read.”*

YOLANDA JOE, BEST SELLING AUTHOR OF “HE SAY, SHE SAY”

** End **

Kimberly Noelle Publishing LLC

New Fiction Novel an Opened Time Capsule

There Was a Spirit is the sensational new novel series by author Kimberly Noelle

CHICAGO, IL - They say there is a story behind every event in history and then there is the truth. New Chicago author **Kimberly Noelle** captures one of those many stories in her first fiction novel *There Was a Spirit*. The reader is taken on a journey back in time to 1973-74 to witness a year long chain of events that unfold into the unpredictable adventure of Najwa K. Jackson and Omega Pi Alpha Sorority.

Najwa was a student at Casperton University and the president of a Black Greek sorority in a time when Black pride dictated the total opposite. Najwa’s senior year proved to be a challenge to her character, mental stability and identity as a proud black woman. That year, history for ALL the students of Casperton University changed forever.



This insightful look at the impact of events in time is a refreshing read that will assume a permanent place in every reader’s collection. *There Was a Spirit* surpasses the fascination of exploring the mystery and sensationalism of pledging. Author **Kimberly Noelle** explains, “Black Greek organizations have made a significant impact in the fight for equality within the African American community. Members of these groups, unlike some other sororities and fraternities, contribute a life long amount of work to the community and the goals of their organizations. They also have a wealth of untold stories of inspiration, sisterhood, brotherhood and even internal struggles that have strengthened their bond.”

From this concept, came the inspiration to write *There Was a Spirit*. “This story does more than scratch the surface. It digs deep into the history of our people and personal experiences within Black Greek organizations.” Kimberly’s unique approach in telling this story transforms the reader by taking them back in time. Each character jumps from the page, grabs you and keeps you captivated. You are pulled into every smell, sound and feel in the atmosphere of the time era. Get ready for a journey in time!

There Was a Spirit is available for purchase online at www.knoellepublishing.com and at select bookstores. Signings and appearances by the author can be arranged by contacting info@knoellepublishing.com.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Authors View
The Inspiration

Classified
“The book is a must read.” – **Yolanda Joe, Best Selling Author**

Book Summary
Special Casperton News

To read an excerpt visit www.knoellepublishing.com

“There Was a Spirit is a wonderfully written debut novel by Kimberly Noelle. Her writing entices you. The language is colorful and the characters are vividly drawn. This book is a must read.”

Yolanda Joe, Best Selling Author of “He Say, She Say”

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“THERE WAS A SPIRIT”

Written By

KIMBERLY NOELLE

ISBN 0-9764562-0-6

Distributor

Baker & Taylor

Also Available at

Amazon.com

www.knoellepublishing.com

Author Interviews & Signings

To schedule **author interviews, signings and appearances** contact
Kimberly Noelle Publishing
info@knoellepublishing.com
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Kimberly Noelle Publishing LLC

THERE WAS A SPIRIT Captures the Story in History

Chicago, IL -When the non-violent Civil Rights movement came to a close and the Black Power movement emerged, a generation of leaders less tolerant and more aggressive took the stage. A young, brilliant black woman at the top of her class, **Najwa K. Jackson**, was one of those leaders.

A senior at Casperston University and president of her sorority chapter of Omega Pi Alpha, Najwa was a force to be reckoned. On the campus of Casperston University where racial tensions were extraordinarily high, Black students were labeled among their own as either a part of the solution or a part of the problem. 1974 would be the year that challenged the character and mental stability of Najwa Jackson as she tried desperately to uphold both her identity as a Black woman and her sorority's principles and image. That year, history for ALL the students of Casperston University changed forever and proved that *there is a story to every event in history...and then there is the truth.*

-Special Supplemental-

Casperston Local News

Casperston, IL - 1974

Casperston University Race Relations Unstable

Casperston, IL -The Casperston University Dean of Students office was again faced with criticism from the Black students of Casperston University. Several student organizations petitioned the re-admittance of a student accused of drug possession on the campus grounds which, according to the student handbook, is a direct offense leading to expulsion. The petition sites several examples of "unfair treatment" and "racist handlings" of disciplinary matters involving Black students.

It is rumored that members of the predominantly Black Greek sororities and fraternities on the campus are the writers of the petition that has been circulating the campus. To date, the circulators have secured the signatures of close to 500 students and contributors of the university. The Dean of Students was not available for comment.

Snowflake Ball a Campus Hit

Casperston,IL-The Snowflake Ball was a hit with the students of Casperston University and the surrounding community. The event was chaired by Greek Council member, Dakota Phillips and garnered an attendance of over 200 students before the Christmas break. Proceeds from the event will be donated to a local Casperston charity.

INSIDE STORIES

Pumpkin Winner Arrested
Page 5

Casperston Community Center Holiday Bash
Page 5

S&H Green Stamps Fraud
Page 6

Casperston Residents Build Ice Castles
Page 6

Chicago Author Chooses Road Less Traveled

Chicago, IL - "Too often, the works of fiction depicting Black Greek sororities and fraternities are those of pledging and hazing. But there are so many untold stories of inspiration, sisterhood and even struggle within these groups that helped shaped the black community," says author **Kimberly Noelle** who took that concept and wrote the new fiction novel, *There Was a Spirit*. "This story does more than scratch the surface. It digs deep into the history of our people and experiences within Black Greek organizations," Kimberly said of her inspiration to write this novel.

There Was a Spirit is Noelle's first offering in a series to the sorority/fraternity community. The first book follows a year in the life of sorority member Najwa Jackson in 1973. The subsequent books in the series will chronicle the life and times of this same woman and her rise or fall in Omega Pi Alpha Sorority (fictitious sorority). While familiar with the experiences of Black Greek life through her own affiliation, she says that this book is not about any particular organization but about experiences that are universal within the entire Greek community.

There Was a Spirit is **Kimberly Noelle's** first fictional novel. In her spare time, she enjoys writing music, traveling, reading, collecting historical memorabilia and volunteering in the community. Noelle received her Bachelors of Arts Degree from Columbia College in Chicago and a Master of Science Degree from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and resides in the Chicago area. Currently, Kimberly Noelle is working on the continuing story of Najwa Jackson and the women of Omega Pi Alpha.

The Inspiration of a Friend



**New Chicago Author
Kimberly Noelle**

Chicago, IL -The inspiration for the story of Najwa Jackson was born in the Chicago apartment of Karen E. Hodge around 1997. From the friendship of Kimberly Offord and Karen E. Hodge came this haunting yet inspiring novel of promises, power, sisterhood and self- realization.

In late 1999, writing of the book was placed on the back burner when Karen moved to the Washington D.C. area. Making completion seemingly impossible, Karen was faced with the discovery that her physical life was being interrupted by pancreatic cancer. In early 2000, during their last visit, Kimberly made a promise to her sorority sister and friend that this powerful story would be told no matter how long the journey.

On July 3, 2000, Karen E. Hodge made her transition from her physical body and became a spiritual force in completing this novel. As a result of a promise made in a Washington D.C. hospital, in October 2004, Kimberly finally completed *There Was a Spirit*.

*A portion of the proceeds from the sale of *There Was a Spirit* will benefit the Karen E. Hodge Scholarship administered by the Chicago Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.