

For immediate release

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“Not since *I Know Why the Cage Bird Sings* have I read a memoir so courageously committed to exploring the art and act of finding home. ... *Finding Samuel Lowe* is simply the most exciting, daring and brilliant memoir I've read in the 21st century.”

—**Kiese Laymon, author of *Long Division* and *How to Slowly Kill Yourself and Others in America***

“Madison vividly and poignantly recounts the struggles of her parents and grandparents as they faced the stigma of interracial bloodlines ... A profoundly moving and revelatory memoir of far-reaching discovery and affirmation.”

—**Booklist (starred review)**

FINDING SAMUEL LOWE:

China, Jamaica, Harlem

a memoir by

Paula Williams Madison

In stores: April 14, 2015 (Pre-orders available now)

FINDING SAMUEL LOWE: *China, Jamaica, Harlem* is the moving story of former television executive Paula Williams Madison, a Jamaican-American woman who went in search of her mother's father, Samuel Lowe—and discovered her own Chinese roots.

FINDING SAMUEL LOWE begins with Paula and her two brothers' upbringing with their half Chinese mother Nell in Harlem. The family's life is not an easy one—money is scarce, and Nell and her husband fight often over his infidelities (over the course of their relationship, Nell would twice stab her husband with a knife). In addition, because of their mixed-race status (their mother was Chinese-Jamaican, their father was African-Jamaican), Paula and her brothers look and feel very different from their neighbors and friends. Still, the three children grow up to lead accomplished lives.

Throughout her life, though, Paula would feel that her mother's perpetual sense of melancholy was due to Nell's sudden, forced separation from her Chinese father's side of the family. After Nell's death and Paula's retirement, Paula decides to attempt to heal that loss by finding Samuel Lowe. With her brothers beside her and with the help of

information provided by generous strangers, Paula tracks her grandfather's life from China to Jamaica and back. When she finally finds the Lowes in China, she bravely journeys to meet them, not knowing what they'll think of meeting new, black relatives whom the Lowes had not even known to look for.

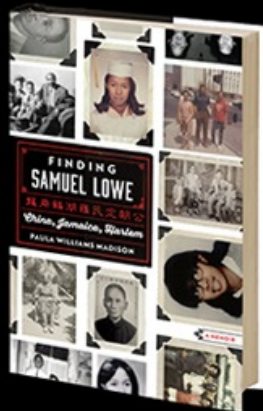
With a conclusion both surprising and life-affirming, **FINDING SAMUEL LOWE** tells a fascinating story about race, family, fate, and destiny.

Author Bio

PAULA WILLIAMS MADISON is Chairman and CEO of Madison Media Management, LLC, a division of Williams Group Holdings LLC, a Chicago-based investment company. They manage such significant companies as The Africa Channel. Madison also is vice president of the Los Angeles Police Commission. She spent 22 years with NBC, and was most recently their Executive Vice President of Diversity as well as the Vice President of the General Electric Company. Honored for corporate leadership and community outreach, Madison was named one of the "75 Most Powerful African Americans in Corporate America" by *Black Enterprise Magazine* in 2005, and included in the *Hollywood Reporter's* "Power 100." In 2013, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. inducted her as an honorary member during its centennial. A native of Harlem, Paula and her husband reside in Los Angeles.

"Not since *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* have I read a memoir so courageously committed to exploring the art and act of finding home...the most exciting, daring and brilliant memoir I've read in the 21st century." —**Kiese Laymon**

"An unlikely journey that speaks of the love of family and the blood of a people...a moving account of a vivid historic migration; an unyielding and dogged journey of the human spirit." —**Walter Mosley, author of *Inside a Silver Box***




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Advance praise for FINDING SAMUEL LOWE

“Not since *I Know Why the Cage Bird Sings* have I read a memoir so courageously committed to exploring the art and act of finding home. In *Finding Samuel Lowe* Paula Madison does the deft intellectual and soulful work of exploring the under-explored relationship between Chinese and Jamaicans. Most importantly, Madison shows us that a proud black identity necessitates embracing every single strand of our wonderfully hybrid racial identities. *Finding Samuel Lowe* is simply the most exciting, daring and brilliant memoir I've read in the 21st century.”

—**Kiese Laymon, author of *Long Division* and *How to Slowly Kill Yourself and Others in America***

“*Finding Samuel Lowe* tells of the little-known yet epic migration of the Hakka people from China to the Caribbean. It is an unlikely journey that speaks of the love of family and the blood of a people; the bonds of slavery and the will to freedom. Told through an intimate family portrait this story is a moving account of a vivid historic migration; an unyielding and dogged journey of the human spirit.”

—**Walter Mosley**

“A heartwarming quest of a women’s search for her Chinese grandfather—and a powerful journey of self-discovery. From one corner of the world to another, from one culture to another, Madison expertly brings family together, showing that all of humanity is attached by a thread of love. This emotionally rich story is a must-read, to be sure.”

—**Harriette Cole, author of *Jumping the Broom***

“This is an extraordinary story of identities lost and found. Paula Madison's audacious search illuminates not only her own family's story, but a lost world of the Chinese diaspora in the Caribbean, Jamaica's mixing bowl of race and culture, and Harlem's melting pot of talent and ambition. Told with grace and authority, a reader cannot help but feel astonished that this entire world was just sitting there, waiting for Madison to be our guide. Once her story is revealed, the reader cannot help but look at the world differently.”

—**Ben Jealous, Former President and CEO, NAACP**

“Madison vividly and poignantly recounts the struggles of her parents and grandparents as they faced the stigma of interracial bloodlines and tells the fascinating story of the Lowes’ people, the Hakka, a nomadic minority from northern China ‘famous for their entrepreneurship.’ And what a momentous meeting it was when Madison and her American family journeyed to the Lowes’ village in China and met their long-lost relatives, who joyously redrew the family tree, which spans 3,000 years. A profoundly moving and revelatory memoir of far-reaching discovery and affirmation.”

—**Booklist (starred review)**

“As the author pursues Lowe’s family in China... she proves a valiant avenger of her mother’s difficult past. A well-structured memoir told in brief, punchy vignettes alternating between past and present.”

—**Kirkus Reviews**