

PREFACE

If you were sitting here with me right now you'd be laughing. You'd be listening to my candid takes on one of the many stories in this book and you'd feel like we were having the experience together.

Because, in a way, we would be.

When I write, I share my thoughts, perspectives and inner dialogue like I'm talking to a friend... because I am. I see things others don't see and pick up on details most miss.

From what I hear, it's not the norm. Or is it that I'm not normal? Nonetheless, my writing was recently described as "real, raw & relatable!" and that's exactly how I hope you'll see it.

Here's the deal. Many of the stories found here are about remarkable folks I've met over the years and the fascinating details surrounding them. Others will hit you in the feels while you walk a mile or two in my shoes. Several are about escapades with family and often end with a takeaway that's worth tucking away for a rainy day.

And, while you're at it, you'll see me laugh at myself a LOT and you'll just have to join in and laugh with (or at) me.

If I didn't laugh I'd be crying and ready to give up. I mean, really, what good is it to have potentially humiliating experiences if you can't laugh and pull something positive out of it?

And, perhaps, that's why this book is so interesting to me. The world, right now, is so very divisive and the first thing to make it to anyone's news feeds or on the media is all the negativity that's out there. When I went looking for