

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-United States, 2021-July 07— /ToStories/-American fiction author Patricia M. Muhammad discusses her historical romance novel, *Hidden Valor*.

Some have considered freedom the ability to depart where one usually rests and venture into town or even further for a new discovery without undue burden or unjust hindrance. Others believe freedom lies within the right to think and believe without undue influence or experiencing unjust societal admonishment. Both of these are crucial ideals in a civilized society; one is intangible and the other requires physical motion. Nevertheless both are of equal importance. The link between mind and body in which others seek to subdue and ensnare is the epitome of enslavement—just the opposite of freedom. To manipulate the reality of another for sport is but another sort of oppression; to limit the ideas and one's ability to soar and realize their utmost potential due to envy and insecurity is for the oppressor to bind himself and the object of his capture in a tiresome and wicked hold. These are among the unjust, the merciless and the heartless conspirators. However, sometimes one may have their exercise of movement limited for a time for his or her benefit. To secure another from a great harm that he or she may not have been previously aware is a necessary task that could only be understood fully when the time has ripened. This becomes a necessity to preserve life. The world has witnessed this amid the recent global pandemic. Yet there was a much earlier time, centuries ago where one duchess and duke also experienced confinement, this within the royal palace during the 18<sup>th</sup> century London, England.

The story begins with a beautiful duchess, Arabella, who has recently become of age. One day she leaves the House of Wellington unescorted for the king's court without notice. While present on the royal estate, two murders occur. Duke Everett, who only earlier that same day lost a land dispute presented before the throne, is accused amongst the courtiers. The king and queen order any members of the gentry to remain on the regal property until further notice. During the inception of his stay he notices Duchess Arabella's beauty. She is focused on the oil paintings which adorn the palace walls—but not for long. The curious maiden is also now among those sequestered to the royal grounds. The duchess left her home for a taste of adventure, to present herself among her regal peers. Yet now her freedom is limited for her own safety. The murderer(s) have yet to be identified, let alone apprehended. The duke's and duchess' circumstances encourages them to become more acquainted with each other. He realizes that despite the fortress she has built around herself, he possesses the uncanny ability to know her better than she had anticipated. The duke accepts that he is actually quite fond of her. Arabella and Everett continue to spend time with one another, resulting in a formal courtship. He and the duchess are among the first to be exonerated by the king and queen. Yet the Crown orders them to remain on the royal estate until the murders are solved and the perpetrators are seized. After some time has passed, the king and queen allow for the duke and duchess leave for the House of Carrington, the duke's residence. However, this decree is short-lived as the Crown soon summons Duke Everett to serve as a royal advisor. A third murder happens on the royal grounds. Duchess Arabella refuses to leave her fiancé's side and presents herself at his service, and thus to the service of the Crown. The king and queen grant her permission to remain with Duke Everett on this special assignment with the condition that the duke must be able to properly execute his assigned duties. Arabella's fiancé's family name and revered House is at stake—and so is their future. The primary witness to one of the murders is Duke Everett's unfamiliar cousin,

Duke Gideon. Duke Everett works diligently, seeking the consult of his dear Arabella, to finally resolve all the murders. Thereafter, Everett and Arabella are now free to wed and remain as honourable members of the king's court. All of them, especially the king and queen, are surprised when the conspirators' identities are revealed. Yet aside from the subject decedents, not all depart from the royal palace unscathed. Those who besmirched Duke Everett's name, committed murder, insulted the sanctity of the king's court and disrespected the Crown now have their freedom restricted in the most permanent fashion. Who were the culprits?

Hidden Valor is currently available for purchase as an ebook at these online retailers:

Amazon ASIN: B08K9H2X5H  
Barnes & Noble: 2940163078301  
Smashwords: 9781005473990  
Tolino Media: 9783752117790  
Thalia EAN: 9783752117790  
Kobo ISBN: 1230004260349  
Google Play: GGKEY:D1L2J86DC8W  
Lulu: N/A  
Apple Books: N/A  
DriveThru Fiction: N/A

**About the Author:** Patricia M. Muhammad is a multi-genre fiction author who often writes about multi-racial characters and interracial relationships. She has written books in crossover contemporary romance, science fiction, science fiction/fantasy, mystery/detective romance and historical romance genres. Hidden Valor is one of five historical romance novels she has written thus far. Patricia has written 20 novels. She is currently based in the United States.

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