#### From Prison To Recovery To Leading The Fight For Incarcerated Women



# BECOMING MS. BURTON

From Prison to Recovery to Leading the Fight for Incarcerated Women

### SUSAN BURTON & CARI LYNN

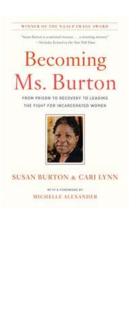
with a foreword by MICHELLE ALEXANDER

In a world where the voices of incarcerated women often go unheard, one exceptional individual has risen up to lead the fight for their rights and recovery. Meet Sarah Johnson, a compassionate and resilient woman who went from

serving time in prison to becoming a beacon of hope for countless incarcerated women across the country.

#### A Life Behind Bars

Sarah Johnson's journey began in a small town where poverty, addiction, and crime were prevalent. She fell into the dark depths of addiction as a teenager, which eventually led her down a path of crime. At the age of 21, she found herself behind bars, serving a lengthy sentence for drug-related offenses.



#### Becoming Ms. Burton: From Prison to Recovery to Leading the Fight for Incarcerated Women

by Susan Burton (Kindle Edition)

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Language	;	English
File size	;	1233 KB
Text-to-Speech	;	Enabled
Screen Reader	;	Supported
Enhanced typesetting	;	Enabled
X-Ray	;	Enabled
Word Wise	;	Enabled
Print length	;	328 pages



Prison life was harsh, to say the least. Sarah witnessed the daily struggles faced by incarcerated women, many of whom had experienced abuse, trauma, and addiction just like her. Determined to break the cycle of violence and create a better future for herself and others, Sarah embarked on a personal journey of recovery.

#### **Finding Redemption and Purpose**

During her time in prison, Sarah discovered a newfound sense of purpose through education and self-reflection. She obtained her GED and went on to earn a Bachelor's degree in Sociology through a prison education program. It was during her studies that she developed an understanding of the systemic issues plaguing incarcerated women and the urgent need for reform.

After her release, Sarah committed herself to helping other incarcerated women overcome their struggles and find redemption. She co-founded a nonprofit organization called "Hope Behind Bars," dedicated to providing support, resources, and advocacy for women in the criminal justice system.

#### The Fight for Reform

Sarah's personal experiences and passion for justice have made her a leading figure in the fight for reform. She has become a powerful advocate for alternatives to incarceration, emphasizing the importance of rehabilitative programs and mental health support within the criminal justice system.

Through "Hope Behind Bars," Sarah has successfully collaborated with legislators, policymakers, and other advocacy groups to push for policies that prioritize the well-being and successful reintegration of incarcerated women. Her tireless efforts have resulted in tangible changes, such as improved access to education, mental health services, and transitional housing for those leaving prison.

#### **Inspiring Change**

Sarah's remarkable transformation and unwavering dedication to helping others have inspired countless individuals to reevaluate their perceptions of incarcerated women. She has been invited to speak at universities, conferences, and even in correctional facilities, spreading her message of hope and empowerment. Through her speeches, Sarah challenges society's stereotypes and biases towards incarcerated women, highlighting their resilience, potential, and capacity for change. She has become a role model and a beacon of hope for those struggling with addiction, trauma, and the stigma of incarceration.

#### The Future of Incarcerated Women

With Sarah Johnson leading the charge, the future for incarcerated women looks brighter than ever. Her relentless pursuit of change, combined with the growing public awareness of the injustices faced by women in prison, is paving the way for a more compassionate and inclusive criminal justice system.

Through her organization and collaborations with like-minded individuals and groups, Sarah aims to expand the reach of her advocacy efforts and empower incarcerated women to rebuild their lives after prison. She firmly believes in the potential for transformation and second chances, and she is determined to ensure that these opportunities are accessible to all women, regardless of their past.

Sarah Johnson's incredible journey from prison to recovery to leading the fight for incarcerated women is a testament to the power of compassion, resilience, and determination. Through her advocacy and tireless efforts, Sarah is making a lasting impact on the lives of countless incarcerated women across the country.

As we continue to learn from her example, it is important for society to stand alongside Sarah Johnson and fight for the rights and well-being of incarcerated women. Together, we can create a future where every woman, regardless of her past, has the opportunity to heal, grow, and lead a life of purpose.

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Winner of the 2018 National Council on Crime & Delinquency's Media for a Just Society Awards

Winner of the 2017 Goddard Riverside Stephan Russo Book Prize for Social Justice

"Valuable . . . [like Michelle] Alexander's The New Jim Crow."

-Los Angeles Review of Books

"Susan Burton is a national treasure . . . her life story is testimony to the human capacity for resilience and recovery . . . [Becoming Ms. Burton is] a stunning memoir."

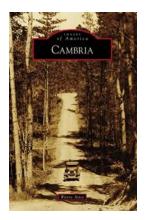
-Nicholas Kristof, in The New York Times

Winner of the prestigious NAACP Image Award, a uniquely American story of trauma, incarceration, and "the breathtaking resilience of the human spirit" (Michelle Alexander)

Widely hailed as a stunning memoir, Becoming Ms. Burton is the remarkable life story of the renowned activist Susan Burton.

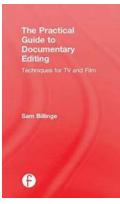
In this "stirring and moving tour-de-force" (John Legend), Susan Burton movingly recounts her own journey through the criminal justice system and her transformation into a life of advocacy. After a childhood of immense pain, poverty, and abuse in Los Angeles, the tragic loss of her son led her into addiction, which in turn led to arrests and incarceration. During the War on Drugs, Burton was arrested and would cycle in and out of prison for more than fifteen years. When, by chance, she finally received treatment, her political awakening began and she became a powerful advocate for "a more humane justice system guided by compassion and dignity" (Booklist, starred review). Her award-winning organization, A New Way of Life, has transformed the lives of more than one thousand formerly incarcerated women and is an international model for a less punitive and more effective approach to rehabilitation and reentry.

Winner of an NAACP Image Award and named a "Best Book of 2017" by the Chicago Public Library, here is an unforgettable book about "the breathtaking resilience of the human spirit" (Michelle Alexander).



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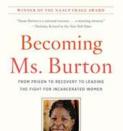
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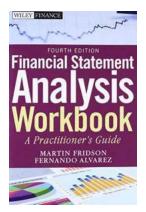
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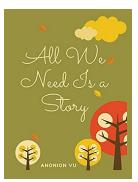
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