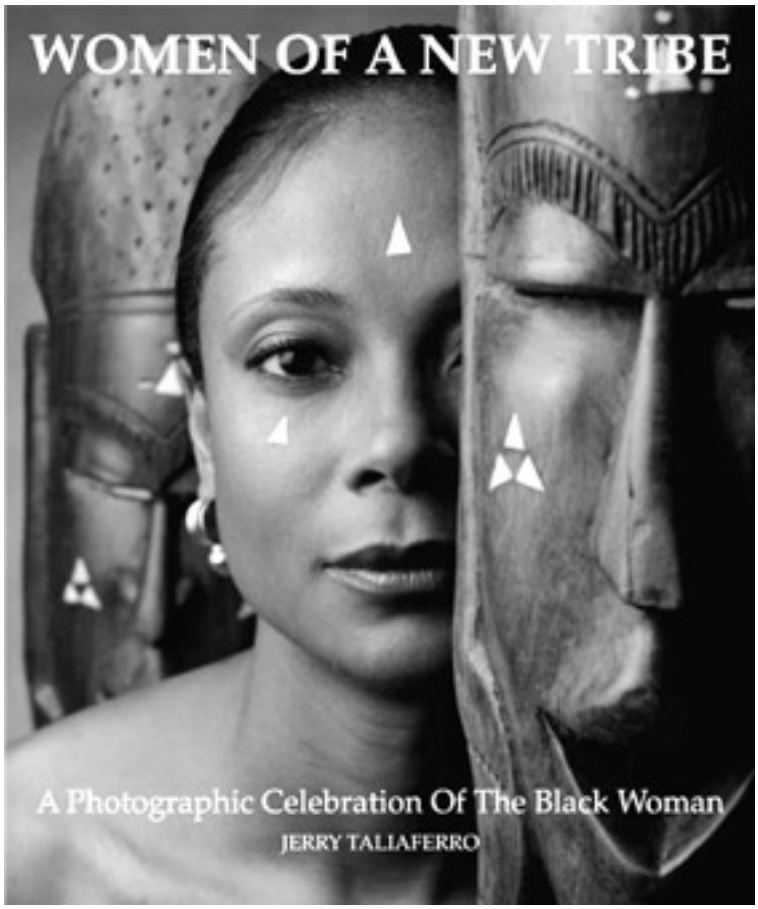

"African-American females have had a very difficult history: from slavery to racism to poverty. Although slavery has been abolished in this country, and we are working on eradicating racism and poverty, in the 21st Century, African-American females face one of the most difficult hurdles we have ever had to face: a severe lack of self-respect.

We have allowed the media to make us believe that we must have straight hair, light skin, thin bodies and 'European' features to be considered beautiful. This book is not only an opportunity to reaffirm to all black women that we are 'fearfully and wonderfully made' by God, but also an opportunity for everyone to see the emotions and beauty Jerry Taliaferro wrought through his camera lens."
-- Cheryl A. M. Waymer, mother and model, as excerpted from the Foreword (pg. 7)

"These beautiful women have always been around us. They are our wives, mothers, sisters, daughters and friends. We can see the beauty in them if we just try. Perhaps in seeing their beauty, we will come to see what makes a woman truly beautiful... Just maybe we will come to understand that real beauty is more than that which can be seen. Real beauty is that which lifts us, real beauty touches our hearts."
-- Jerry Taliaferro in the Preface (pg. 10)

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